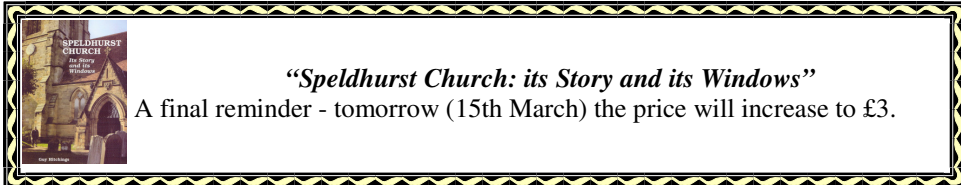


Prayer for the Persecuted Church

North Korea. It is illegal to be a Christian or take part in any Christian activity. Those arrested are subject to fines, imprisonment in brutal labour camps, torture and death. It is estimated that 400 Christians a year are executed. Remarkably the church appears to be growing and there are around 300,000 believers. Most of the country is desperately needy, suffering poverty, malnutrition and shortages. Pray that the church in North Korea will stand firm in their faithfulness to the Lord, give them strength to forgive their tormentors and the courage to keep sharing the Gospel.

Information provided by the Barnabas Trust.

For more prayer information please contact Stefanie.



The church locking rota



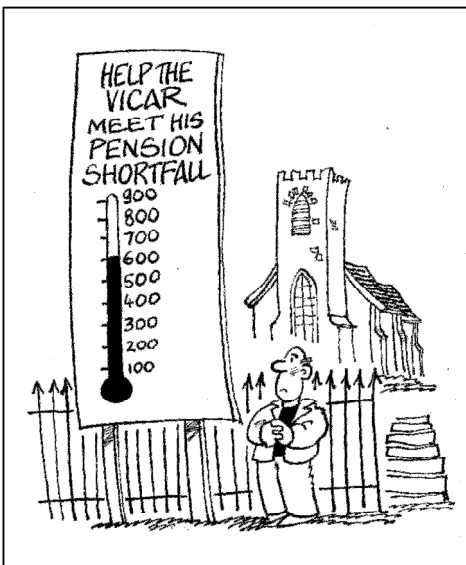
Visitors often comment on how good it is to find an open church and we are fortunate to have a small but faithful group of people who take it in turns to unlock the church every morning and close it again in the early evening. We would love to find more people to join the rota to make the job less onerous. Do you live near the church, or do you regularly drive past on your way to and from work? Or are you looking for somewhere to

walk your dog? If your answer to any of these is YES this could be the job for you.

Please contact Andrea in the Church Office:

(861187 or speldhurst.church@btopenworld.com)

if you think you may be able to help.



ST MARY'S CHURCH SPELDHRST

We welcome any visitors and friends to our worship today

14th March 2010

Fourth Sunday of Lent / Mothering Sunday

8 am Holy Communion (1662) (John Perkins)

Readings: Joshua 5:9-12 (p.219) (Margaret Turner)

Luke 15:1-3,11b-32 (p.1048) (Julia Russell)

10 am All-Age Worship for Mothering Sunday

For details of service, see separate service sheet or powerpoint followed by coffee at the back of the church

4.30 pm Service at Little Court

Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Lent



Merciful Lord,
you know our struggle to serve you:
when sin spoils our lives
and overshadows our hearts,
come to our aid
and turn us back to you again;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



The Tuffield family following the death of Baby Oscar;
and from St Mary's Prayer Cycle:

- 1) Ferbies and Dene Way
- 2) Ferbies Close
- 3) Diocesan and Deanery Synods
- 4) Other ministries (Bellringers, Flower Arrangers, Cleaners, Coffee Providers and Fair Trade)

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

FRIDAY MARCH 19TH at 9 a.m.

01892 861187 or e-mail: speldhurst.church@btopenworld.com



Monday to Friday	8.30 am	Morning Prayer
Monday 15th	9.15 am	Prayers in the Tower Room
	3.15 pm	Climbers and Explorers (<i>Speldhurst School</i>)
	8 pm	Ministry Leadership Team (<i>The Rectory</i>)
Tuesday 16th	12 noon	Funeral Service for Jack Cocks
	7.45 pm	Bellringing Practice
Wednesday 17th	7.30 pm	x-plode (<i>The Chapel</i>)
	8 pm	+chat (<i>Hillview, Barden Road</i>)
Thursday 18th	7 pm	Music Group practice
	8.15 pm	Lent Course 3 (<i>The Chapel</i>)
Friday 19th	10.30 am	Funeral Service for Baby Oscar Tuffield
	7.45 pm	Choir Practice
Saturday 20th	9 am onwards	Annual Frightening of the Spiders (<i>see over for details</i>)



Sunday 21st March

Fifth Sunday of Lent

8 am	Holy Communion (1662) (Douglas Wren)
10 am	Parish Communion with Prayer for Wholeness and Healing (John Perkins and Douglas Wren)
6 pm	Informal Worship

SERVICES NEXT WEEK

ELSWHERE IN THE UNITED PARISH

Sunday 14th March

St Martin's, Ashurst	10 am	Family Service (Douglas Wren)
St John's, Groombridge	11 am	Holy Communion (1662) (John Perkins)

Patricia Stenborg

There will be a Memorial Service for Patricia Stenborg here at St Mary's on Friday 26th March at 11.30 am.

Spring Harvest:

Minehead 8th to 13th April

3 places have come free unexpectedly and I am very keen to fill them. If you would like to come then please contact me as a matter of urgency. If you need more information to enable you to make the decision, just call me.

Kate Wheadon (863018)

COBWEB ALERT AND ANNUAL FRIGHTENING OF THE SPIDERS

Saturday March 20th



We need lots of men and women to carry out the Annual Spring Clean of the Church during the morning of **Saturday 20th March**. Men would be particularly welcome at 9 a.m. to start tackling the cobwebs on ladders and the rest



of you who prefer to work lower down should come at any time from 10 a.m. onwards. It is hoped there will be enough volunteers to have the job finished by 12 noon.



There will be a list of jobs to take your pick from and if you could bring along any long-handled feather dusters, dustpans and brushes etc. it would be a great help and the job will be soon done. As last year, I am sure we will soon



have the Church shining like a new pin.

YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU - please come and help us!

P.S. We shall also be serving delicious Fairtrade refreshments throughout the morning to keep the troops well oiled!

Lent Lunch



Sunday March 28th from 12 noon
Speldhurst Village Hall

Come and share fellowship, enjoy a simple meal of soup, bread and fruit and donate the cost of your Sunday lunch to Crossways.

Crossways Community is a local Christian charity caring for people with mental health difficulties. John Neel from the charity will come and talk to us briefly about their work.

**Please sign the list in the porch if you are coming
or contact the Church Office**

(01892 861187 or speldhurst.church@btpenworld.com)

Readers and Pray-ers for Easter All Age Services

Each holiday period we look outside the normal rotas for people (adults, children or families) from the congregation who would be willing to be readers or pray-ers during the All Age Services. If you or your family would like to be involved this Easter period please email Jenny Fitzsimmons on jejmfitzsimmons@hotmail.com by Mon 22nd March