

We're currently aiming to raise £1,500 to help fund additional security measures for the church building to enable it to be kept open during the week. The money will be used to install CCTV cameras in church. We're doing this through a crowd funding campaign. Go to <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stmaryos> to make a donation or if you're not online make a donation using the yellow envelopes and mark for the crowd funding campaign. We're pleased to report that our current total is nearly £1000 and things are progressing well with our faculty application which gives us permission to carry out the work. A huge thank you to everybody who has donated and helped us to ensure we can keep the church safe while it is open during the week.

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Experience Pentecost

We have year 4 and year 5 pupils from Oldswinford Primary School visiting us on Wednesday 16th May and Friday 18th May to 'experience Pentecost'. We will be running six stations in church (in exactly the same way as we did for Experience Easter and Advent) which we will need volunteers to help run. No prior experience is needed, instructions are given and its great fun! There is a signup sheet by the North door for the morning and afternoon sessions on the 16th and 18th May. If you have any questions please speak to Stephen or Alex and if you want to know how uplifting it is working with the pupils, please speak to one of the many people who have been involved in our last two events.

Kanthi will be retiring from her role as LLM Reader on Sunday 22nd July. If you would like to make a contribution towards a gift to her from St Mary's there are some envelopes at the back of church to use. Please hand the envelope to a warden or sides person or place on the collection plate.

Dates for your diary: Saturday 23 June 7.30pm—Organ Recital given by Will Peart. Saturday 7 July 7.30pm A concert given by The Amicus Ensemble in church directed by Will Croft.

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 pewsheet is printed on recycled paper.

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

The Parish Church of St Mary Oldswinford

Sunday 29 April 2018

Easter 5



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 187

Sides: Meriel Harris

10.00am - Parish Communion

President: Revd Alex French **Preacher:** Kanthi Ariaraj

Warden: Les Timms

Sides: Merl and Colin Roberts

Reader: Peter Jones

Intercessions: Mike Blaxland

Children Together: Roger King

Communion Motet: If ye love me —T Tallis

Organ Music: Prelude in C (The Great) — J S Bach

6.30pm – Evensong

Officiant: Revd Stephen Agnew **Preacher:** Revd Alex French

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

Readers: Gill Davies and Marjorie Ferguson

Intercessions: Revd Stephen Agnew

Anthem: O, for a closer walk with God —CV Stanford

Voluntary: Fugue in C (The Great) —J S Bach

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

Collect for this week:

Eternal God, who through your only begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life; grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, 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 Old Testament Reading

Genesis 22: 1—18

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

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 May 6 Easter 6

8.00 am Communion (BCP)
10.00am Parish
 Communion
12 noon Baptism
3.00pm Baptism
6.30pm Evensong

CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 30

Parish Office closed today
2.00pm Funeral ministry meeting in the Narthex.

Tuesday 1 May

2.00pm CYD Meeting with Ruth Walker

Wednesday 2

9.30am Full staff meeting
3.00pm holy Communion at Oriel House
7.30pm Baptism preparation

Thursday 3

Church Hall being used as a polling station all day today.
10.30am Holy Communion in church

Friday 4

Clergy day off.

Saturday 5

10.00am Vestry hour.
10.00am—12 noon Open Church

MESSAGE FROM THE FOODBANK

Hello Everyone

This week we are welcoming our 21st Distribution Centre on board! The Loving Hands Centre is opening this Wednesday and all the details can be found on our website

We are pleased to be able to reach more people across the Black Country with this new centre. We now have 10 centres in Dudley, 6 centres in Walsall and 5 centres in Sandwell. Thank you for supporting us as we expand and try and meet the needs of the local community. We couldn't do it without the generosity and love that you show through your donations. Thank you :)

This week's shortages are:

TINNED SPAGHETTI, BOTTLES OF SQUASH/CORDIAL, 1L CARTONS OF FRUIT JUICE, UHT CARTONS OF MILK, BREAKFAST CEREAL, TINNED CUSTARD, TINNED TOMATOES, SMALL JARS OF COFFEE, TINNED POTATOES, 500G BAGS OF RICE SMALL BOXES OF WASHING POWDER, SHAMPOO very low stock, SHOWER GEL very low stock, SHAVING FOAM/ GEL, BATH FOAM - run out of, FACE CLOTHS/SPONGES

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

**BLACK COUNTRY
FOODBANK**

LOVE . CONNECT . INVEST

We invite you to offer prayers for

Worldwide Church:

The Diocese of Gothenburg in Sweden with Bishop Susanne Rappmann.
Also the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East with
Archbishop Suheil Dawani.

Churches Together:

Our Lady and All Saints catholic Church

Bishop John has asked us to pray

that people across the Diocese will respond to the 'Thy Kingdom Come'
prayer movement and as a result will have the confidence to go out and
share the Good News of Jesus' love with more people.

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

For all those involved with the Calling Young Disciples initiative here at
St Mary's and the work of Anne Batchelor. For those attending baptism
preparation on Wednesday evening.

Those living in:

Siskin Road and Chaffinch Road

Local Community:

Students and staff of King Edward VI College.

Among those who are ill:

The Palmer family, Rosie, James Gwilliams, Enid Clarke, Colin Millward,
Christine Pirie, Adrian Mead and Ian Moore.

We continue to pray for:

Betty and Joe Chiswell, Judy Taylor, Lilian Bunny, 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, Julie Read, Angela Viner, Penny Webb,
Jennie Webb and Denis Noakes.

Those in nursing home care:

Margaret Moulton, Hazel White, Betty Shore, Mabel Arnold and Geoff
Skelding, Anne Davies.

The departed:

June O'Brian and Ray Timms

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 15: 1—8

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

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

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

Post Communion Prayer:

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life; grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen

Readings for our 6.30pm service.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60: 1—14

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on
their nurses' arms.
Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because
the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations
shall come to you.
A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of
the Lord.
All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you, the rams of Nebaioth shall
minister to you; they shall be acceptable on my altar, and I will glorify my
glorious house.
Who are these that fly like a cloud, and like doves to their windows?
For the coastlands shall wait for me, the ships of Tarshish first,
to bring your children from far away, their silver and gold with them,
for the name of the Lord your God, and for the Holy One of Israel,
because he has glorified you.
Foreigners shall build up your walls, and their kings shall minister to you;
for in my wrath I struck you down, but in my favour I have had mercy on you.
Your gates shall always be open; day and night they shall not be shut,
so that nations shall bring you their wealth, with their kings led in procession.
For the nation and kingdom that will not serve you shall perish; those nations
shall be utterly laid waste.
The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, the cypress, the plane, and the pine,
to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will glorify where my feet rest.
The descendants of those who oppressed you shall come bending low to you,
and all who despised you shall bow down at your feet; they shall call you the
City of the Lord, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

The New Testament Reading

Revelation 3: 1—13

“And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: These are the words of
him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars:
“I know your works; you have a name of being alive, but you are
dead. Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is on the point of
death, for I have not found your works perfect in the sight of my
God. Remember then what you received and heard; obey it, and repent.
If you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at
what hour I will come to you. Yet you have still a few persons in Sardis
who have not soiled their clothes; they will walk with me, dressed in
white, for they are worthy. If you conquer, you will be clothed like them
in white robes, and I will not blot your name out of the book of life; I will
confess your name before my Father and before his angels. Let anyone
who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.
“And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the
words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who
opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens:
“I know your works. Look, I have set before you an open door, which no
one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you
have kept my word and have not denied my name. I will make those of
the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but are
lying—I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and they
will learn that I have loved you. Because you have kept my word of
patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming
on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth. I am coming
soon; hold fast to what you have, so that no one may seize your
crown. If you conquer, I will make you a pillar in the temple of my God;
you will never go out of it. I will write on you the name of my God, and
the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem that comes down
from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. Let anyone who
has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.