

Our APCM meeting, at which we elect churchwardens and members of our PCC, will take place on Sunday 28 April. The format will be the same as last year in that our 10.00am service will take place in the church hall and will be followed immediately by the APCM meeting.

A date for your diary

The social committee are organising a cheese and wine evening which will be held in the church hall on Saturday 4th May 7.00pm—9.00pm

Could you help out on a Saturday morning? Please sign up at the back of church if you are able to help provide a welcome and coffee to our visitors on a Saturday morning at Open Church.

We have a new Parish Pass which gives free entry into Westminster Abbey. If anybody is planning a visit to London speak to John via the parish office and he can arrange for you to take the pass. Each use of the pass allows up to 4 adults, students or children 6—16 free of charge.

Thank you Graham

Our Director of Music, Graham Davies, will leave St Mary's today. Graham has secured a similar post much closer to his home in Malvern which will make travelling far easier for him.

We are very grateful to Graham for all he has done in support of and to promote the music in worship at St Mary's.

A card has been prepared to share our good wishes with Graham. Please sign this if you would like to. A presentation to Graham will be made at the 10.00am and 6.30pm services.

We are very grateful to Richard Hall who will be standing in as Director of Music until a successor to Graham is found. We have already been advertising for this role and hope to hold auditions and interviews at the end of March for prospective applicants.

The Parish Church of St Mary Oldswinford **Sunday 27 January 2019** **The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**



A warm welcome to Revd Sarah Northall and any other 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 Sarah Northall **Preacher:** Revd Sarah Northall
Readings from the BCP page 113 **Sides:** Eve Evans

10.00am - Parish Communion

President: Revd Sarah Northall
Preacher: Revd Sarah Northall
Warden: Maggie Abbotts **Sides:** John Evans & Betty Parsons
Reader: Janet Hampson **Intercessions:** Maggie Abbotts
Children Together: Les Timms & Pauline Pettet
Coffee: Brenda Selby & Chris Brinsdon
Communion Motet: Jesus, good above all other
Organ Music: Toccata in G—T Dubois

6.30pm – Evensong

Officiant: Roger King **Preacher:** Roger King
Warden: Maggie Abbotts **Sides:** Alec Beevers
Readers: Angela Price & Alec Beevers
Anthem: Behold, the tabernacle of God - W Harris
Organ music - Choral Song - S S Wesley

Collect for this week:

God our creator, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people, and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of 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**

Readings for our 10.00am service

Old Testament Reading

Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6,, 8-10

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

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

What's going on?

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

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY February 3 Candlemas

8.00 am Communion
(BCP)

10.00am Parish
Communion

6.30pm Evensong

CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 28

Parish Office closed

10.00am Funerals group meeting in the narthex.

7.30pm Messy Church meeting in the narthex.

Tuesday 29

10.00am The OTB group visit Oldswinford Primary School

2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the narthex.

Thursday 31

10.30am Holy Communion in church

Friday 1 February

Alex's day off.

Saturday 2

10.00am—11.00am Vestry hour with Alex

10.00am—12 noon Open Church

MESSAGE FROM THE FOODBANK

Hello Everyone

We are so grateful to all the corporate volunteers that we have had at Albion St, Brierley Hill over the past couple of months. Their help has been invaluable over the months that we are at our busiest in terms of donations arriving. Corporate volunteers help us date stock, stack shelves and make tea! If you are part of a business and would like to volunteer then please consider this for 2019. Our volunteering days run from October 2019 to the end of Jan 2020. This may seem like a long way off but we do get booked up. There is more information on our website
Thanks everyone.

This week's shortages are:

FRUIT JUICE, JAM/MARMALADE, PACKETS OF MASH, TINNED FRUIT, SMALL JARS OF COFFEE, HOT CHOCOLATE, SHAMPOO, SHOWER GEL, DEODORANT

Please note that the foodbank cannot accept donations of alcohol.

Thanks.

**BLACK COUNTRY
FOODBANK**
LOVE · CONNECT · INVEST

We invite you to offer prayers for

Worldwide Church:

The Diocese of Lui in South Sudan with Archbishop Stephen Dokolo
Ismail Mbalah

Churches Together:

Our Lady and All Saints Catholic Church

Bishop John has asked us to pray

for the new Parish Giving Scheme, that it encourages people to continue to give generously, in support of the Church and its sustainability.

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

Give thanks for all that Graham has given during his time at St Mary's and his contribution to our acts of worship. For those involved with our Messy Church Meeting on Monday evening. For our Open The Book Team visiting Oldswinford Primary School on Tuesday.

Those living in:

Chawn Hill and Chawn Hill Close

Local Community:

The Coach House

Among those who are ill:

Helen and Andrew Charlesworth, Nicola, Marilyn Thomson, Ron Moul, Liz Gale and Joyce Myatt.

We continue to pray for:

Colin Millward, Joyce Agnew, Miriam Palmer, Cam Raffan, Ian Moore, Brian Drew, Betty and Joe Chiswell, Judy Taylor, Rory Macintosh, Joe and Ros Yeates, Elian Irvine-Boden, Anne May, Martin Aston, Ruth Hardy, Anna Scudamore, Jonathan Bryan, Noah Cantius, Michael Woodall, The Rogerson Family, Andrew and Lesley Mullen, Justin and Kevin, Peter & Angela Viner, Lilian Bunney, Penny Webb, Jennie Webb, and Denis Noakes.

Those in nursing home care:

Margaret Moul, Mabel Arnold, Betty Shore and Geoff Skelding.

The departed:

Chris Gwilliams, Raymond Oakes, Pearl Doran, Doreen Rutter, Peggy Wright and Barbara Hobson

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

Luke 4: 14-21

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

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

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

Post Communion Prayer:

Generous Lord, in word and eucharist we have proclaimed the mystery of your love: help us to live out our days that we may be signs of your wonders in the world; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

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

Readings for our 6.30pm service.

Old Testament Reading

Numbers 9: 15—end

On the day the tabernacle was set up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the covenant; and from evening until morning it was over the tabernacle, having the appearance of fire. It was always so: the cloud covered it by day and the appearance of fire by night. Whenever the cloud lifted from over the tent, then the Israelites would set out; and in the place where the cloud settled down, there the Israelites would camp. At the command of the Lord the Israelites would set out, and at the command of the Lord they would camp. As long as the cloud rested over the tabernacle, they would remain in camp. Even when the cloud continued over the tabernacle many days, the Israelites would keep the charge of the Lord, and would not set out. Sometimes the cloud would remain a few days over the tabernacle, and according to the command of the Lord they would remain in camp; then according to the command of the Lord they would set out. Sometimes the cloud would remain from evening until morning; and when the cloud lifted in the morning, they would set out, or if it continued for a day and a night, when the cloud lifted they would set out. Whether it was two days, or a month, or a longer time, that the cloud continued over the tabernacle, resting upon it, the Israelites would remain in camp and would not set out; but when it lifted they would set out. At the command of the Lord they would camp, and at the command of the Lord they would set out. They kept the charge of the Lord, at the command of the Lord by Moses.

The New Testament Reading

I Corinthians 7: 17-24

However that may be, let each of you lead the life that the Lord has assigned, to which God called you. This is my rule in all the churches. Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised? Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision. Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised? Let him not seek circumcision. Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing; but obeying the commandments of God is everything. Let each of you remain in the condition in which you were called. Were you a slave when called? Do not be concerned about it. Even if you can gain your freedom, make use of your present condition now more than ever. For whoever was called in the Lord as a slave is a freed person belonging to the Lord, just as whoever was free when called is a slave of Christ. You were bought with a price; do not become slaves of human masters. In whatever condition you were called, brothers and sisters, there remain with God.