

Parish Newsletter

Sunday 21st April
4th of Easter



Please come and join our
'Joseph Challenge' day of fun
and fellowship on **Sunday,**
21st April 2024.

It is at St Mary's Church,
Kidlington from **11am – 5pm**
Everyone welcome, more
details on page 2.

Sunday 21st April **4th of Easter**

8am Holy Communion
(St Mary's)

10am Holy Communion
(St Mary's)

10am Holy Communion
(St John's & Livestream)

NO Evensong - 'Joseph in a Day'
Fun and Fellowship at
St. Mary's 11am - 5pm

Mon, Weds & Fri

10am Pause for Prayer online

Tuesday 23rd April

7.30pm Iona Service (St
John's)

Wednesday 24th April

11am Holy Communion

Sunday 28th April **5th of Easter**

8am Holy Communion
(St Mary's)

10am Joint Parish Service
(St Mary's & Livestream)

10am No Service at St John's
this week

FAIR TRADE IS BACK.

We didn't have a Fair Trade stall in March because of the busyness building up to Easter. But the FT stall will be back for the joint service in St Mary's on **Sunday 28th April**.

There will be a great range of things to buy
(including the chance to stock up on chocolate again!).
Cash or credit cards accepted so no excuses.
Hope to see you then.

Help your Sunday Service run smoothly

We are looking for additional Duty Wardens to assist in the smooth running of Services at St Mary's.
Both Sunday Morning and Evensong opportunities are available.

The expectation is that you would be on the Rota once a month (or whatever you can manage).
Please speak to Tilly, Andy or Gary for more details and let Tilly or Steve Handsley know if you are interested in taking this vital role on.

St Mary's Refectory will be open for Afternoon Summer Teas 3pm - 5pm, 5th May - 8th Sept

Our 'Joseph Challenge' day of fun and fellowship is on Sunday, 21st April 2024.

It is at St Mary's Church, Kidlington from 11am – 5pm.

The focus is on fun and fellowship. Everyone from our three churches is invited. Everyone will be able to get involved. You can choose what you do.

Here are a few 'Dos' and 'Don'ts' for the actual day:

X Don't wear anything special – just your normal clothes

Do come and join us – no pressure – stay as long as you can. (We start at 11am and finish at 5pm).

Do bring something to share with others for lunch.

Do let us know that you are coming (if you can). If you haven't already signed up, please email mrs.clare.morgan@googlemail.com to say that you intend to come.

Do bring your parent/carer/helper to stay (and get involved) for the day if you need help and support or supervision. (We can't take responsibility for any under 18s on the day – children must be supervised at all times).

Do bring laughter, your sense of humour and your best smile. You will need them. There will be times to listen, wait and be very patient as we work together to get organised.

Do bring a copy of the music (if you have one). We will have words for everyone and some music copies for those who want it.

Do bring a cake (as well as lunch) if you can.

Everyone is invited. Everyone will be able to get involved, whether you are nearly nine, ninety-nine or anywhere in-between. We'll start working at St Mary's Kidlington after the morning services with breaks for a 'Bring and Share' lunch and some cake in the afternoon. We'll have our final run through at around 4.30pm.

Serving the Community

Funerals

Kenneth Hand 22nd April 10am
Maurice Bushnell 1st May 1pm
St Mary's Church

In our Prayers this week

Peter, Graham, Nick, Sheila, Lorna
Sarah & Vassilis
Rosemary, Aodhagan
Bridget, David, Paul, Charlotte,
Peter J. Charles
J...a teenage girl, Clare, Ron B
Janet, Indie
Anne C

We continue to pray for the people of Gaza and Israel at this very difficult time.



Rogation 3pm Sunday 5th May

Join us for our annual walk of blessing around our lovely village. It is a fun and special thing to do. We will stop to bless key places in the village: the green, fields, ponds, a garden, the pub, we might sing a hymn, say a prayer or read a poem. At each point we leave a biodegradable cross of flowers. Everyone welcome, including dogs! Meet outside 39 Oxford Rd, Hampton Poyle. Finish with tea and cake. £3.00 voluntary donation.

Artweeks at St Mary's - 4th to 12th May

St Marys Church Kidlington 4 May - 12 May. 12-5pm venue 151

Nineteen artists will be exhibiting their work in the nave and chancel of this inspiring Grade I listed building in Kidlington.

During the course of this year's exhibition there will be extra events, open to all. Talks are free, workshops cost £5 each to cover cost of materials.

Sunday 5 May, 6pm

Artists Talking

Katherine Shock (painter/garden designer) will discuss with three of the artists their sources of inspiration, how they paint and how their creativity has developed
Steve Daggitt, James Hamilton, Elizabeth Kirkham.

Monday 6 May, 2-4 pm

Workshop - Pasta Press Etching with Charlotte Orr (illustrator and teacher of Art and Design). Create your own mini etching print using recycled materials.
(5 places).

Tuesday 7 May, 6pm

Concert by Gosford Hill School Choir and Orchestra. Conductor Andrew Purtell

Featuring music by John Rutter, Sarah Quartel, Bob Chilcott, Jonathan Larson, Monty Norman, Hans Zimmer ... and Abba.

Wednesday 8th May, 2-4 pm

Workshop - Doodle stitch- Mindfulness with a needle with Lynn Pilgrim (media and textile artist working with layers and textures.
(10 places)

Friday 10 May, 1pm to 2.30pm

Concert - Jonathan Wiseman (Award-winning classical guitarist from Kidlington).

Friday 10th May, 2-4pm

Workshop - Screen printing on fabric with Rosemary Meara (textile artist and teacher of Art and Design). Use paper stencils to create an individual tote bag.
(5 Places).

NB:workshops: no previous experience necessary, cost £5 each place.

Places are limited so please apply to stmarysartists@gmail.com



FROM *BACH*

TO *Bollywood*

AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN!

An evening of music, words and dance
presented by the choristers and choir of
St Mary's and their friends



SATURDAY 18TH MAY 2024

6.30 PM

ST MARY'S CHURCH KIDLINGTON

Free admission and refreshments
with a retiring collection for
St Mary's funds



Notice of our Annual Parochial Church Meetings

In common with all other charitable bodies the church has to have an annual (general) meeting in which we present our finances and a report on the year and also elect our church officers. This year our APCM is at 8pm on Wednesday 8th May at St Mary's Kidlington. We will be electing a new warden for St Mary's, several PCC and deanery synod members, all the welcoming sidespeople for all three churches, receiving the electoral roll, and holding a very brief first meeting of the new PCC in which we simply set dates for the year ahead.

Wine and soft drink will be available.

If you are on the electoral roll please consider if you would like to stand for election to any of these roles and let one of the wardens or clergy know so that we can help you fill in a nomination form - we need all three churches well represented.

Notes from PCC Meeting, April 9th 2024

Everything should be in place to advertise for the post of Team Vicar in May. We may therefore have a new Team Vicar in post by September, or January.

General Synod has authorised prayers for use with couples in "faithful, exclusive, permanent and stable" same sex marriages; these prayers may be used privately, or within regular services, at the discretion of the minister.

Same Sex Marriage Blessings have not yet been approved by Synod.

The Annual Accounts for 2023 were approved, subject to audit.

The new heaters have been installed at St Mary's Kidlington.

A Faculty will be sought to install an electromagnetic toller device which will enable the hourly chimes to be heard once more at St Mary's Kidlington.

A Note from Felicity on 'Prayers of Love and Faith'.

If you follow the discussions of General Synod you will know of the long and deep national conversation over the church's response to same sex marriage and whether Anglican ministers can bless same sex marriages in their churches. This 10 year official 'conversation' has not yielded a consensus and in response to the long and painful journey the bishops (who themselves do not all agree on the issue) wrote a letter of apology to LGBTQI+ people saying:

"For the times we have rejected or excluded you, and those you love, we are deeply sorry."

"The occasions on which you have received a hostile and homophobic response in our churches are shameful and for this we repent."

"As we have listened, we have been told time and time again how we have failed LGBTQI+ people."

"We have not loved you as God loves you, and that is profoundly wrong."

"We affirm, publicly and unequivocally, that LGBTQI+ people are welcome and valued: we are all children of God."

After several General Synod debates Anglican ministers are not yet legally allowed to bless same sex marriages. Instead we now have a resource compilation of 'Prayers of Love and Faith' which clergy may use within an already existing worship time (ie not a separate occasion specially for the couple and their guests). These prayers include prayers of dedication, thanksgiving, and for God's blessing on friendship, loving relationship, and a home. The bishops write that "This resource will represent a significant move that is intended as a loving and celebratory response to same-sex couples who are cherished and deeply valued by the Church."

The prayers are to be used at the discretion of the clergy, and no one is forced to use them who does not wish to, but we are encouraged to talk with our PCCs about offering them in our parishes if requested.

Personally, I am very willing to use these prayers as feels appropriate if I am asked to do so and many of my clergy colleagues would also wish to use them if asked (we have not been asked as yet). The PCC has strongly supported us in this and would also like us to be clear and open with congregation members.

As these prayers may only be used in existing worship services, congregations may be more aware of their use than if they were in separate Saturday occasions.

Please remember that these are prayers to use with couples and not blessings of a marriage. The bishops make the point that nothing in these prayers changes the official doctrine of the church on marriage.

I am very open to talking about this if anyone would like to. Just contact me and we can make a time.

God Bless you all

Felicity



SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES THIS SEASON

All services in the parish for May to August 2024 are shown on the website (kidhp.org.uk/onsite-services) and will be announced in news-sheets, but here is a simple list of where to find the 10am Sunday service each week.

Please do come even when the service is not in your "regular" church building.

5 May	St Mary's K	Parish Communion
	St John's	All Together
	St Mary's HP	Rogation 3pm
12 May	St Mary's K	Parish Communion
	St John's	Parish Communion
	St Mary's HP	Parish Communion
19 May	St Mary's K	NO SERVICE
	St John's	NO SERVICE
	BAPTISTS	10.30am CTK Pentecost
26 May	St Mary's K	Joint Parish Communion
2 June	St Mary's K	Parish Communion
	St John's	All Together
	St Mary's HP	Parish Communion
9 June	St Mary's K	Parish Communion
	St John's	Parish Communion
	St Mary's HP	Parish Communion
16 June	St Mary's K	Open Space
	St John's	Parish Communion
	St Mary's HP	Parish Communion
23 June	St John's	Joint Parish Communion
30 June	St Mary's K	Parish Communion
	St John's	Parish Communion with baptism of Alexander Timms
7 July	St Mary's K	Parish Communion
	St John's	All Together
	St Mary's HP	Parish Communion
14 July	St Mary's K	Parish Communion
	St John's	Parish Communion
21 July	St Mary's K	Open Space
	St John's	Parish Communion
	St Mary's HP	Parish Communion
28 July	St Mary's K	Joint Parish Communion