

JESUS – WITHOUT PRECONCEPTIONS

What do the gospel records tell us about him?

Study Group at Stourbridge Quaker Meeting House, Scotts Road DY8 1UR, led by John Lampen.

Alternate Thursdays at 7.30pm:

21st January: Jesus' politics

4th February: Jesus' spiritual teaching

18th February: How trustworthy are the records of Jesus?

You are welcome to attend any individual session.

A big thank you to everybody who helped with the Christingle Service last Sunday and particularly to Wendy Tranter for co ordinating the organisation. The sum of £172 was raised for the Children's Society.

Today is the copy date for the February edition of our Parish Magazine. If you have any articles, poems, stories, pictures that you would like to consider for inclusion please send them to the editors either via John in the Parish Office or direct to stmary.parishmagazine@hotmail.co.uk

Coming up.....

Tuesday 19 January	2.00pm Tea at the Coach House 7.30pm PCC Meeting
Thursday 21	7.30pm Service for the Week of Christian Unity at Holy Trinity Church Amblecote.
Saturday 23	9.00am Men's breakfast at the Talbot Hotel— Speaker Revd Andrew Sillis
Monday 25	2.00pm Pastoral Care Team meeting. 7.30pm Youth Team Leaders meeting
Saturday 30	9.30am Walking Group meet for a walk at Churchill and Blakedown.
Saturday 6 February	7.30pm Barn Dance in the Church Hall
Wednesday 10	7.30pm Ash Wednesday service of Holy Communion.
Sunday 14	3.00pm Special service of thanksgiving for marriage including the opportunity to renew wedding vows.

Please send any notices or information for the pewsheets to the Parish Office by 12 noon on a Wednesday. Send to st.mary.os@btconnect.com or text to 07956675990 or phone 01384 441003.

The Parish Church of St Mary Oldswinford

Sunday 10th January 2016

Epiphany I



*A warm welcome to any visitors who are worshipping with us today.
Please join us for coffee in the Narthex after our 10.00am service.
We have a loop system installed in church. If you wear a hearing aid
please turn it to the T position. If you would like to find out about any
of the activities associated with church please speak to a warden or
sides person or visit our website at
www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk*

Our services today are as follows:

8.00am - Holy Communion

President: Revd Stephen Agnew

Collect, Epistle and Gospel P109 **Sides:** Meriel Harris

10.00am - Worship Together

President: Revd Stephen Agnew

Warden: Tony Tatford **Sides:** Stan & Avril Williams

Reader: Stan Williams

Music led by our music group.



6.30pm - Choral Evensong

Officiant: Revd Stephen Agnew

Warden: Judy Hall **Sides:** Gemma Sutton

Readers: Judy Hall *Isaiah 55: 1-11*
Gemma Sutton *Romans 6: 1-11*

Intercessions: Roger King

Responses: Ebdon **Setting:** Stanford in C

Anthem: Pray that Jerusalem—Stanford

Voluntary: In diest Freude - Bach

This pew sheet is also available at www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk

Please feel free to take this pew sheet away and recycle.

The identity of God's people

Welcome and Notices,

The Gathering

God in Christ has revealed his glory. **Come let us worship.**
From the rising of the sun to its setting,
the Lord's name is greatly to be praised.
Give him praise, you servants of the Lord.
O praise the name of the Lord!

Lord, direct our thoughts, teach us to pray, lift up our hearts to worship you in Spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ. Amen

HYMN - NHWS 204 Lord for the years

Thanksgiving (after each declaration we say:
We worship and adore you.)

Blessed are you, God of all glory, through your Son Jesus Christ.
He is the heavenly king, born of Mary.
He is the Word of the Father, crying as a baby.
He is robed in glory, wrapped in infant clothes.
He is Lord of heaven and earth, laid in a manger.

Strong in weakness, glorious in humility,
to him be all praise and glory.
We join with all the company of heaven,
worshipping you and saying:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Confession

In response to the bidding: We have sinned:
we reply: **Forgive and heal us.**

Absolution

May almighty God, who sent his Son into the world to save sinners, bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever. Amen.



What's going on?

Please ask if you would like to know any more about the events listed on these pages.

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY January 17

Epiphany 2

8.00am Communion(BCP)

10.00am Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 11

10.00am Open The Book Team visiting Oldswinford Primary School.

Thursday 14

10.30am Holy Communion led by Revd Michael Willows

Saturday 9

10.00am Open Church and vestry hour.

MESSAGE FROM THE FOODBANK

Hi Everyone

We are back and busy after the Christmas break. Thank you for all the donations over Christmas, the generosity shown by many has been amazing. Please keep donating items from our shopping list which can be found on our website www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk

Fruit juice, small jars/packets of coffee biscuits, UHT Milk, Jam and Marmalade.

Please leave any donations in the boxes at the back of church and we will ensure that they are taken to the warehouse for distribution each week. Thank you for your support.



We have a Facebook page. If you're a Facebook user and want to keep up to speed with events at St Mary's visit- www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchOldswinford.

We invite you to offer prayers for

The World Church:

The Anglican Church of Australia with Archbishop Phillip Freier.

Churches Together:

The Riverside Christian Fellowship.

Bishop John has asked us to pray for.....

Plough Sunday. Let the ploughman's hope be fulfilled in a plentiful harvest; let thy people be fed with the wholesome food of their countryside; and let town and country, united in gratitude to thee, be drawn nearer to the understanding and true service of each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The work of St Mary's.....

Pray for Stephen and our Worship Leaders, giving thanks for the spiritual nourishment, inspiration and guidance that they provide for us. We give thanks for the opportunity to reach out to so many visitors to St Mary's over the Christmas period.

Those living in:

Stevens Road and Drew Crescent.

Local Community:

Staff and patients who use and work at The Corbett Hospital

Among those who are ill:

William Bates, Lauren Simpson, Rory Macintosh, Elian Irvine-Boden, Robert James, Anne May, Sally Nelson and Patrick Wilkinson.

We continue to pray for:

Ivan Partridge, Grace Jones, Anne Davies, Dianne Smith, Alan Lowe, Brian Norgrove, Angela Dixon, Sally Taylor, Martin Aston, Ruth Hardy, Anna Scudamore, Jonathan Bryan, Ros Bickel, Noah Cantius, Richard Tatler and Michael Woodall.

Those in nursing home care:

Sheila Westwood, and June O'Brian

The departed:

Ray Tolley and Richard Ryan.

May they know the peace and joy of God's Kingdom

Please pray for all who mourn the loss of loved ones.

Please inform the clergy or a member of the pastoral care team as soon as possible if you know of any illness or particular need within the congregation.

Bible Reading Isaiah 43: 1—7

Isaiah proclaims God's words about the identity of his people



HYMN - NHWS 59 Do not be afraid.

Bible Reading Luke 3: 15—17, 21, 22

Luke tells how Jesus' identity is revealed

Talk inviting us to think about our identity

Prayer Activity

HYMN - Take this moment, sign and space. (words on sheet)

Prayers of Intercession

Caribbean Lord's Prayer HYMN NHWS 263

Peace

Christ came and proclaimed the gospel, peace to those who are far off and peace to those who are near.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.



HYMN— NHWS 344 We are marching in the light of God
(during which the collection will be taken)

The Blessing

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life, perfect in you the image of his glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go out in the power of the Spirit, to love and serve the Lord.
In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Readings for our 6.30pm service.

The Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55: 1—11

Invitation to the Thirsty

“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.

Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy?

Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare.

Give ear and come to me; listen, that you may live.

I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David. See, I have made him a witness to the peoples, a ruler and commander of the peoples.

Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations you do not know will come running to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendor.”

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts.

Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord.

“As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

The New Testament Reading

Romans 6: 1—11

Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.

For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him.

The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.