

During Lent Roger King, our Reader, will be presenting a course to explore the relationship between science and Christianity. Each session will be held twice a week in the Narthex.

Session 1 Introduction

Session 2 Beyond Reason? Science Faith and the Universe

Session 3 An Accident in the Making? Creation, Evolution and Interpreting Genesis

Session 4 Is Anybody There? Freedom to Choose

The course is based on material produced by the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion (www.faraday-institute.org).

You don't need any scientific knowledge to take part, you just need to be interested and open-minded. Please register your interest on the sheet at the back of church.

The March edition of our Monthly News magazine is now available for sale at the back of church.

The new prayer diaries have arrived. Please take a copy home with you to use and a second copy if you would like to give one to family, friends or a neighbour.

Fairtrade Fortnight 2019 25/2—10/3

The Great Stourbridge Fairtrade Chocolate Bake Off and Eat 9th March @ St. Thomas's Church Hall Bring your Cakes between 9-10.30. Judging 10.30 Please note-cakes cannot be returned

All cakes must contain Fairtrade cocoa or chocolate

The "SHOWSTOPPER" cake will win a prize,

3 categories A) under 11 years, B) 11-18, C) over 18 years

Fairtrade tea and coffee will be provided to enjoy with your cake

All Donations will be sent to Traidcraft Exchange

The Church will be decorated for Easter on Saturday 20 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 Sally Frost. Donations can also be put in yellow gift aid envelopes. Please mark these "For Flower Guild". Thank you very much.

The Parish Church of St Mary Oldswinford

Sunday 24 February 2019

Second before Lent—Sexagesima



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 Alex French **Preacher:** Revd Alex French
Readings from BCP page 123 **Sides:** Nick Harbach

10.00am - Parish Communion

President: Revd Alex French

Preacher: Revd Alex French

Warden: Malcolm Frost **Sides:** Sally Frost & Pauline Pettet

Reader: Joan Ram **Intercessions:** Dawn Nex

Children Together: Les Timms & Pauline Pettet

Coffee: Jacqui and Murray Keen

Communion Motet: O come, ye servants of the Lord—Tye

Organ Music: Fugue in D minor 'The Giant' - J S Bach

6.30pm - Evensong

Officiant: Roger King **Preacher:** Roger King

Warden: Maggie Abbotts **Sides:** Marjorie Ferguson

Readers: Peter Thomson & Judith Nex

Anthem: O for a closer walk with thee—Stanford

Organ music - Fughetta in Eb - Rheinberger

Collect for this week:

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image; teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. **Amen**

Readings for our 10.00am service

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 2: 4-9, 15-25

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

Then the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

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 3

Sunday before Lent

8.00 am Communion (BCP)
Led by Revd Andrew Sillis

10.00am Parish Communion
Led by Bishop John

3.00pm Baptisms
Led by Revd Adam Hadley

6.30pm Evensong
Led by Roger King

CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 25

Parish Office closed

Tuesday 26

2.00pm Tea in the narthex

Wednesday 27

11.30am Holy Communion at Holly Lodge

1.30pm Parents and Toddlers Group meet in the church hall

Thursday 28

10.30am Holy Communion in church led by Revd Andrew Sillis

Friday March 1

Parish Office closed

Funeral service in church

Saturday March 2

10.00am—11.00am Vestry hour with Roger

10.00am—12 noon Open Church

Advance warning: 2019 is the year that the existing Church Electoral Roll is scrapped and a new one begun. If you are currently a member of the electoral roll your name will not automatically be carried forward. Everybody needs to complete a new form this year. A new list will be produced beginning from April 1st. Forms are available at the back of church which will need to be returned by April 14 in time for the new roll to be compiled ready for our APCM on April 28.

Please sign the list at the back of church if you would like to volunteer to be a reader when we read the Passion on Palm Sunday. There will be a rehearsal at 9.00am on Saturday 13th April.

A Parish Quiet Day has been organised at Holland House for Monday April 8. Further details and a sheet to sign up is available at the back of church if you are interested.

We invite you to offer prayers for

Worldwide Church:

The Church in Central America with Archbishop Julio Thompson

Churches Together:

St Michael's Wollaston

Bishop John has asked us to pray

for all who are involved in the East Vale and Avon Schools Easter Roadshow. For those who will be organising this retelling of the Easter story and all the children and school staff who will attend.

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

For Jonathan and Mary Flitcroft as they prepare to move to Oldswinford. For those involved with the process of auditioning and selecting a new Director of Music. For the family, friends & colleagues of Olivia as they attend her funeral in St Mary's on Friday.

Those living in:

Redhill and Redhill Close

Local Community:

Pedmore High School

Among those who are ill:

Helen and Andrew Charlesworth, Nicola, Marilyn Thomson and Ron Moul.

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, Jonathan, Heather and Alex and Denis Noakes.

Those in nursing home care:

Margaret Moul, Betty Shore and Geoff Skelding.

The departed:

Ivan Price, Florence Wooldridge, Patricia Croyden, Mabel Arnold, Doris Simkins, Jack Edmonds, Ralph Heeley, Jake and Olivia.

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.

Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.”

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

This is the Word of the Lord

THANKS BE TO GOD.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 8: 22-25

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side of the lake.” So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A windstorm swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, “Master, Master, we are perishing!” And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, “Where is your faith?” They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, “Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?”

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

Post Communion Prayer:

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your church; may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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

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

Readings for our 6.30pm service.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1: 1—2:3

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

The New Testament Reading

Matthew 6: 25—end

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

“So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.