

Please sign the list at the back of church if you would like to volunteer to help in the reading of the Passion Story on Palm Sunday, 9th April.

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.

Lent Course - five remarkable biblical women

Our Lent courses continue week. There is no requirement to attend all five sessions so if you would like to join a group for one or more of the remaining sessions then please ask Stephen or Alex. Groups are running on a Monday afternoon, Tuesday morning, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

Please sign the list at the back of church if you would like to join us for an Agape Supper in the church hall at 7.00pm on Maundy Thursday.

John is beginning to prepare the next service rota which will run from 7th May through to 3rd September. If you volunteer for any of the roles on the service rota please let John know of any dates you will not be available during this time by Monday 3rd April. The new rota should then be available on Sunday 9th April. If you would like to volunteer for any of the roles then please speak to Stephen or Alex. It would be particularly helpful to have more volunteers to make and serve coffee at our 10.00am Sunday morning service.



We have a new method of being able to donate to St Mary's using text. To make a donation text FOSM29 + the amount you would like to donate to 70070. Thank you.

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.

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



The Parish Church of St Mary Oldswinford
Sunday 26th March 2017
The Fourth Sunday of Lent
Mothering Sunday



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: Ian Nex

10.00am - Worship Together

President: Revd Alex French & Revd Stephen Agnew

Warden: Les Timms **Sides:** Merl & Colin Roberts

Music led by our choir

Anthem: For the beauty of the earth—Rutter

Our thanks to Wendy and her team of helpers for preparing the posies of flowers that will be presented during this service.

6.30pm - Evensong

Officiant: Revd Alex French **Preacher:** Roger King

Warden: Marjorie Ferguson **Sides:** Stan Williams

Readers: Liz Fourness & Tina Timms

Intercessions: Revd Alex French

Voluntary: Sonata II (Grave & Adagio) – F Mendelssohn

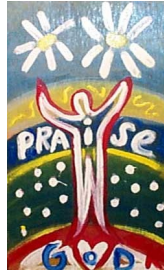
This pew sheet is also available at www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk

Welcome and Notices

The Choir will sing a Psalm of Praise—Psalm 150

The Gathering

Praise God who loves us,
Praise God who cares.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Praise God who loves us,
Praise God who cares.



Praising and Thanking God (A large Candle is lit)

We light this candle to remind us that the love of God is like a light in our darkness.

Blessed be God for ever.

We praise you, our God, for all mothers who have loved and laughed and laboured as they cared for their children.

Blessed be God for ever.

We praise you, our God, for all mothers who have wept in sorrow and joy for their children.

Blessed be God for ever.

We praise you, our God, for Jesus, born of a woman and nurtured in her love, and for Mary, a reminder of your patient, waiting love.

Blessed be God for ever.

HYMN: - 136 Fathers and Mothers

Confession

Let us call to mind our sin, our failure to value the love of others and our failure to love as Christ has loved us.

Silence for reflection

Your love gives us life from the moment of conception.

We fail to live as your children.

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

You call us to do good. We seek our own good.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ have mercy.**

You hear us when we cry for help. We ignore the cries of others.

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

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins,
and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Message from Churches Together.

The silent walk for Good Friday will follow the usual pattern, gathering at St. John's Church at 10.00 a.m. then walking along the High Street with a short act of worship near the town clock. Those who are not able to walk far are welcome to join us at the Foster Street junction at 10.20 or by the clock at 10.30.



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.

DO YOU READ YOUR BIBLE? DOES IT MAKE SENSE?

A small group meet on a monthly basis to study the Bible and try and apply it to our daily lives.

We use notes to help us in our individual study and to inform our conversation.

Perhaps you might like to join us – no expertise is necessary, just a willingness to open your heart and mind to what God is saying through the scripture.

Have a word with Stephen if you want to know more.

We are still collecting used postage stamps for the RNLI. Please place any stamps in the box at the back of church.



St Mary's Church Oldswinford



Our next Messy Church for children is being held on Wednesday 12th April between 11.00am—1.00pm in the church hall.

Activities and fun for all children, parents, grandparents, carers as we explore the story of Easter together and take part in an informal act of worship.



We share a light meal together so please let us know that you are coming by texting 07762 250749 with the name and age of the child attending.

Please note: Your child must be accompanied by an adult.

We look forward to seeing you

We say together the prayer for the day:

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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. Amen

Bible story Hannah's story Part 1

HYMN: — 138 Our Father God in heaven

Bible Story Hannah's story Part 2

Story Meeting with 'Supermom'

HYMN: — 656 He's got the whole world in his hands.

Prayers:

Please sit or kneel for a time of prayer and respond as follows

God of love **Hear our prayer.**

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 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.

Peace

Jesus said, 'whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.'

As we have opportunity, let us work for good to all especially to members of the household of faith.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.



As posies are distributed the choir sing an anthem:

'For the beauty of the earth' John Rutter

At the end of the distribution of flowers we all say this prayer.

Thank you God for the love of our mothers:
thank you God for their care and concern;
thank you God for the joys they have shared with us;
thank you God for the pains they have borne for us;
thank you God for all that they give us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



HYMN: - 721 Love divine, all love's excelling
(during which the collection is received)

The Blessing

May God, who gave birth to all creation, bless us:
May God, who became incarnate by an earthly mother, bless us:
May God, who broods as a mother over her children, bless us.
May almighty God bless us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen



HOLY WEEK AT ST MARY'S

Father in heaven, as your people prepare once more to follow the events of this Holy Week, may we be led by your spirit to deeper insights into your love and saving grace; that we may love you more and serve you better, for the sake of him who died for us and rose again, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Sunday 9 April PALM SUNDAY

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion to include a reading of the Passion narrative.

This service begins in the Church Hall with palm procession into Church.

6.30pm Evensong with sermon

10,11,12 April

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

6.30pm Meditation in church with Compline.

Wednesday 12

11.00am—1.00pm Lent Messy Church for children.

Thursday 13 MAUNDY THURSDAY

10.30am Holy Communion.

7.00pm Agape Meal in the Church Hall

Friday 14 GOOD FRIDAY

10.00am Walk of witness from St John's.

2.00pm Devotions at the foot of the cross.

7.30pm Service of readings and music in church.

Saturday 15 HOLY SATURDAY

9.00am Church decoration.

10.00am Open church and vestry hour.

Sunday 16 EASTER DAY

7.45am Holy Fire. The lighting of the Easter Candle.

8.00am Holy Communion.

10.00am Parish Communion.

6.30pm Choral Evensong with sermon.



O Jesus, Master Carpenter of Nazareth, who on a Cross with wood and nails has wrought our salvation, wield well your tools in the workshop of your world, so that we, who come to you rough-hewn, may by you be fashioned according to your will; for the sake of your tender mercy. 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 April 2 Lent 5

8.00 am
Communion (BCP)

10.00am
Parish Communion

3.00pm Baptism

6.30pm
Evensong

CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 27

10.00am & 1.30pm Visits by Ham Dingle School.

7.30pm Meeting of resources Committee in the rectory.

Tuesday 28

10.00am Open The Book Team visiting Oldswinford Primary School.

2.30pm Tea in the narthex

7.30pm Bishop's Certificate group meeting in the Coach House

Thursday 30

Alex's day off.

10.30am Holy Communion in church

7.30pm Coach House AGM

Friday 31

Stephen's day off

Saturday April 1

10.00am Open Church and vestry hour.

Marriage preparation day.

We invite you to offer prayers for

The World Church:

The Diocese of Mexico with Bishop Carlos Touch-Porter. Also the Diocese of Lund in Sweden with Bishop Joahn Tyrberg.

Churches Together:

Our Lady and all Saints Catholic Church

Bishop John has asked us to pray

for Sarah Maxfield-Phillips as she takes on her new role as Youth Council representative on General Synod.

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

for all those who will be leading or taking part in our Experience Easter event. Pippa Doman, Jessie Whetton, Noah Boughton, Elliot Haden, Teagan Green and Finley Aries who are preparing for baptism. For the couples who will be attending our marriage preparation day next Saturday.

Those living in:

Dene Road and Glen Road

Local Community:

Students and Staff of Stourbridge College

Among those who are ill:

Angela Viner, Emma Brown, Margaret Moulton, Michael McCullagh, Jean Rolfe, Bosilka Lazic, Muriel Watson 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, Andrew and Lesley Mullen, Justin and Kevin and Denis Noakes.

Those in nursing home care:

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

The departed:

Dean Shakespeare, Jason Pearson and Vera Derby.

In memoriam:

Alexina Hix (29.3.16)

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.

MESSAGE FROM THE FOODBANK

Hi Everyone

Thank you for donations over the last week. Please continue to let everyone know about our shortages and don't forget that every item donated is important to someone in crisis. Thank you :)

This week's shortages are:
FRUIT JUICE, CORDIAL/SQUASH, COOKING SAUCE, VEGETARIAN READY MEALS (MAC CHEESE), MEAT READY MEALS (MEATBALLS), TINNED MEAT (HAM/CORNERED BEEF) CUSTARD, SAVOURY RICE, PLAIN RICE (SMALL BAGS), BREAKFAST CEREAL, SANITARY TOWELS, WASHING POWDER, WASHING UP LIQUID, TOOTHBRUSHES, TOILET ROLL.

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.



Readings for our 6.30pm service.

The Old Testament Reading

Micah 7

Woe is me! For I have become like one who, after the summer fruit has been gathered, after the vintage has been gleaned, finds no cluster to eat; there is no first-ripe fig for which I hunger. The faithful have disappeared from the land, and there is no one left who is upright; they all lie in wait for blood, and they hunt each other with nets. Their hands are skilled to do evil; the official and the judge ask for a bribe, and the powerful dictate what they desire; thus they pervert justice. The best of them is like a brier, the most upright of them a thorn hedge. The day of their sentinels, of their punishment, has come; now their confusion is at hand. Put no trust in a friend, have no confidence in a loved one; guard the doors of your mouth from her who lies in your embrace; for the son treats the father with contempt, the daughter rises up against her mother, the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; your enemies are members of your own household. But as for me, I will look to the Lord, I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me. Do not rejoice over me, O my enemy; when I fall, I shall rise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me. I must bear the indignation of the Lord, because I have sinned against him, until he takes my side and executes judgment for me. He will bring me out to the light; I shall see his vindication. Then my enemy will see, and shame will cover her who said to me, "Where is the Lord your God?" My eyes will see her downfall; now she will be trodden down like the mire of the streets.

A day for the building of your walls! In that day the boundary shall be far extended. In that day they will come to you from Assyria to Egypt, and from Egypt to the River, from sea to sea and from mountain to mountain. But the earth will be desolate

because of its inhabitants, for the fruit of their doings. Shepherd your people with your staff, the flock that belongs to you, which lives alone in a forest in the midst of a garden land; let them feed in Bashan and Gilead as in the days of old. As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt, show us marvellous things. The nations shall see and be ashamed of all their might; they shall lay their hands on their mouths; their ears shall be deaf; they shall lick dust like a snake, like the crawling things of the earth; they shall come trembling out of their fortresses; they shall turn in dread to the Lord our God, and they shall stand in fear of you. Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of your possession? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in showing clemency. He will again have compassion upon us; he will tread our iniquities under foot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. You will show faithfulness to Jacob and unswerving loyalty to Abraham, as you have sworn to our ancestors from the days of old.

The New Testament Reading

Mark 7: 24—30

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.