

ST BARNABAS RANMORE

The Cathedral in the Woods
RH5 6SP

monthly newsletter

APRIL 2026

WELCOME

WELCOME to our Eucharist on Easter Day over which The Rev'd Carline Lazenby will preside.

HE IS RISEN. INDEED!

JESUS' last week is a hard read especially if you choose to read it in one hit. The mounting tension, as the Los Angeles Times suggested, 'forced everyone in Jesus' path to pledge allegiance – either to Rome's way of power and oppression or to Jesus' way of love and equality'. Everyone was forced to participate one way or another.

We might have participated throughout Holy week in our local churches, particularly at Ranmore for the Tenebrae 'Traitors' sequence with its drama and darkness but which does leave some room for hope as well. We might have participated in the Maundy Thursday service when feet were washed to remember Jesus performing this act of service himself.

The Meditation on Good Friday was a time to once again experience horror as we recall the suffering of Jesus, until at last we come to today and our participation comes to fruition as we are offered the body and blood of Christ in the joining in with the joyful act of Holy Communion on Easter morning.

Without Easter we wouldn't know about Jesus. If his story had ended with



SERVICES

Sunday 12th April at 11.00 a.m.

Matins (BCP)

Saturday 18th April from 10.30 to

*3.00 p.m. COFFEE & CAKE
& GOOD BOOK SALE*

Sunday 19th April at 11.00 a.m.

Matins (BCP)

Sunday 26th April at 11.00 a.m.

Sung Eucharist (BCP)

Sunday 3rd May at 11.00 a.m.

Matins (BCP)

*at 12.00 p.m. Annual Parochial
Church Meeting*



his crucifixion, he most likely would have been forgotten – one more death by the Roman Empire in a century that witnessed thousands of such executions.

Even if the story of Jesus appeared in ancient texts these days we might well ask the question, 'Did these events happen or not?' rather than, 'What do these events mean?' What they mean today is that Jesus lives. People experience him after his death, as he entered locked rooms, walked with followers without being recognised, vanished as soon as he was recognised and be someone who will be with his followers always, 'to the end of the age'.

In our own age with daily reports of cynical politics it seems the powers are always, and will be always, in control and anyone who thinks otherwise is a dreamer, but if we believe Jesus lives, his spirit and his presence will continue to be known despite the efforts of collaborators and Roman Imperial power and the egoism and injustice our own time.

Jesus' passion was for the Kingdom of God, which led him to Jerusalem but opens up for us our path of personal transformation that leads to journeying with the risen Jesus.

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Rev'd Caroline Lazenby

(Quotes from The Last Week by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan)

St Barnabas Book Fair

WE look forward to welcoming you to our Book Fair on Saturday the 18th of April between 10.00 a.m. and

Daybreak

As at the dawn of creation,
The lake awaits light's coming;
Herons stand, grey wraiths
In the swirling mist;
Wing-stretchings, stirrings in
Undergrowth, greet the day;
Questioning chirps from a
Secret world swell to
Full throat's song
In the strengthening sun;
A kingfisher – glimpse of glory
Glancing in sunlight.
No wonder God rejoices:
It is very good.

*Ann Lewin
English poet*

poem submitted by Sally Lowe

COFFEE & CAKE and a GOOD BOOK SALE

at
ST BARNABAS' CHURCH



RANMORE COMMON
Saturday, April 18th
from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

THAT the Church Electoral Roll of the Ranmore parish will be revised by the Parochial Church Council, beginning on the 5th day of April 2026, and ending on the 18th day of April 2026.

Application Forms for enrolment can be obtained in church or from the Church Electoral Roll Officer – Richard Gover at dick.gover@gmail.com

In order for a person to be entitled to attend the annual parochial church meeting and to take part in its proceedings, an Application Form for enrolment must be returned by the date shown above for the ending of the revision of the Church Electoral Roll by the Parochial Church Council which will be held on the 3rd of May in church.

Please note that if you joined the Electoral Roll in 2025 when the 6-year revision took place, you do not need to re-apply this year.

3.00 p.m. We shall have a wide selection of books – fiction, biography, classics, poetry, travel, religion, gardening, cookery, books for children and many more. We also have a good collection of CDs for sale.

We shall be serving tea, coffee and cake throughout so please come and join us and enjoy some time in the lovely surroundings of Ranmore.

If you need a book then this is the place to be. You can never have too

many books!

We would love to hear from you if you are able to offer any help with this event or need further information.

Carolyn Bourton 01306 881364
and Geraldine Swallow 01306 886196

APRIL SERVICES

LAY Minister Chris Watts will be with us for Sunday 12th April (Low Sunday) for Matins when we trust you will stay for a glass of wine or soft drink and, of course, the winning 100 Club number will be drawn (Application forms are available). Rev'd Anthony Rustell will lead Matins on Sunday 19th and will preside at a Sung Eucharist on the 29th.

Lay Minister Chris Watts will lead Matins on May 3rd and after this service the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in church.

VISIT THE BELLS

THE Ranmore Bells are often referred to as “one of the best heavy eights in the South” and next Saturday 11th April the Bell Tower ringing room will be open to visitors, but be aware that there are 63 circular staircase steps.

Recently a band of ringers from Kent achieved a full peal at St Barnabas, something which has not been done for some time. The peal was recorded in The Ringing World.

“Kent County Association
Ranmore, Surrey St Barnabas

Monday, 16 March 2026
in 3h 6 (19-2-21 in E)
5088 Aberdare Delight Major
Composed by Robert D S Brown
Rung on the day after Mothering
Sunday, for mothers everywhere,
past and present.”

FUND-RAISING GARDEN PARTY

THE St Barnabas churchwardens are establishing a stewardship programme called “The Friends of St Barnabas”. It is intended to extend the funding base and secure further donations for the preservation of the church, and to support community involvement from the wider Ranmore community.

We hope you can join us at the Friends’ launch event, a garden party hosted at the Old Rectory opposite the church on 13th June.

For further details and to confirm your attendance please RSVP online to the invitation at <https://withjoy.com/charlotte-and-simon26> by 30th April.

If you are unable to access the link please RSVP by contacting Robin Luff at robinluff@btinternet.com or phone 07768 174935.



Who's Who at St. Barnabas

Priest-in-Charge:

Rev'd Dr Anthony Rustell 07919 154641

St Barnabas is part of a United Benefice with St Martin's Church Dorking. Please contact the Church Office with enquiries about baptisms and marriages at email: smartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com

or phone 01306 884229

Churchwardens:

Dr Robin Luff 01306 884093

Mrs Stephanie Kingham 01306 888368

This newsletter and other information is available on our website...

www.achurchnearyou.com/ranmore-st-barnabas

Contact the Editor dick.gover@gmail.com to receive the newsletter in your email inbox.

You can also follow St Barnabas on Facebook.

There is more information on the website www.StBarnabasRanmore.com

You can find much about the history of Ranmore, the Denbies Estate and St Barnabas Church on the website created by the late Margaret Maynard.

www.ranmorewarmemorial.info