

We welcome any visitors and friends to our worship today

24th June 2018

Fourth Sunday after Trinity

8 am Holy Communion (1662) (Douglas Wren)

*Readings: 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 (p.1161) (Margaret Turner)
 Mark 4:35-41 (p.1006) (Jean Angus)*

10 am Community Celebration with Baptism (Douglas Wren)

*For details see separate service sheet or powerpoint
 followed by refreshments at the back of church*

Collect for the Fourth Sunday after Trinity



Gracious Father,
 by the obedience of Jesus
 you brought salvation to our wayward world:
 draw us into harmony with your will,
 that we may find all things restored in him,
 our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**NEXT
 WEEK...**

1st July 2018

Fifth Sunday after Trinity

10 am Parish Communion (Canon Don Laurie)

6 pm Evensong (John Buckle)



Rosa Williams, who is being baptised here today, also remembering her parents, Jamie and Kim, and her godparents; Colin Crisp, recovering from surgery; and from St Mary's Prayer Cycle:

- 1) Northfields and St Mary's Lane
- 2) The Chapel
- 3) People organising outreach and social activities
- 4) The Worship of the Church, including Healing and Wholeness and Prayer Groups

All items for inclusion in the next newsheet should reach the office by

FRIDAY JUNE 29TH at 9 a.m.

01892 861187 or e-mail:

speldhurst.church@btopenworld.com

See our website on <http://www.speldhurst.org/church>

Keep In Touch

If you would like to receive an electronic version of our newsheet every week, please e-mail speldhurst.church@btopenworld.com - saying "Yes, please" and your address will be added to the mailing list.

Prayer for the Persecuted Church

FOUR IRANIAN CHRISTIANS ABOUT TO BEGIN TEN-YEAR SENTENCES

Any day now, four Iranian Christians could receive a phone call. They will be told to report to the prison gate in their home city of Rasht. And once inside they will begin ten-year sentences for nothing more than exercising their faith.

Pastor Youcef Nadarkhani and fellow Church of Iran members Yasser Mossayebzadeh, Saheb Fadaie and Mohammad Reza Omid have all been convicted of running house churches and 'promoting Zionist Christianity'.

They appealed against their sentences to Iran's notorious Revolutionary Court in December last year; sadly they lost their appeal, and now they are waiting to be summoned to the prison.

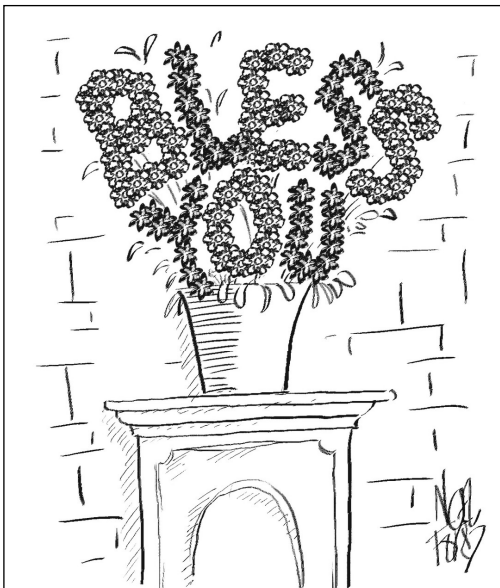
Two more believers - Ramiel Bet Tamraz from a traditional Christian background, and a Christian convert who wishes to remain anonymous - are currently facing a court hearing after being charged with 'acting against national security' by joining house churches.

Worryingly, prison sentences seem to be on the increase for Christians - particularly in the last year. But your prayers and support can make a world of difference to our brothers and sisters in Iran, even in prison.

PLEASE PRAY:

- For Youcef, Yasser, Saheb and Mohammad, that God would give them strength, courage and peace in the midst of their hardship
- For Ramiel and the Christian convert whose name is known to God, that the judge would rule fairly in their case
- For the Iranian government to stop their oppression of minorities and to respect their obligations under international law.

Information provided by Open Doors



When it was Mrs Wilson's turn to do the flower arrangements, she always kept the vicar's hay fever in mind



Monday to Friday 8.30 am Morning Prayer
 Tuesday 26th 7.45 pm Bellringing Practice

SERVICES ELSEWHERE IN THE UNITED PARISH

1st July 2018

St Martin's, Ashurst 11 am All-Age Communion for St Martin's Day
 (Ven Julie Conalty, Archdeacon of Tonbridge)
 No separate service at St John's, Groombridge

Smile Lines

Be with you

The vicar at a local church experienced some technical problems with the sound system one Sunday. Instead of starting the service as usual with 'The Lord be with you', he said: 'There's something wrong with this microphone.'
 Not hearing this, the congregation responded: 'And also with you.'

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Too late

First friend: 'It took me forty years to discover I had not got the gifts for Holy Orders.'
 Second friend: 'Goodness, whatever did you do when you found out?'
 First friend: 'It was too late to do anything. By then I was a bishop!'

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Apples

This tale comes from a Catholic elementary school. . .
 Up at the head table in the cafeteria, one of the nuns had placed a big bowl of bright red, fresh, juicy apples. Beside the bowl, she placed a note which read, 'Take only one. Remember, God is watching.'
 At the other end of the table was a bowl full of freshly baked chocolate chip cookies, still warm from the oven. Beside the bowl lay a little note scrawled in a child's hand-writing which read, 'Take all you want. God is watching the apples.'

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First pancake

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin, 5 and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. She said: 'If Jesus was sitting here, he would say, "Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait."' Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, 'Ryan, you be Jesus!'

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Blessing

A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and asked her to say the blessing. 'I don't know what to say,' the girl replied. 'Just say what you hear Mummy say,' the wife answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, 'Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?'

Gardening Help Required



Are there 3 or 4 guys who would be willing to go and blitz the Chapel garden? The Chapel is a Christian building in the middle of the village and we as a church use it a great deal. The Chapel team cannot cope with the garden and this is a wonderful opportunity for us to lend our support. If you could give up half a day one weekend please let me know and I shall organise it.
 Stefanie Tegelaars (s.tegelaars@btopenworld.com)



Smiley Faces



Month of Prayer for Toddler Groups

June is the National Month of Prayer for toddler group ministries. This year's theme is '**Welcome one – welcome all**' with Luke 19:1-10 as the keynote scripture. This annual prayer focus encourages churches to pray for the work of their toddler groups as they reach out to serve the needs of families in the local community.

Please pray for Smiley Faces, our parent and toddler group that meets weekly on Thursday afternoons in the village hall; for Jenny Fitzsimmons and Lynn Poulson who run it and all the volunteers who help them. To help you with your prayers The Rt. Revd. Rachel Treweek, Bishop of Gloucester writes this:

'Toddler groups are a precious gift offered by churches to the wider community. In a place of welcome, relationship, play, and care, toddlers and adults are invited to experience something of the character of the living God. In this National Month of Prayer, we pray that toddler groups will provide a space for children and adults to discover more of who they are and encounter the hope and love of Jesus Christ.'

Burrswood Bookshop

**Don't forget we have an excellent Christian bookshop in our parish.
 Free parking!! Use it or lose it!**

With Tonbridge Christian Book Centre now closed, it is VITAL that we support the last remaining Christian bookshop in the area.
 Rima Devereaux has produced a trio of pretty books for a month of morning and evening readings, each using the words of a favourite saint. Teresa of Avila was the founder of the displaced Carmelite order and her contemplative yet practical approach is still relevant for today. St Francis brings his sense of fellowship with nature, whilst Julian of Norwich reminds us of the mercy and unconditional love of God. The series encourages us by reminding us of the radical traditions of our faith.

News from Lucy and Jono in Jordan

The Animation project is ready ... www.alkululekum.com/home2
 It is already having wide interest amongst Muslims and the team are getting lots of questions and meetings.
 Thank you to all who have been supporting this project wither in prayer or financially. Exciting news - Christian workers in other countries are interested in getting the videos dubbed in their languages e.g. Urdu in Pakistan etc.