

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.



The Church will be decorated for Easter on Saturday 31 March 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 envelop with the name of the person to be remembered and giving it to one of the Church Wardens or Sally Frost. Donations can also be put in yellow gift aid envelopes. Please mark these "For Flower Guild". Thank you very much.

As part of our Lent study and reflection groups we have organised a Parish Quiet Day at Holland House on Wednesday 21st March. The day will be led by Stephen and we shall be reflecting further on the themes covered in our Lent groups relating to St Mary's and how we move forward as a Christian community.

This will be a whole day event to include lunch and transport will be organised for people who need it. Please add your name to the sheet at the back of church if you would like to join us.



Our service next Sunday morning will be an All Age Worship service so that we can celebrate Mothering Sunday. Small posies of flowers will be distributed to parents of all ages!! We hope you will be able to join us.

The March edition of the Parish Monthly News is now available for sale at the back of church. Why not take a copy for a neighbour or somebody who has recently moved into your street. It is also available online.

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.

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. This pewsheets is printed on recycled paper.

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

The Parish Church of St Mary Oldswinford

Sunday 4 March 2018

Third Sunday of Lent



A warm welcome to any visitors who are worshipping with us today. Please join us for a chat over a cup of coffee after our 10.00am service. 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.

Our services today are as follows:

8.00am - Holy Communion

President: Revd Stephen Agnew

Collect, Epistle and Gospel reading on page 133

Sides: Nick Harbach

10.00am - Parish Communion

President: Revd Stephen Agnew

Preacher: Revd Stephen Agnew

Warden: Malcolm Frost

Sides: Jeremy Morgan & Marilyn Thomson

Reader: Christine Jones **Intercessions:** Mike Blaxland

Children Together: Kanthi Ariaraj

Communion Motet: O thou, who at thy Eucharist did pray —*Ingley*

Organ Music: Praeludium in g minor – *D Buxtehude*

6.30pm – Evensong

Officiant: Kanthi Ariaraj **Preacher:** Roger King

Warden: Ian Nex **Sides:** Dawn Nex

Readers: Dawn & Ian Nex

Intercessions: Kanthi Ariaraj

Anthem: Save us, O Lord —*Ingley*

Voluntary: O Mensch beweine – *J S Bach*

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

Collect for this week:

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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 New Testament Reading

I Corinthians 1: 18—25

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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 11 Mothering Sunday

8.00 am
Communion (BCP)

10.00am
Worship Together

6.30pm Choral Evensong

CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 5

Parish Office closed
7.00pm—8.30pm Lent group
7.30pm Standing Committee meet

Tuesday 6

10.00am—11.30am Lent Group
2.00pm Flower Guild meet in the narthex

Wednesday 7

2.00pm—3.30pm Lent Group
7.30pm Baptism preparation

Thursday 8

10.30am Holy Communion in church.

7.00pm—8.30pm Lent Group

Friday 9

Clergy day off

Saturday 10

10.00am Vestry Hour with Alex and Open Church.

MESSAGE FROM THE FOODBANK

**BLACK COUNTRY
FOODBANK**
LOVE . CONNECT . INVEST

Hello Everyone

It's freezing in the warehouse today (and everywhere else in the country!) please remember that some families are choosing between eating and heating this week whilst the temperatures drop. All your donations are crucial to help so many families and individuals experiencing crisis. We are grateful for all your donations. Thank you :)

This week's shortages are:

UHT MILK , FRUIT JUICE, TINNED POTATOES, TINNED FRUIT, SMALL JARS OF COFFEE. HOT CHOCOLATE, SHAVING FOAM, SHAMPOO, 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. 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

Worldwide Church:

Anglican Church of the Congo with Archbishop Zacharie Masimango Katanda.

Churches Together:

St Thomas' Stourbridge

Bishop John has asked us to pray

for all farmers both here in the UK and abroad, that they will receive a fair price for the food that they produce. Pray also for all those who work to ensure food and produce are fairly traded throughout the world.

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

For Alaana Anne Akel and Darcie Dee McCullagh who will be baptised at St Mary's today. We pray for their parents and Godparents who will support them. For our Lent study groups meeting this week.

Those living in:

Redhill and Redhill Close

Local Community:

Those who work in the Oldswinford shops

Among those who are ill:

Betty and Joe Chiswell, The Palmer family, Judy Taylor, Geoff Skelding, Rosie, Becki Henley, James Gwilliams, Colin Millward, Lilian Bunny and Ian Moore.

We continue to pray for:

Rory Macintosh, Joe and Ros Yeates, Elian Irvine-Boden, Anne May, Martin Aston, Ruth Hardy, Anna Scudamore, Jonathan Bryan, Noah Cantius, Michael Woodall, Finley Rogerson, Andrew and Lesley Mullen, Justin and Kevin, Peter and Lydia Wilkinson, Grace, Enid Clarke, Julie Read, Angela Viner, Penny Webb, Jennie Webb and Denis Noakes.

Those in nursing home care:

June O'Brian, Margaret Moulton, Hazel White, Betty Shore, Mabel Arnold and Anne Davies.

The departed:

Barbara Kent and Sylvia Chapman.

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

John 2: 13—22

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

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

Post Communion Prayer:

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Readings for our 6.30pm service.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 5: 1— 6:1

Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘Let my people go, so that they may celebrate a festival to me in the wilderness.’” But Pharaoh said, “Who is the Lord, that I should heed him and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord, and I will not let Israel go.” Then they said, “The God of the Hebrews has revealed himself to us; let us go a three days’ journey into the wilderness to sacrifice to the Lord our God, or he will fall upon us with pestilence or sword.” But the king of Egypt said to them, “Moses and Aaron, why are you taking the people away from their work? Get to your labours!” Pharaoh continued, “Now they are more numerous than the people of the land and yet you want them to stop working!” That same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people, as well as their supervisors, “You shall no longer give the people straw to make bricks, as before; let them go and gather straw for themselves. But you shall require of them the same quantity of bricks as they have made previously; do not diminish it, for they are lazy; that is why they cry, ‘Let us go and offer sacrifice to our God.’ Let heavier work be laid on them; then they will labour at it and pay no attention to deceptive words.”

So the taskmasters and the supervisors of the people went out and said to the people, “Thus says Pharaoh, ‘I will not give you straw. Go and get straw yourselves, wherever you can find it; but your work will not be lessened in the least.’” So the people scattered throughout the land of Egypt, to gather stubble for straw. The taskmasters were urgent, saying, “Complete your work, the same daily assignment as when you were given straw.” And the supervisors of the Israelites, whom Pharaoh’s taskmasters had set over them, were beaten, and were asked, “Why did you not finish the required quantity of bricks yesterday and today, as you did before?”

Then the Israelite supervisors came to Pharaoh and cried, “Why do you treat your servants like this? No straw is given to your servants, yet they say to us, ‘Make bricks!’ Look how your servants are beaten!

You are unjust to your own people.” He said, “You are lazy, lazy; that is why you say, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to the Lord.’ Go now, and work; for no straw shall be given you, but you shall still deliver the same number of bricks.” The Israelite supervisors saw that they were in trouble when they were told, “You shall not lessen your daily number of bricks.” As they left Pharaoh, they came upon Moses and Aaron who were waiting to meet them. They said to them, “The Lord look upon you and judge! You have brought us into bad odour with Pharaoh and his officials, and have put a sword in their hand to kill us.”

Then Moses turned again to the Lord and said, “O Lord, why have you mistreated this people? Why did you ever send me? Since I first came to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has mistreated this people, and you have done nothing at all to deliver your people.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh: Indeed, by a mighty hand he will let them go; by a mighty hand he will drive them out of his land.”

The New Testament Reading

Matthew 10: 16—23

“See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.