

There are some 2017 diaries available. These are generously donated to us at no cost. Please help yourself if you would like one.

Permission has been granted and an order now placed for our new boiler in church. We hope the work will commence very soon but as yet we still don't have any definite dates as to when the work will be completed.

The Christmas Market this year is on Saturday December 3rd and we are beginning to make preparations and collect items for stalls. There is a planning meeting on Tuesday this week at 7.30pm in the narthex. At the moment we are asking for bottles for the bottle stall and items for the Christmas hamper. Because the church is open during the week we ask that donations are only brought in on Sundays or at other service times so that they can be stored safely while the church is open.

Because of the uncertainty of timing with the installation of the new boiler we will not be holding our Advent Carol Service on Advent Sunday this year. We hope to possibly do something for Epiphany instead.

Bill Freeston's funeral will be held in church on Monday 21st November at 12.45pm

The first meeting of the Worship and Liturgy Group will take place today at 3.00pm in the narthex.

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 13th November 2016

Trinity 25—Remembrance Sunday



A warm welcome to any visitors who are worshipping with us today. Due to our ongoing heating issues in the church some of our services today will be held in the church hall.

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 or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchOldswinford.

Collect: Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: Hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our services today are as follows:

8.00am - Holy Communion *Service held in the church hall*

President: Revd Stephen Agnew

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Sides: Eve Evans

10.00am - Worship Together including an act of remembrance *Service held in the church hall*

President: Revd Alex French

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

Reader: Tony Tatford

Music provided by our music group.



6.30pm – Evensong *Service to be held in the narthex.*

Officiant: Revd Stephen Agnew

Preacher: Revd Stephen Agnew

Warden: Judy Hall **Sides:** Alec Beevers

Readers: Alec Beevers & Judy Hall

Intercessions: Roger King

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

"As we remember those who sacrificed their lives in conflict we seek the ways of peace"

Before the service begins, you are invited to make a poppy which you can then use during our act of Remembrance.

The Gathering

Silence

I lift up my eyes to the hills - from whence will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

As we gather together we light a candle to symbolise the peace to which we aspire.

Blessed are the peacemakers; they shall be called children of God.
As we remember those people who sacrificed their lives in conflict we commit ourselves to seek peace in God's world.

Let us pray

Father of all mercies: grant that our remembrance this day may be consecrated for practical service and the world made better for our children's children. **Amen.**



Hymn: For the Healing of the Nations NHWS 79

Being Penitent

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled against him. Let us then renounce our wilfulness and ask his mercy by confessing our sins in penitence and faith. Lord God our Father, maker of all: we praise you for your great work creating the world. Give us the skill to build a society where all may thrive, and forgive us when we use your gifts poorly Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, Prince of Peace: as we thank you for your life among us, forgive us when we fail to live together as one family. Help us to dwell together in love and peace, seeking one another's welfare, bearing one another's burdens, and sharing one another's joys.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

What's going on?

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

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

November 20

Christ The King

Sunday before Advent

8.00 am

Communion (BCP)

10.00am

Parish Communion

3.00pm

Baptism

6.30pm Evensong

All services held in the church hall

CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 14

Alex's day off.

7.30pm PCC Meeting

Tuesday 15

7.30pm Christmas market planning meeting.

7.30pm Bishop's Certificate Course meeting in the Coach House.

Wednesday 16

10.00am Prayer group meeting at the home of Marjorie Ferguson

Thursday 17

10.30am Holy Communion in the narthex led by Revd Willows

Friday 18

Stephen's day off.

Saturday 19

10.00am Open Church and vestry hour.

2.30pm Annual renewal service for Eucharistic assistants at Belbroughton Church.

MESSAGE FROM THE FOODBANK

Hi Everyone

Now we have come through the Harvest, winter has truly begun! Please keep donating vital items that will go in the emergency food parcels and help to make hot meals for those in crisis such as tinned meat and rice, tinned sponge puddings and UHT Milk for tea and coffee.

Please don't forget that our financial donations enable us to turn on the lights in our warehouse, turn on the heaters on to keep our volunteers warm and fill our vans with diesel so we can deliver and collect all the food. Please email admin@blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk if you feel you would like to be part of this blessing, or you can directly donate using our page www.justgiving.com/blackcountryfoodbank

This week's shortages are:

UHT milk, fruit juice, coffee, hot chocolate, tinned meat, small bags of rice, tinned custard, tinned sponge pudding, packets of mash, can openers.

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 invite you to offer prayers for

The World Church:

The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain with Bishop Carlos Lopez-Lozano. Also the Diocese of Lulea in Sweden with Bishop Hans Stiglund

Churches Together:

Chawn Hill Christian Centre

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

all those who continue to be affected by war.

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

Members of our PCC who will be meeting this week. Our Eucharistic Assistants who will be attending a service to renew their commitment to serve at a service next Saturday at Belbroughton.

Those living in:

Stanley Road and Bramber Way

Local Community:

The residents and staff of Doveton House residential home.

Among those who are ill:

Angela Viner, Elizabeth Gale, Niamh McCormack, Emma Brown, Joe Yeates and Enid Clarke.

We continue to pray for:

Rory Macintosh, Ros Yeates Elian Irvine-Boden, Anne May, Grace Jones, Angela Dixon, Sally Taylor, Martin Aston, Ruth Hardy, Anna Scudamore, Jonathan Bryan, Noah Cantius, and Michael Woodall, Finley Rogerson, Denis Noakes and Alexis Strong.

Those in nursing home care:

Sheila Westwood, June O'Brian, Richard Aldred, Hazel White and Anne Davies.

The departed:

Alan Pearson, Margaret Griffiths, Bill Freeston and as her ashes are interred May Roden

In memoriam:

Granville Rushton (16.11.15) Eric Atkinson (17.11.15)

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.

Holy Spirit, Lord of grace, fulfiller of humanity: give us strength to face the future, and wisdom to learn from the past as we remember those who have given their lives in the service of justice and peace.

Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*



Remembering

Let us remember before God, and commend to his sure keeping: those who have died for their country in conflict; those whom we know, and whose memory we treasure; and all who have lived and died in the service of humanity.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.

We will remember them.

The Last post

We hold a minutes silence

The wreath is laid and we place our poppies at the foot of the candle.



The Reveille

Ever-living God, we remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war into the peace of your presence; may that same peace calm our fears, bring justice to all peoples and establish harmony among the nations, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for Armistice Day

Hymn: Beauty for Brokenness NHWS 22

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

Listening for the Word from God

Reading: Luke 21. 5-19

Address

Hymn: Lord for the years NHWS 204

Prayers

Response to the words 'may God give peace' is '**God give peace**'

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us....

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory for
ever and ever. Amen.

Welcome to the newly baptised

Faith is the gift of God to his people.

In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome these children and uphold them in their new life in Christ?

With the help of God we will.

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism; by the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.

We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.



The New Testament Reading

Matthew 13: 1—9, 18—23

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.

Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen! Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

When the king heard the charge, he was very much distressed. He was determined to save Daniel, and until the sun went down he made every effort to rescue him. Then the conspirators came to the king and said to him, 'Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed.'

Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, 'May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!' A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him.

Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, 'O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?' Daniel then said to the king, 'O king, live for ever! My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.' Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. The king gave a command, and those who had accused Daniel were brought and thrown into the den of lions – they, their children, and their wives. Before they reached the bottom of the den the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces.

Then King Darius wrote to all peoples and nations of every language throughout the whole world: 'May you have abundant prosperity! I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people should tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: For he is the living God, enduring for ever. His kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion has no end. He delivers and rescues, he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth; for he has saved Daniel from the power of the lions.' So this Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

Peace

Blessed be Christ, the Prince of Peace. He breaks down the walls that divide us: praise Christ who is our peace! The peace of the Lord be always with you. And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.



Hymn: In Christ Alone (words on the next page)

A dedication prayer

Merciful God, we offer to you the fears in us that have not yet been cast out by love: may we accept the hope you have placed in the hearts of all people, and live lives of justice, courage and mercy; through Jesus Christ our risen redeemer. **Amen.**

The National Anthem - we sing the first verse together

The blessing followed by the dismissal



In Christ Alone

1. In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

2. In Christ alone! who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones he came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied,
for every sin on him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

3. There in the ground his body lay,
light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day
up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am his and he is mine -
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from his hand;
till he returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Stuart Townend and Keith Getty.

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



Readings for our 6.30pm service.

The Old Testament Reading

Daniel 6

It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom one hundred and twenty satraps, stationed throughout the whole kingdom, and over them three presidents, including Daniel; to these the satraps gave account, so that the king might suffer no loss. Soon Daniel distinguished himself above all the other presidents and satraps because an excellent spirit was in him, and the king planned to appoint him over the whole kingdom. So the presidents and the satraps tried to find grounds for complaint against Daniel in connection with the kingdom. But they could find no grounds for complaint or any corruption, because he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption could be found in him. The men said, 'We shall not find any ground for complaint against this Daniel unless we find it in connection with the law of his God.'

So the presidents and satraps conspired and came to the king and said to him, 'O King Darius, live for ever! All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counsellors and the governors, are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an interdict, that whoever prays to anyone, divine or human, for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions. Now, O king, establish the interdict and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked.'

Therefore King Darius signed the document and interdict.

Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open towards Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously. The conspirators came and found Daniel praying and seeking mercy before his God. Then they approached the king and said concerning the interdict, 'O king! Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human, within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions?' The king answered, 'The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked.' Then they responded to the king, 'Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day.'

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