



Olympic bells

On 27th July 2012 at 8am all the bells across the UK will be rung for 3 minutes to welcome the 206 Olympic and Paralympic Nations to the UK for the Olympics.

As bells across the UK are rung on this day they create a unique performance entitled Work No 1197: All the bells in the country rung as quickly and as loudly as possible for three minutes, which is part of the London 2012 Festival, the finale of the Cultural Olympiad. You can be a part of this performance.

There are many ways to take part and you can find all the information and register on www.Allthebells.com



Bishop Mark captured by the moment!

Bishop Mark is backing a call for congregations to support the Real Easter Egg in 2012 after supermarkets failed to order sufficient quantities of the UK's only faith-based Easter egg, despite overwhelming demand from their Christian customers last Easter.

The Bishop of Middleton said: "We thought we had proven that people were not afraid to buy an Easter egg which mentions Jesus, gives money to charity and which helps in communicating the true meaning of Easter. It seems incredible that the only Easter egg gift on the market, which caters for the Christian community, is rejected or marginalised by our biggest retailers."

How to buy a Real Easter Egg

There are limited supplies so early ordering is advised. The official Real Easter Egg online shop is at www.realeasteregg.co.uk. To ensure supply, churches are advised to place a bulk order by the end of February. The site has a sign-up form, posters and other resources. Online ordering will be open for as long as supplies last or until the middle of March but check the official online shop or Facebook for details.

The recommended retail price is £3.99. The Real Easter Egg is made from 125g of high quality Fairtrade chocolate and 15 pence from every sale is donated to Traidcraft Exchange.

Called to ministry?



Vocations

Living Stones, the conference for anyone exploring God's call on their life, takes place on 28th April. See the website or publicity in the February Mailing for details. Call Ann Stamp on 0161 708 9366.

Important

In this mailing you will find your invite to God, Generosity & Giving-26 & 28th May, an event to help with developing stewardship strategies in your church. Please see the website for more details. It promises to be a very good event.



• LIMITED STOCK • LIMITED STOCK • LIMITED STOCK •




Putting Jesus back into Easter

The Real Easter Egg is the first and only milk chocolate Easter Egg to explain the Christian understanding of Easter on the box. Inside the lid there is a bible quote and with every egg a FREE 8 page Story of Easter booklet.

It is also Fairtrade and supports Traidcraft Exchange.

Buy from the official shop at www.realeasteregg.co.uk

 Visit us on Facebook



New look box including FREE 8 page story book!

Jubilee prayer

Below is the official Jubilee prayer. Other resources can be found at:

www.diamondjubilee.churchofengland.org

The following Prayer, written at The Queen's direction by the Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral for Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, will be used in the Jubilee Thanksgiving Service in St Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday 5 June. The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have commended it for use throughout the Church of England. Other churches are also welcome to use the prayer.

*God of time and eternity,
whose Son reigns as servant, not master;
we give you thanks and praise
that you have blessed this Nation, the Realms and Territories
with ELIZABETH,
our beloved and glorious Queen.
In this year of Jubilee,
grant her your gifts of love and joy and peace
as she continues in faithful obedience to you, her Lord and God
and in devoted service to her lands and peoples,
and those of the Commonwealth,
now and all the days of her life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*



THE **BIG** JUBILEE
Thank you

The Big Jubilee Thank You is a chance for clergy and congregations to send a good will message to the Queen in her Diamond Jubilee year. For some great resources, please visit www.diamondjubilee.churchofengland.org

Growing Churches

A series of training and resource evenings for spring and summer. All at 7.30-9.00 pm, with refreshments from 7.00pm.

Growing Church through Enquirers Courses

5th March: St Andrew, Over Hulton Crescent Avenue, BL5 1EN

20th March: St Stephen, Astley Manchester Road, Astley M29 7BT

17th April: St Martin, Castleton
Vicarage Road North, OL11 2TE

3rd May: St James & Emmanuel, Didsbury
Barlow Moor Road, M20 6TR

Growing Church through Invitation and Welcome

2nd July: Manchester Cathedral, Victoria Street, M3 1SX

10th July: St Paul, Royton Church Street, OL2 5JS

Growing Church as All-Age Community

17th September: Christ Church, Pennington
Schofield Street, Leigh, WN7 4HT

27th September: St Paul, Astley Bridge
Holland Street, BL1 8NX



EXPERIENCE EASTER taster events

Two churches will set up examples of Experience Easter and how it can be used to tell the story of Holy Week and Easter.

- 21st February 7.00 - 9.00 pm – With Pancakes!
St Mary, Moston, Nuthurst Road, M40 0EW
- 27th February 7.00 - 9.00 pm
St John, Brooklands, Brooklands Road, M33 3PB

If you are not thinking of running Experience Easter in 2012 but would like to see it in action, try your local church or come to Manchester Cathedral during Holy Week or Easter week where the zones will be set up for visitors.

Contact Canon Evangelist, Tony Hardy for details.
0161 438 2834 or

tonyhardy@manchester.anglican.org Experience Easter: Hopes and Dreams



GOD, THE FUTURE AND ME
Saturday March 17th 10.30am - 5.00pm
www.stpetershouse.org.uk



 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester