

Can you help?

Please sign up using the sheets at the back of church if you are able to help run the activities for our Easter Experience event. We have several local schools visiting and need help to run the various activities.

There is a collection of books at the back of church which have been borrowed from the Robin Woods Library for Lent. Please complete a lending slip if you would like to borrow a book.

Quiet day on 15th March

If you either require transport or could offer to take someone with you please can you let Stephen or Alex know as soon as possible.

Lent Course - five remarkable biblical women

Please sign up if you would like to join one of the groups for our Lent Course. There are still spaces available for the group that will be meeting on Thursday evenings.

Tearfund - last Sunday Mrs Mandy McIntosh came to talk to us about Tearfund's work. She gave an excellent talk, with a video. Thank you to everyone who stayed later to talk to Mandy and her husband over coffee and cakes in the narthex; and many thanks to all who kindly contributed to the bucket collection held for Tearfund. This raised a very generous £197.62, inclusive of Gift Aid. Your help towards Tearfund's work will be much appreciated.



We will be holding two All Age Worship services during March. The first will be next Sunday 12th March and the second will be on the 26th March so that we can celebrate Mothering Sunday.

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 5th March 2017 The First Sunday of 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

Our services today are as follows:

8.00am - Holy Communion

President: Revd Stephen Agnew

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Sides: Nick Harbach

10.00am - Parish Communion

President: Revd Stephen Agnew

Preacher: Revd Alex French

Warden: Les Timms

Sides: Avril & Stan Williams

Reader: Audrey Tranter **Intercessions:** Mike Blaxland

Setting: Archer

Voluntary: Prelude in b minor—*J S Bach*

Children Together: Helen and Russ Fowler

6.30pm - Evensong

Officiant: Kanthi Ariaraj **Preacher:** Revd Stephen Agnew

Warden: Marjorie Ferguson **Sides:** Gill Davies

Readers: Marjorie Ferguson and Gill Davies

Intercessions: Revd Alex French

Voluntary: Fugue in b minor – *J S Bach*

Collect for this week:

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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.

Readings for our 10.00am service.

The Old Testament Reading

Genesis 2: 15-17 & 3: 1—7

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

This is the Word of the Lord

THANKS BE TO GOD.

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

What's going on?

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

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

March 12

Lent 2

8.00 am
Communion (BCP)

10.00am
Worship Together

6.30pm
Choral Evensong

CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 6

Alex's day off.

7.30pm Standing Committee meeting

Tuesday 7

7.30pm Bishop's Certificate group meeting in the rectory.

Wednesday 8

7.30pm Baptism preparation

Thursday 9

10.30am Holy Communion in church

Friday 10

Stephen's day off

Copy date for April magazine

Saturday 4

10.00am Open Church and vestry hour.

MESSAGE FROM THE FOODBANK

Hi Everyone

Please be encouraged to support BCFB financially if you can. Our regular financial donations mean we can plan ahead, budget and make sure our vans always have diesel. Please email admin@blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk if you think you can help. Thank you :)

This week's shortages are:

fruit juice, cordial, small jars of coffee, tinned fruit, tinned ham, tinned corned beef, hot chocolate, deodorants, children's toothpaste and children's toothbrushes.

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. Any donations of bags to help carry the donations from the large boxes at the back of church to the collection station would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your support.

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



We invite you to offer prayers for

The World Church:

The Diocese of Mathwada in India with bishop Madhukar Kasab.

Churches Together:

Gig Mill Methodist Church

Bishop John has asked us to pray

for all the farmers both overseas and here in the UK, that they are paid a fair price for the food they produce.

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

for those who will be attending baptism preparation on Wednesday evening. Members of our standing committee meeting on Monday.

Those living in:

Farlands Road and Corser Street

Local Community:

Staff and residents of Oriel House Care Home.

Among those who are ill:

Angela Viner, Emma Brown, Margaret Moulton, Michael McCullagh, Jean Rolfe, Bosilka Lazic 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:

Angela Dixon, Chris Rowley and Elizabeth Wassell

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.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 4 : 1-11

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

Post Communion Prayer:

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope and strengthen our love; teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

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

Readings for our 6.30pm service.

The Old Testament Reading

Genesis 21:9—21

Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, “Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.” The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, “Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, “Do not let me look on the death of the child.” And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, “What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.” Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

The New Testament Reading

Acts 8: 26—40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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