

This Month's Worship in Churches Uniting in Central Sutton

Sunday 7 April Passion Sunday

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship <i>Revd Graham Woolgar</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	St N	Holy Communion <i>Revd Frances Arnold</i>
6.30pm	SBC	CUCS United Service

Sunday 14 April Palm Sunday

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship <i>Mr Colin Watson</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	St N	Holy Communion <i>Revd Frances Arnold</i>
6.30pm	Trinity	Trinity Festival Choir Stainer's <i>Crucifixion</i>

Sunday 21 April Easter Sunday

5.30am	St N	Sunrise Service
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Graham Woolgar</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship Easter Eucharist <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	St N	Easter Eucharist <i>Revd Frances Arnold</i>
6.30pm		No CUCS Evening Service

Sunday 28 April

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Steve Taylor</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Mrs Judith Wakelin</i>
	St N	Holy Communion <i>Revd Sarah Sewell</i>
6.30pm	SBC	CUCS United Service

for help or information please contact:

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Revd Frances Arnold
020 8643 8271
administrator@suttonteamministry.org



April 2019

Dear Readers,

Towards the end of *The Crucifixion*, John Stainer's musical meditation on the passion of Christ, which Trinity Festival Choir will be presenting on the evening of Palm Sunday, the chorus makes a moving appeal, singing as if they were the Crucified. The appeal is *Is it nothing to you, all you that pass by?* words from the Old Testament book of Lamentations. Similar words occur at a critical turning point in George Herbert's sixty-three verse poem *The Sacrifice*:

*O all ye who pass by, behold and see
Man stole the fruit, but I must climb the tree;
The tree of life to all, but only me:
Was ever grief like mine?*

The second 'but', in the third line means 'except', so the idea of the line is that the cross on which Jesus died was the tree of life for everyone but himself. In the previous line, the poet uses typology which will be familiar to you from Paul's New Testament letters, where Adam is seen as the primal man and Jesus the ultimate man. Yet the poet makes the line sound quite homely by using the imagery of fruit-stealing and tree-climbing. The notion that Christ hanging on the tree of the cross recalls and reverses the tree of life in Adam's paradise is powerful.

A later stanza evokes the agony of Christ by stopping a line before it has finished:

*But O my God, my God! why leavest thou me,
The son, in whom thou dost delight to be?
My God, my God -----
Was ever grief like mine?*

You may notice that these two stanzas end with the same question from Jesus's lips. In fact, each verse of the poem ends with that last line, right up to the last verse, when there is a dramatic shift so it ends, *Never was grief like mine*.

Why do I love this poem so much? Because, although its title suggests otherwise, it is a simple exposition of the most straightforward of atonement theories, which, simply put, declares that in dying Christ appeals to our better natures in such a way that we make a positive change. That's not only to do with Good Friday. Everything about Jesus – his birth, his life, his teaching, his suffering, his death and his resurrection – inspires that change in us.

David

Revd Dr David Dickinson





Holy Week and Easter 2019

14 April Palm Sunday

10.30am Morning Worship in each church
6.30pm CUCS united service at Trinity
Stainer's Crucifixion

18 April Maundy Thursday

8.00pm Sutton Baptist Church
CUCS United Worship

19 April Good Friday

9.45am CTSC Walk of Witness
meet at Asda.
10.30am Trinity Church
Worship at the Cross
12.00pm St Nicholas Church
Service of Reflection
Stations of the Cross

21 April Easter Day

5.30am St Nicholas Sunrise Service
8.30am Trinity Easter Breakfast
10.30am St Nicholas Easter Eucharist
Trinity Easter Eucharist
SBC Holy Communion

There is no evening service on Easter Day

Devotions

Silent God

This is my prayer -

That, though I may not see,
I be aware
Of the Silent God
Who stands by me.

That, though I may not feel,
I be aware
Of the Mighty Love
Which doggedly follows me.

That, though I may not respond,
I be aware
That God—my Silent, Mighty God,
Waits each day.
Quietly, hopefully, persistently.
Waits each day and through each night
For me.

For me—alone.

Edwina Gateley,

from *There Was No Path So I Trod One*
(1996, 2013)

Regular Events

CUCS is Sutton Baptist Church, St Nicholas and Trinity URC/Methodist who are Churches Uniting in Central Sutton, and who regularly meet together for prayer, worship and shared activities. All members of CUCS are warmly welcomed at these activities

Saturday Prayer Meeting (1st and 3rd Saturdays)

10.00am - 11.00am at Sutton Baptist Church.

Sunday Prayer Meeting after the morning service in the Terrace Room at Trinity.

Meditation Group meets on the last Saturday of the month 11.00am-12 midday at the home of Sylvia Robinson. For more details contact: Segun Akindele segun.akindele@yahoo.co.uk 020 8395 3243

Rosa Sawyer 020 8643 1374

Sylvia Robinson srobinson968@yahoo.com 020 8642 1391

St Nicholas' Mothers' Union All are welcome
Contact: Emma Cann 020 8641 6530

Women in Touch (WIT) meets fortnightly on a Monday at 10.30am at different venues, to enjoy a variety of activities including coffee, films and outings. It is open to women of any age. For further details of the programme contact: Carole Adams 07711879645 or see: www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk

Trinity Toddler Group meets on Tuesdays in term time in Trinity Hall, 9.00-11.00am.
Contact: Sheila Booth 8715 0514

Bunker, the youth club for CUCS, meets in Trinity Hall on Sunday evenings in term time from 6.30-8.00pm for young people at senior school. A chance to get to know other young people in CUCS and have fun together.
Contact Jane Oliver: 01883 346261.

Badminton Club meets 7.45-10.00pm every Monday in Trinity Hall.

Sutton Churches Tennis Club can be found between 99 and 101 Gander Green Lane, Sutton. All ages and abilities are welcome. See our website at www.clubtennis.co.uk

Art and Fellowship Group meets most weeks on Tuesday at 2.30pm in the Minor Hall at Trinity. Painting, drawing and other media with fellowship and mutual support.

Oasis

at Trinity Church is
open Monday to Friday
from 10.00 to 2.00pm
for refreshments, light
lunches and a chance
to chat.



News from the Churches

Welcome to Revd Frances Arnold!

At 8pm on Wednesday, 3 April Revd Frances Arnold will be licensed as Priest-in-Charge (Rector Designate) of St Nicholas Church. She comes to Sutton after six years as Vicar of Great St Mary Sawbridgeworth in the Diocese of St Albans.

We welcome Frances to CUCS and look forward to meeting her at our shared worship and activities over the next few weeks as we celebrate Holy Week and Easter.



And farewell to David and Naomi!

Thank you Naomi and David! For several months the congregation of St Nicholas has been grateful to two people who have ensured that all services have taken place as usual. They are Revd Naomi Whittle and Revd David Butlin. At a lunch on Sunday, 17 March it was the moment to offer a very well deserved 'thank you' to them both. Thanks were also given to Revd Phil Brooks of Christ Church who, as Team Vicar, had to take on far greater responsibility than he could have imagined when he accepted the appointment.



The Final Lent Group

This year six Lent groups have been meeting weekly in the morning, afternoon or evening with participants from CUCS and also from St Barnabas and Chiltern Church. We have enjoyed hospitality from Mary Meldrum (St N), Dorothy Hannam (St B), Lilian Moore (SBC) Colin Howard and Sheila Booth (Trinity) and the Oasis. Thank you! And thank you also to the group leaders: Trevor Campbell-Smith, Olwen Edwards, Sylvia Robinson, David Jones, Sang Wook Han and John and Deborah Wroe.

All the groups will meet together on:

Tuesday April 9th at 8.00pm at SBC

Everyone is invited to this meeting, led by Revd Graham Woolgar - even if you have not been part of a group over the last weeks.

In Memoriam Helen Munroe

Helen Munroe, who died last month, was a long-time member of Trinity, although in recent years, because of increasing infirmity, she attended Cheam Baptist Church with her son, Duke. Helen will not be forgotten in CUCS as she stitched some of our shared banner.

Dialogue

It was a pleasure to welcome six members of the Muslim Dialogue Society to our Ash Wednesday supper when we enjoyed a wonderful chicken curry cooked by Margaret and William Aikines-Aryeetey and also food brought by our Turkish guests. The society is committed to social integration and interfaith relations and we look forward to developing our contact with them. On 28 March members of Trinity and *Refugee and Migrant Network Sutton* accepted an invitation from them to a workshop exploring integration and diversity in society. The Mayoress of Sutton Mrs Pauline Cook and two local councillors also attended.

Tennis Club Open Day

Saturday 13 April

Come and see what Sutton Churches' Tennis Club offers, with free coaching sessions for adults and children.

Visit the website for more information (www.clubtennis.co.uk) and for details of the children's Easter holiday courses from April 8-12 and 15-18. The club can be found between 97 and 101 Gander Green Lane, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 2ES.



Sunday Afternoon Outing 28 April An outing to Somerset House

Meet at the back of Trinity at 12.15 after the morning service, and bring a packed lunch. We will travel by train, tube and perhaps bus to London. We will visit Somerset House which is hosting a fashion photography exhibition, an art exhibition, and some art installations and a workshop celebrating Earth Day. (Free entry).

Please contact John and Deborah Wroe for more information:

john.p.wroe@gmail.com

020 8642 9064





Sutton Methodist Circuit invites you to

Jazz Vespers

Sunday 28 April 6.30pm

Carshalton Methodist Church
Ruskin Road Carshalton

Led by jazz saxophonist Dan Forshaw and friends

The service will explore suffering, lament and a new hope, echoing themes that Dr Martin Luther King gave in a speech to the Berlin Jazz Festival, shortly after his visit to Methodist Central Hall, Westminster in 1964. In his speech about Jazz, Dr Martin Luther King, said,

Jazz speaks for life. The Blues tell the story of life's difficulties, and if you think for a moment, you will realise that they take the hardest realities of life and put them into music, only to come out with some new hope or sense of triumph. Jazz is triumphant music... Everybody has the Blues. Everybody longs for meaning. Everybody needs to love and be loved. Everybody needs to clap hands and be happy. Everybody longs for faith. In music, especially this broad category called Jazz, there is a stepping stone towards all of these.

The 'Jazz Vespers' service has been put together by saxophonist Dan Forshaw, who leads the Jazz Vespers Ministry at Methodist Central Hall Westminster. Dan has also led jazz services at St. Paul's Cathedral and Ely Cathedral and is part of the 'Blue Church' network of Christian Jazz Musicians from all over the world.



Stainer's 'Crucifixion'

Palm
Sunday

14 April
6.30pm

Trinity Festival Choir

Stephen Haylett Conductor
Laurence Padfield Bass
James Edgeler Tenor
Martin Ford Organist

Stainer's "Meditation on the Sacred Passion of the Holy Redeemer" was first performed in 1887 and is interspersed with hymns to be sung by the congregation. It is a perennial favourite amongst singers and congregations and includes the sublime chorus using the words of John 3:16:

God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish but have everlasting life.



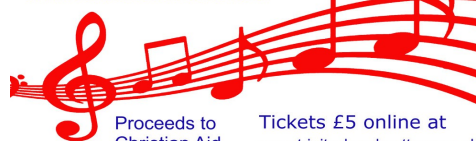
**Have you thought
about helping during
Christian Aid Week?**

Speak to your church representatives about
door to door collections, bucket collections
and helping with the
MusicAid Concert on 18 May

Sutton Baptist Church	Carolyn Graham
St Nicholas	Clive Orton
	Pam Affleck
Trinity	Colin Howard
	Deborah Wroe
	Liz Wood
	Olwen Edwards

MusicAid

Saturday 18 May 6pm
A fun concert of varied music



Proceeds to
Christian Aid

Tickets £5 online at
www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk

From the Editor I would be delighted to receive comments and suggestions on the future of *Unite!*
Contact me email: olwenmedwards@gmail.com or by phone: **020 8643 2525**. Copy date for the May issue
is **17 April**. Links to the electronic version of *Unite!* can be found on each church's website.