



The Black Country's first Peace Pole will be unveiled at the top of the hill in Mary Stevens Park on Sunday afternoon, 22nd May by the Chairperson of the friends of the Park. The short ceremony will be at 3 p.m. and everyone is invited. All children are specially welcome, and there will be paper-chain making, balloons and biscuits for them. The Pole has been presented to the town by Stourbridge Quaker Meeting.

A Peace Pole is an internationally-recognized symbol of the hopes and dreams of the entire human family, standing vigil in silent prayer for peace on earth. Each Peace Pole bears the message May Peace Prevail on Earth in different languages on each of its four sides. There tens of thousands of Peace Poles in nearly every country in the world dedicated as monuments to peace.

The Stourbridge Pole will carry the message in English, French, Hindi and Arabic.

The next planning meeting for our Queen's Birthday Celebrations will be today at 5.00pm in the church hall.

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 8th May 2016 Seventh Sunday of Easter



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 P193 **Sides:** Ian Nex

10.00am - Worship Together

President: Revd Stephen Agnew

Warden: Tony Tatford **Sides:** Sue Tatford & Pauline Pettet

Reader: Christine Day

Music led by our music group.



6.30pm - Choral Evensong

Officiant: Revd Stephen Agnew

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

Readers: Gemma Isaiah 44: 1-8 Judy Eph 4: 7 -16

Intercessions: Roger King

Responses: Statham **Setting:** Sumsion in A

Anthem: Praise to God in the Highest—Campbell

Voluntary: Toccata—Suite Gothique - Boellmann

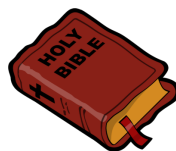


Jesus is Lord of the earth and the heavens

Welcome and Notices

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Reading for the Ascension Acts 1: 4—11



We stand before the throne of God with countless crowds from every nation and race, tribe and language.

Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honour, power and might be to our God for ever and ever. Amen.

HYMN: - 122 Heaven is open wide

Prayers of Confession

Seeing we have a great high priest who has passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith, and make our confession to our heavenly Father.

O King enthroned on high, filling the earth with your glory:
Holy is your name, Lord God Almighty.
In our sinfulness we cry to you to take our guilt away,
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. Amen.

We say together the collect:

**Risen, ascended Lord, as we rejoice at your triumph,
fill your Church on earth with power and compassion, that all
who are estranged by sin may find forgiveness and know your
peace, to the glory of God the Father.**

What's going on?

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

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY May 15th Pentecost

8.00 am
Communion (BCP)

10.00am
Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 9

9.30am Open The Book Team visit
Oldswinford Primary School.
2.00pm Flower Guild meeting in
church

Tuesday 10

11.30am Holy Communion at Holly
Croft
2.15pm Mothers' Union meeting.
Copy date for June edition of Parish
Magazine

Wednesday 11

9.00am—10.00am service in church
as part of Wave of prayer initiative.

Thursday 12

10.30am Holy Communion

Friday 13

Stephen's day off.

Saturday 14

10.00am Open Church and
vestry hour.
2.00pm—4.00pm Messy Church

Tonight's service of Evensong is Robin's final service as Director of Music. We say a huge thank you to Robin for all he has contributed to St Mary's. For his sensitive and gifted playing at our services and also his leadership of the choir and encouragement of our young members to gain RSCM awards. We will meet following the evening service today in the narthex to say a formal farewell and thank you.

We invite you to offer prayers for

The World Church:

The Diocese of Bjorgvin in Norway and Bishop Halvor Nordhaug. Also the Anglican Church of Korea with Archbishop Paul Kim

Churches Together:

New Road Methodist Church

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

all who will be involved in the Chaplaincy Anywhere Day which celebrates and explores the many different forms of chaplaincy within the Diocese.

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

For our new curate Alex French as he prepares to move to Stourbridge. For all those who will be going out into our parish this week to collect on behalf of Christian Aid.

Those living in:

Wollescote Road and Broughton Road

Local Community:

Those who run the shops in Oldswinford and the people they serve.

Among those who are ill:

William Bates, Lauren Simpson, Rory Macintosh, Elian Irvine-Boden, Anne May, Sally Nelson, Niamh McCormack, Finley Rogerson, Paul Turner Joan Franks and Maclys Cantius..

We continue to pray for:

Grace Jones, Anne Davies, Dianne Smith, 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, June O'Brian and Derek Elton.

The departed:

Robert James, Rachael Smith, Margaret McGrath, Joan Willetts, Stanley Hingley, Florrie Perry, Joyce Preece and Colin Wilson.

In memoriam:

Doreen Harris (12.5.15)

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.

HYMN — 323 There is a redeemer

Does Jesus leave us to our own devices?

READ Acts 16: 16—34 For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God
(Paul and Silas pray in prison)

ADDRESS

HYMN - 163 I the Lord of sea and sky.

Prayers: CHAIN PRAYERS

We sing the Lord's Prayer using HYMN 264

Peace

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father'. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

HYMN - 368 Will you come and follow me
(during which the collection will be taken)

The Blessing

Christ our ascended King pour upon you the abundance of his gifts and bring you to reign with him in glory; and the blessing.....

Alleluia!
We go into the world to walk in God's light,
to rejoice in God's love and to reflect God's glory.

Go in peace.
In the name of the Lord. Alleluia. Amen



Readings for our 6.30pm service.

The Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 44: 1—8

Israel the Chosen

“But now listen, Jacob, my servant, Israel, whom I have chosen.

This is what the Lord says—

he who made you, who formed you in the womb, and who will help you: Do not be afraid, Jacob, my servant, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.

For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants. They will spring up like grass in a meadow, like poplar trees by flowing streams.

Some will say, ‘I belong to the Lord’; others will call themselves by the name of Jacob; still others will write on their hand, ‘The Lord’s,’ and will take the name Israel.

The LORD, Not Idols

“This is what the Lord says—

Israel’s King and Redeemer, the Lord Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God.

Who then is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and lay out before me what has happened since I established my ancient people, and what is yet to come— yes, let them foretell what will come.

Do not tremble, do not be afraid. Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago?

You are my witnesses. Is there any God besides me?

No, there is no other Rock; I know not one.”



Our next Messy Church Event will take place next Saturday 14th May between 2.00pm and 4.00pm at the back of church.

Lots of activities for children based on the theme of Pentecost.

The afternoon concludes with a short act of worship and then we share a light meal so please let us know if you would like to come so that we have enough to eat!!

Text us on: 07762250749

Or e mail st.mary.os@btconnect.com



Day 1 Pray for all in our churches to become more deeply rooted in prayer and the study of scripture. It is through God's power, not ours that we can be instruments of his Kingdom.

Day 2 Pray that we will be renewed and transformed by regular worship and that this worship will touch the lives of those on the edges of our churches.

Day 3 Pray that we will be equipped to witness to the gospel of love, compassion, justice and freedom to be able to tell others of the great things that God has done in our lives.

Day 4 Pray that more children, young people and young adults will be nurtured in faith and feel they belong in our churches.

Day 5 Pray that people across the Diocese will continue to deepen in discipleship and feel able to offer their time, talents and money to God.

Day 6 Pray for all those in our churches who minister to others and for more people to hear the calling to witness and minister in Christ's name.

Day 7 Pray that we will love our neighbours effectively through engagement and service in our local communities; showing those around us what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

Day 8 Pray for our church buildings, that they will become a more effective spiritual and community resource for all.



www.cofe-worcester.org.uk



The New Testament Reading

Ephesians 4: 7—16

But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says:

“When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people.”

(What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.)

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

APPEAL

It's



**The week we love
every neighbour**

Helen Fowler is coordinating our collection again this year. Please give as much time as you can to help with our house to house collections but also with the counting of all the money we collect which will be done in the vestry following our 10.00am service on Sunday 22nd. 'Many hands make light work' so please help if you can.

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



**A week of prayer for the evangelisation of the nation
8-15 May 2016**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours.
Now and for ever. Amen.

This week is a week of prayer for the evangelisation of the nation leading up to Pentecost next Sunday.

This initiative is led by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. Their hope is to see a wave of prayer which will help:

- All Christians deepen their relationships with Jesus Christ
- Give all of us confidence to share the Gospel
- All to respond to the call of Jesus Christ to follow Him as Disciples, to live out the Gospel and to seek God's Kingdom from day to day.

Overleaf is a prayer diary for the week to help you focus your prayers on each day. As part of our Diocesan initiative to be offering prayer 24/7 for the whole week we will be holding a special service on Wednesday morning between 9.00am and 10.00am. On every other day this week there will be a service of morning prayer at 9.00am and evening prayer at 5.00pm in church.

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