

Maggie Abbotts will be running a Fairtrade stall again today and at the 10.30am service next Thursday morning.



 We will be holding two All Age Worship services during March. The first will be on the normal second Sunday of the month 12th March and the second will be on the 26th March so that we can celebrate Mothering Sunday. We hope you'll be able to join us on these dates.

The funeral of Angela Dixon will take place on Monday 27th February at 11.15am in church.

EASTER LILIES

 The Church will be decorated for Easter on Saturday 15 April from 9.00am. Anyone wishing to contribute towards the cost of the lilies in memory of loved ones can do so by putting donations in an envelope with the name of the person to be remembered and giving it to one of the Church Wardens or to Sally Frost. Donations can also be put in yellow gift aid envelopes. Please mark these "For Flower Guild". Thank you very much.

There will be a meeting of the 'Friends of The Music' following the morning service today at 11.00am.

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 12th February 2017 The Third Sunday before lent



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

Collect: Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world our hearts may surely be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Our services today are as follows:

8.00am - Holy Communion

President: Revd Stephen Agnew

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Sides: Nick Harbach

10.00am - Worship Together

President: Revd Alex French & Roger King

Warden: Maggie Abbotts **Sides:** Avril & Stan Williams

Reader: Tony Tatford

Music led by our music group.

CARNIVAL
CARNIVAL
CARNIVAL



6.30pm - Choral Evensong

Officiant: Revd Stephen Agnew

Warden: Judy Hall **Sides:** Gill Davies

Readers: Gill Davies and Judy Hall

Intercessions: Revd Alex French

Responses: West **Setting:** Stanford in B flat

Anthem: In the heart where love is abiding—J Barnard

Voluntary: Toccata in b minor - E Gigout

The Gathering

As we settle into the presence of the Lord here amongst us, we start with a short period of silence.

Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say 'Rejoice'
Let everything be said and done in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through Jesus Christ.

From the rising of the sun to its setting, sing psalms, hymns and sacred songs: let us sing to God with thankful hearts.

Open our lips, Lord: and we shall praise your name.

Silence

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal: have mercy on us.
Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal: have mercy on us.

Silence

Eternal God, source of all blessing, help us to worship you with all our heart and mind and strength; for you alone are God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen.

We say the collect together. (printed on front page)

Praising God with our voices.

From the Sun's rising until the Sun's setting
483 We are Marching
699 King of King and Lord of Lords

Personal testimony

'The joy of life'. A reflection from the Youth Club.

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.

St Mary's Church Oldswinford



Our next Messy Church event for children will be on
Wednesday 22nd February between 11.00am and 1.00pm in the church hall
Activities and fun for children, parents, grandparents and carers with an informal act of worship at the end of the session

The event includes a meal together so please let us know if you would like to come so that we can make sure that we have enough food.

E mail: st.mary.os@btconnect or phone 01384 441003 or text 07762250749



Quiet Day - Praying farewell

We will be running a quiet day at Holland House on Wednesday 15th March from 10am until 4pm. The day will be structured around a series of reflections on the spirituality of change; exploring re-orientation when we lose something which has given our lives meaning and value. The day will include morning and afternoon refreshment, lunch and Holy Communion and will cost £25 per person (excluding transport). The cost and location of the day shouldn't prevent anyone from attending. If you anticipate problems with either of these or would like further information then please don't hesitate to speak to either Stephen or Alex. Please add your name to the sign up sheet at the back of church to secure a place. The deadline date for reserving a place is Sunday 26th February.

Lent Course - five remarkable biblical women

A sign up sheet is available at the back of church, for all members of our church family to join in. Find a group which offers a day and a time which suits you and add your name. The course offers a gentle exploration into what we can learn about God from the stories of five remarkable women which span both the first and second testaments (Hagar, Hannah, Elisabeth, The Syrophenician Woman and The Samaritan Woman). No prior knowledge is needed, just a willingness to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, have a chat and discover where the Holy spirit might blow you. Everyone will receive a pack of resource materials to help you on your lenten journey. The course will run once a week (for up to 90 minutes) during the five weeks of Lent. You don't need to attend all the sessions. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to speak to Stephen, Alex, Roger or Kanthi.

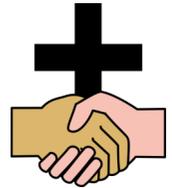
On Sunday, 26 February at our 10.00 am service, we shall welcome Mrs Mandy McIntosh of Tearfund as our speaker. She is an accredited, volunteer speaker for Tearfund and has visited Tearfund's partners in Honduras, Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, South Africa, Thailand and Nepal. Last year St Mary's Mission twinned two toilets through 'Toilet Twinning' which is supported by Tearfund. We hope that members of our 8.00 am and 6.30 pm congregation may join us on this occasion. After the service there will be an opportunity to talk to Mandy personally when coffee, biscuits and cakes will be served in the narthex. Everyone is welcome - please come.



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

The Peace

Let love be genuine. **Never pay back evil for evil.**
As far as it lies with you, **live at peace with everyone.**
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.



Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Penitence

God our Father, we come to you in sorrow for our sins.
For turning away from you, and ignoring your will for our lives;
Father, forgive us: **save us and help us.**

For behaving just as we wish, without thinking of you;
Father, forgive us: **save us and help us.**

For failing you by what we do, and think and say;
Father, forgive us: **save us and help us.**

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you by temptations in
the world about us; Father, forgive us **save us and help us.**

For living as if we were ashamed to belong to your Son;
Father, forgive us: **save us and help us.**

Silence

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon and forgiveness
of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and
strength of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Hymn: 747 O God you search me and you know me

Reading: 1 Corinthians 3: 1-9

Address

The importance of Lent



Personal testimony - What lent means to me.

Making and gathering our Lenten commitments.

Prayers

Response: Loving God, we look to you. **Receive our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Hymn: 678 In Christ Alone

Closing prayer

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world.

Jesus, lord of time, **hold us in your eternity.**
Jesus, image of God, **travel with us the life of faith.**
Jesus, friend of sinners, **heal the brokenness of our world.**
Jesus, lord of tomorrow, **draw us into your future. Amen.**

The blessing

All our problems **we send to the cross of Christ.**
All our difficulties **we send to the cross of Christ.**
All the devil's works **we send to the cross of Christ.**
All our hopes **we set on the risen Christ;**
and the blessing of God almighty.....



What's going on?

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

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY February 19 Second before Lent

8.00 am
Communion (BCP)

10.00am
Parish Communion

3.00pm Baptism

6.30pm
Evensong

CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 13

Alex's day off.
3.00pm Guidelines Bible Study Group meeting

Tuesday 14

11.30am Holy Communion at Holly Croft
2.00pm Mothers' Union meeting in the Coach House

Wednesday 15

10.00am Prayer Group meeting at the home of Marjorie Ferguson.
7.30pm Deanery Synod meeting in church

Thursday 16

10.30am Holy Communion in church

Friday 17

Stephen's day off

Saturday 18

10.00am Open Church and vestry hour.
7.30pm Bellringers Branch Practice.

MESSAGE FROM THE FOODBANK

Hi Everyone

In October last year we held a couple of 'Collection Days' at Tesco, Town Gate Retail Park, Dudley. We had a brilliant time and their lovely customers donated trolley loads of food. In addition they collected £320 in cash and last week we went over to spend some of the money on our shortages.

We came back with lots of items and we were so grateful to the two members of staff who helped us find everything we needed.

Thank you Tesco customers :)

This week's shortages are:

fruit juice, cordial, small jars of coffee, tinned fruit, tinned ham, tinned corned beef, hot chocolate, deodorants, shaving foam.

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 Diocese of Lusaka in Central Africa with bishop david Njovu.

Churches Together:

Wollaston Methodist Church

Bishop John has asked us to pray

for all those involved in fostering and adoption, particularly the many children whose lives are changed.

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

For Scarlett May Taylor, Jack Westwood and Joseph Henry Douglas Clifton who are being welcomed into our Christian family today and also for Alice Riley-Clarke who is preparing to be baptised. For the members of our Mothers' Union who are meeting this week and who support our baptism families.

Those living in:

Redhill and Redhill Close

Local Community:

Staff and pupils of Oldswinford Primary School

Among those who are ill:

Angela Viner, Emma Brown, Margaret Moulton, Michael McCullagh, Jean Rolfe and Enid Clarke.

We continue to pray for:

Rory Macintosh, Joe and Ros Yeates Elian Irvine-Boden, Anne May, Grace Jones, Niamh McCormack, Martin Aston, Ruth Hardy, Anna Scudamore, Jonathan Bryan, Noah Cantius, Michael Woodall, Finley Rogerson and Denis Noakes.

Those in nursing home care:

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

The departed:

Frederick Rubery, Jack Richards and Angela Dixon

In memoriam:

June Macleod (12.2.16)

From the Sun's rising

From the sun's rising unto the sun's setting,
Jesus our Lord, shall be great in the earth;
And all earth's kingdoms Shall be
his dominion
All of creation shall sing of his worth

*Let ev'ry heart, ev'ry voice,
ev'ry tongue join with spirits ablaze;
one in his love, we will circle the world
with the song of his praise.
O let all his people rejoice,
and let all the earth hear his voice!*

To ev'ry tongue, tribe and nation he
sends us
to make disciples, to teach and baptise
For all authority to him is given;
now, as his witnesses, we shall arise.

Come, let us join with the Church from
all nations,
cross ev'ry border, throw wide every door;
workers with him as he gathers his harvest,
'til earth's far corners our Saviour adore.

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.

Readings for our 6.30pm service.

The Old Testament Reading

Amos 3: 1-8

Hear this word that the Lord has spoken against you, O people of Israel, against the whole family that I brought up out of the land of Egypt:

You only have I known of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

Do two walk together unless they have made an appointment?

Does a lion roar in the forest, when it has no prey?

Does a young lion cry out from its den, if it has caught nothing?

Does a bird fall into a snare on the earth, when there is no trap for it?

Does a snare spring up from the ground, when it has taken nothing?

Is a trumpet blown in a city, and the people are not afraid?

Does disaster befall a city, unless the Lord has done it?

Surely the Lord God does nothing, without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets.

The lion has roared; who will not fear?

The Lord God has spoken; who can but prophesy?

The New Testament Reading

Ephesians 5: 1 –17

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

But fornication and impurity of any kind, or greed, must not even be mentioned among you, as is proper among saints. Entirely out of place is obscene, silly, and vulgar talk; but instead, let there be thanksgiving. Be sure of this, that no fornicator or impure person, or one who is greedy (that is, an idolater), has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be associated with them. For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.