

British
Summer
Time



*Don't forget that British Summer Time
begins next Sunday.*



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.

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.

Christian Aid Week this year will be from 12—18 May. As in previous years we will be collecting from houses within our parish. In order to spread the load it would be good to recruit as many collectors as possible. If you are willing to volunteer then please contact Mike Blaxland on mike.blaxland@btinternet.com or 07779873892

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. Would you be willing to serve on the PCC? Please speak to a churchwarden or Katey Fletcher if you feel that this is a way that you could contribute to the life of St Mary's.

Cheese and Wine with Family Games

The social committee are organising a cheese and wine evening with family games and activities which will be held in the church hall on Saturday 4th May 7.00pm—9.00pm. Please sign the list at the back of church if you would like to attend this event.



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



The Parish Church of St Mary Oldswinford **Sunday 24 March 2019** **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 Alex French **Preacher:** Revd Alex French
Readings from BCP page 133 **Sides:** Eve Evans

10.00am - Parish Communion

President: Revd Alex French
Preacher: Roger King
Warden: Les Timms **Sides:** John Evans & Andrew Scudamore
Reader: Colin Roberts **Intercessions:** Mike Blaxland
Children Together: Natalie Owen
Coffee: Carole Duff & Gillian Shaw
Communion Motet: Bread of the world – *Ingley*
Organ Music: Prelude and Fugue in G minor - *Buxtehude*

6.30pm – Evensong

Officiant: Revd Alex French **Preacher:** Revd Alex French
Warden: Marjorie Ferguson **Sides:** Dawn Nex
Readers: Marjorie Ferguson & Peter Thomson
Anthem: Ave Verum – *Elgar*
Organ music: Plein Jeu from suite du 3 ton - *Guilain*

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. **Amen**

Readings for our 10.00am service

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55: 1—9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

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

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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 31

Mothering Sunday

8.00 am Communion (BCP)
Led by Revd Alex French

10.00am Parish Communion
Led by Revd Alex French

6.30pm Evensong
Led by Roger King

CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 25

Parish Office closed
Oldswinford Primary School using church all day for concerts.

Tuesday 26

2.30pm Tea in the narthex
7.30pm Lent Course in the narthex

Wednesday 27

1.30pm Parents and Toddlers Group meet in the church hall
2.00 pm Lent Course 2 in the narthex.
6.30pm Cubs visit in church

Thursday 28

10.30am Holy Communion in church
2.30pm Funeral of Marilyn Thomson

Friday 29

Alex's day off

Saturday 30

9.30am Walking group meet for a walk in Woodgate Valley
10.00am—11.00am Vestry hour with Roger
10.00am—12 noon Open Church
7.30pm Friends of the Music concert in church

New PCC members wanted There is space on the PCC to accommodate new members. No previous experience is needed only a passion and energy to help St. Marys discern and follow what Jesus is up to in Old Swinford. Your commitment would be to attend 6 lively meetings each year. If you have any questions or would like further information please speak to Tony, Judy or Alex

Electoral roll: 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.

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.

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

We invite you to offer prayers for

Worldwide Church:

The Diocese of Lund in Sweden and Bishop Joahn Tyrberg. Also the church in Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui with Archbishop Paul Kwong

Churches Together:

Hanbury Hill Baptist Church

Bishop John has asked us to pray

for people to be called to serve as Foundation Governors in our church schools. Please also pray for all governors across our diocese who work hard to support the children and staff in their school communities.

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

For the family and friends of Marilyn Thomson whose funeral will take place on Thursday. For all those who will visit St Mary's this week to enjoy its beauty or learn more about the Christian faith, to find peace or to enjoy the comfort that the building provides.

Those living in:

The Crescent and Grange Road

Local Community:

Oldswinford Hospital School

Among those who are ill:

Nicola, Murray Keen

We continue to pray for:

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

Those in nursing home care:

Margaret Moulton, Betty Shore and Geoff Skelding.

The departed:

Mabel Arnold, Marilyn Thomson, Ron Moulton, Olive Lubke, Olivia Perks, Frank Boxall Alan Thomas and Mary Ryder.

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 13: 1—9

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

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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.

Amen

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

Readings for our 6.30pm service.

A Reading from the Apocrypha

Wisdom 9: 1—12

“O God of my ancestors and Lord of mercy, who have made all things by your word, and by your wisdom have formed humankind to have dominion over the creatures you have made, and rule the world in holiness and righteousness, and pronounce judgment in uprightness of soul, give me the wisdom that sits by your throne, and do not reject me from among your servants. For I am your servant the son of your serving girl, a man who is weak and short-lived, with little understanding of judgment and laws; for even one who is perfect among human beings will be regarded as nothing without the wisdom that comes from you. You have chosen me to be king of your people and to be judge over your sons and daughters. You have given command to build a temple on your holy mountain, and an altar in the city of your habitation, a copy of the holy tent that you prepared from the beginning. With you is wisdom, she who knows your works and was present when you made the world; she understands what is pleasing in your sight and what is right according to your commandments. Send her forth from the holy heavens, and from the throne of your glory send her, that she may labour at my side, and that I may learn what is pleasing to you. For she knows and understands all things, and she will guide me wisely in my actions and guard me with her glory. Then my works will be acceptable, and I shall judge your people justly, and shall be worthy of the throne of my father.

The New Testament Reading

Galatians 4: 1—5

My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than slaves, though they are the owners of all the property; but they remain under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental spirits of the world. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.

let
your
Faith
be bigger
than
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Fear