

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

26th March	9.00am	Ladies Breakfast	
	10.30am	Informal Communion	Lent 4 (Mothering Sunday) <i>Love – 1 Cor 13:1-13</i> Leader: Carol Hill Preacher: Erika Biscoe Reading: Debbi Pardoe Prayers: Phil Trout
	7.00pm	Evening Service <i>Just Ten – Live by Priorities</i> <i>Exodus 20: 3</i> Leader/Preacher: Ian Biscoe	
27th March	3.10–4.15pm	After school club for school years 4-6	
28th March	9.00am	Prayers in Church	
	10.00-12noon	Rock of Ages Café	
	7.15pm	ALPHA course (meet in Bure Farm)	
29th March	10.00 for 10.30	Oasis Small Group	
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church	
	7.45 for 8pm	Lent Course in church	
30th March	6.30-8.00pm	Youth Group – Years 7, 8 & 9 <i>Includes STIR from 7:30 to 8:00pm</i>	
31st March	7.30-8.30pm	Contemplative Compline <i>Women Jesus met - The Syrophoenician Woman</i>	
1st April	10.00am	Emmanuel Café open <i>Including "Garden Talk"</i>	
2nd April	10.30am	Informal Worship	Lent 5 <i>VISION Sunday</i> Leader: Erika Biscoe Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reading: Andy Roberts Prayers: Libby Brown
	7.00pm	Evening Service <i>VISION Sunday</i> Leader: Erika Biscoe Preacher: Ian Biscoe	



Welcome!

*to the church
at the heart
of the community*

Prayer chain: prayerchain@emmanuelbicester.org.uk

Notices: notices@emmanuelbicester.org.uk

email to receive either of these.

Website: www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk

**26th March
2017**

We extend a warm welcome to regulars and visitors alike. If you are new at Emmanuel, or visiting, please do introduce yourself to one of the Welcome Team.

Rachel Jolly writes:

Mothering Sunday provokes varied emotions. Of all things I have experienced, becoming a mother has had the most profound impact on my relationship with God. It has changed how I understand his overwhelming, sacrificial love. It has challenged the way I engage with him (toddlers and 'quiet God time' do not easily mix!)

I am the mother of 3 children and it is a joy and privilege to have that role. My first child, Levi, is almost 4. He has taught me about the depths of God's love for me, how God would do anything to reach me and how that will never change. My second child, Imogen, was born when Levi was 2. She has taught me about worship, how to lay

everything down before God and ask him to come. She has taught me that knowing Jesus and telling others about him is more important than anything. She has taught me that when all is stripped away, Jesus remains and he is enough.

My third child, Finn, is 4 months old. He has taught me that through God we always have hope. God is always looking for a way to break in and overcome. He has taught me that God has the final say.

I am the mother of three children and it is a joy and a privilege to have that role. It is also heart wrenching and grief stricken because our daughter Imogen was stillborn. So, although I have 3 children, I only got to keep 2. And yet in all circumstances God remains absolute. He is the alpha and the omega, the beginning and the end.

At the heart of the gospel and at the heart of motherhood is love. When our expectations of mothering or being

mothered include grief, pain or resentment, it can be easy to transfer these emotions to our understanding of God. But his love for us is infinite, and his mothering is perfect.

So, if you love your mother or your children, or if are estranged from them; if you never have a moment without them, or if you are grieving their absence; if you wish to be a mother but it hasn't happened for you, know that God is in all things.

Whatever your circumstance, he is here for you today, wanting to be in your life, wanting to mother you perfectly, in a way is earthly mothers will never achieve.

Psalm 103:11 "For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him."

Blessings Rachel



PRAYER REQUESTS - If you would value prayer for yourself or a loved one, please email the ECB prayer chain prayerchain@emmanuelbicester.org.uk Tuesday morning prayers are at 9am in the Community Room.

GARDEN TALK - The next Garden Talk is on Saturday 1st April at Emmanuel Café. Come and join us. *Jo Morey and Debbie Winson.*

LENT QUIET DAY – 8th April 10am to 4pm

An opportunity to spend some “time out” with God as we prepare for Easter. More details to follow.

Safeguarding Training – If you work with children or young people in church, or are planning to help at Holiday Club you will need to do regular training. Details of different courses from Karen or Ian.

End of Lent Course Meal – Thursday 13th

Book via Church Builder

https://emmanuelbicester.churchbuilder.org.uk/pjp/activitybookingtemplate/booking_page?abtid=16

Getting ready for Easter. We are planning a **Family Easter Celebration and Easter Egg Hunt** on Saturday 15th April, 4-6pm to bless the families in our community. Please let me know if you can volunteer. *Debbie Winson.* drwinson@msn.com Flyers about this event are now available and will be going out in the school bookbags next week (Bure Park & Southwold).

Electoral Roll - The Church Electoral Roll is being revised between 5th March and 9th April. To be able to vote at the APCM on 30th April you will need to be on the Electoral Roll. Forms available in church to be returned to Karen Stoddart.

Social badminton. Thursdays 20:30-21:30 at Bicester leisure centre.
Speak to Clare Bean if interested

ROTAS

Welcome Team

26th March Heather Hindmarsh & Tony Shields
2nd April Andrew & Jeanette Collett
9th April Del Hindmarsh & Doreen Thompson

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

26th March Hilarious & More
2nd April Living Waters and Tues 20's & 30's
9th April MSG and Mon 20's & 30's

Sunday Club

26th March
2nd April
9th April

Mustard Seeds (crèche)

Kate & Elizabeth A
TBC
Interactive Service

Cherry Blossom (Pre-school/Foundation)

Claire & Sandy A
Helle & TBC
Interactive Service

Sunday Club

26th March
2nd April
9th April

Willows (School yrs 1-3)

Jackie, TBC & Issy
And & Sam B
Interactive Service

Silver Birches (School yrs 4-6)

And & Liz W
Ceri & Maureen
Interactive Service

Youth

26th March
2nd April
9th April

The Grid (School year 7+)

Sam W & Debbie
Karl & Fleur
Interactive Service

Finance Team

26th March James Dunne & Steve Willott
2nd April Pete Stoddart & Geoff Saunders
9th April Roger Winson & Nick Hebditch

Any notices for next week to Karen by 7 p.m. Wednesday at administrator@emmanuelbicester.org.uk