

Please sign the list at the back of church if you would like to attend Alex's ordination service in Worcester Cathedral on Saturday 24th June. There will be a coach from St Mary's which will be leaving at 12 noon on the day. We will be holding a bring and share lunch to celebrate Alex's Priesting on Sunday 25th June from 12 noon in the church hall. Further details to follow.

A Hustings has been arranged for 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 31 May at Chawn Hill Church. All candidates are being invited. If you would like to attend you need to apply for a ticket using the following link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/general-election-2017-stourbridge-hustings-tickets-34501317369>

We have two large funeral services taking place at St Mary's within the next 10 days. The services on Friday 2 June and Wednesday 7 June are both likely to see the church filled to capacity. Because of the numbers of people attending there is likely to be disruption and congestion in roads around the church. The church car park will be closed for parts of these days to allow the funeral corteges to take precedence. If you live near the church please communicate this information to your neighbours so that they are aware.

Please let us know if you change your address. We like to keep our records up to date particularly for those on the electoral roll. Thanks



If you don't normally carry any cash with you you are now 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.

The Parish Church of St Mary Oldswinford
Sunday May 28 2017
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday after Ascension



*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 Page 193
Sides: Nick Harbach

10.00am - Parish Communion

Our choir is on holiday today
President: Revd Stephen Agnew **Preacher:** Revd Stephen Agnew
Warden: Malcolm Frost **Sides:** Toni Evans & Jeremy Morgan
Reader: Jeremy Morgan **Intercessions:** Dawn Nex
Organ Voluntary: Mode de sol —J Langlais
Children Together: Emma White & Alison Jones

6.30pm – Evensong

Officiant: Kanthi Ariaraj **Preacher:** Revd Alex French
Warden: Marjorie Ferguson **Sides:** Alec Beevers
Readers: Liz Fourness & Peter Thomson
Intercessions: Kanthi Ariaraj
Voluntary: Heut' triumphret, Gottes Sohne —J S Bach

Collect for this week:

O God the king of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Readings for our 10.00am service.

The New Testament Reading

Acts 1: 6—14

When the apostles met together, they asked Jesus, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day’s walk from the city. When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

This is the Word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD.



A huge thank you to everybody who helped with our Christian Aid collection and to Helen Fowler for Co ordinating this again this year. The latest total we have for the amount collected is: £1973.01 Oldswinford Primary School raised £387.52 through donations and their sponsored walk. A fantastic effort—thanks everybody.

Holiday at home

We will be offering a four day 'holiday at home' (14th August - 17th August) for those people in our parish (they don't have to come to St Mary's) who are on their own and don't get chance to get away. Each day will start at 10am and end at 4pm and will be filled with activities, fellowship and food. More information will follow but put the dates in your diary and think about whether any of your friends might be interested in joining in. Places will be limited to 25. If you would like any further information please speak to Stephen or Alex.

THY KINGDOM COME

In the 10 days between Ascension Day and Pentecost we are praying with many millions of people throughout the world for God's Kingdom to come.

As part of that prayer we are inviting each member of our congregation to pray for 5 people (of their choice) each day.

The stones we have given out in our services this week are an aid to that prayer. Will you get on board and pray for God's Kingdom to Come in the lives of people you are upholding in prayer?

When large groups of people pray, the world changes.

A number of people have expressed an interest in preparing for Confirmation. This is open to adults and children of 10 years or over. The course will consist of six sessions and is likely to take place over the summer. If you would like to know more please speak to Stephen or Alex.



THE FRIENDS OF THE MUSIC
AT ST MARY'S OLD SWINFORD,
Stourbridge, DY8 2HA



INAUGURAL FESTIVAL WEEKEND

A warm welcome is extended to all

SATURDAY 17th JUNE
at 7.30pm

A CONCERT OF MUSIC FOR VOICES AND STRINGS
Featuring the Choir of St Mary's,
The Chamberlain Singers and The Amicus Trio led by Will Croft
with conductor Jack Apperley
and organist Graham Davies.

Admission Free — Retiring Collection in aid of The Friends

SUNDAY - 18th June
at 6.30 p.m.

FESTIVAL EVENSONG
In church there will be special displays
of choir memorabilia and flowers.

Messy Church

Are you coming to Messy Church on Wednesday at 11am in the Church Hall?

Theme: God's Wonderful Creation

If you are coming text the names and ages of the children you are bringing to 07762 250749

The Gospel Reading

John 17: 1—11

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

Jesus looked towards heaven and prayed:

“Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

“I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name – the name you gave me – so that they may be one as we are one.”

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

Post Communion Prayer:

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen

Readings for our 6.30pm service.

The Old Testament Reading

2 Samuel 23: 1—5

These are the last words of David:

“The oracle of David son of Jesse,
the oracle of the man exalted by the Most High,
the man anointed by the God of Jacob,
Israel’s singer of songs:

The Spirit of the LORD spoke through me;
his word was on my tongue.

The God of Israel spoke,
the Rock of Israel said to me:

‘When one rules over men in righteousness,
when he rules in the fear of God,
he is like the light of morning at sunrise
on a cloudless morning,

like the brightness after rain
that brings the grass from the earth.’

Is not my house right with God?

Has he not made with me an everlasting covenant,
arranged and secured in every part?

Will he not bring to fruition my salvation
and grant me my every desire?”



Bishop Graham is undertaking a Pilgrimage through the northern part of the Diocese as part of the larger 'Thy Kingdom Come' Pilgrimage. The climax of this will be a service in **Worcester Cathedral next Saturday at 5.00pm**. He will be visiting Oldswinford as part of his journey on **Thursday at approximately 6.30pm**. It would be good to have members of the church present to welcome him and his fellow walkers and wish them well on their way. You can find further details about the walk at <http://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/thy-kingdom-come/pilgrimage/>. There are details on this web page of his route over the three days if you would like to follow what's happening or even join in!!
#WalkTheCross



Love Stourbridge - can you spare an hour? On Saturday 22nd July the annual Love Stourbridge event will be taking place in Mary Stevens Park. We have secured a tent in the park for St Mary's so that we can be part of the hustle and bustle. The plan will be to offer all who come into the tent the opportunity to make an Origami Crane (as in the bird, which in Japanese culture symbolises happiness and luck). We will have our tent 'staffed' from 11am - 5pm. If you could offer an hour (or more) please can you sign up at the back of church. Ideally we will have at least four people on every hour. If you have any questions or would like further information please speak to Alex.



The New Testament Reading

Eph 1: 15—23

Ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

We invite you to offer prayers for

The World Church:

The Diocese of Nord-Halogaland in Norway with Bishop Olav Oygard. Also the Diocese of Nike in Nigeria with Bishop Evans Jonathan Ibeagha.

Churches Together:

Wollaston Methodist Church

Bishop John has asked us to pray

for all that is happening with regard to the 'Thy Kingdom Come' initiative. And from now until Pentecost pray particularly for more people to come to know and love Jesus, Lord, Thy Kingdom Come.

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

For Alex French as he prepares for ordination. For all those involved with our Messy Church on Wednesday.

Those living in:

Rectory Road and Rectory Close

Local Community:

Mary Stevens Hospice

Among those who are ill:

Angela Viner, Emma Brown, Margaret Moulton, Michael McCullagh, Bosilka Lazic, Grace Jones, Joni Stainburn, Estelle Court, Maureen Parmee and Enid Clarke.

We continue to pray for:

Rory Macintosh, Joe and Ros Yeates, Elian Irvine-Boden, Anne May, 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: Lilian Cartwright, Rachel Ryan, John Jeavons-Fellows, Pierce and Tracey Wilkinson, June Allen and Kit Long

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.

What's going on?

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

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

**June 4
Pentecost
Whit Sunday**

8.00 am Communion
(BCP)

10.00am Parish
Communion

6.30pm Evensong

CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 29

BANK HOLIDAY –Parish Office closed. Alex's day off.

Wednesday 31

11.00am Messy Church in the church Hall

Thursday 1 June

10.30am Holy Communion in church.

6.30pm Bishop Graham visiting as part of his pilgrimage.

Friday 2

2.00pm Funeral service in church

Saturday 3

10.00am Open Church and vestry hour. Revd Alex French

MESSAGE FROM THE FOODBANK

Hi Everyone

The generous customers and staff at Tesco, Town Gate Retail Park, Dudley, donated 890Kgs of food and toiletries. Amazing! Thank you to everyone who came along and supported BCFB.

This week's shortages are:
UHT MILK, FRUIT JUICE (CARTONS FROM CONCENTRATE), SQUASH/CORDIAL, BREAKFAST CEREALS (small boxes low sugar) PACKETS/TINS CUSTARD, TINNED RICE PUDDING/CUSTARD, TINNED FRUIT, TINNED MEAT READY MEALS (CHILLI/BOLOGNESE), TINNED RICE PUDDING TINNED MEAT (HAM/CORNERED BEEF), SAVOURY RICE, JAM/MARMALADE, DEODORANT, SPONGES/FLANNELS, SHAVING GEL, TOOTH-BRUSHES, WASHING UP LIQUID, WASHING POWDER (small boxes)

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.

