

Parish Newsletter
Sunday 29th March
Palm Sunday

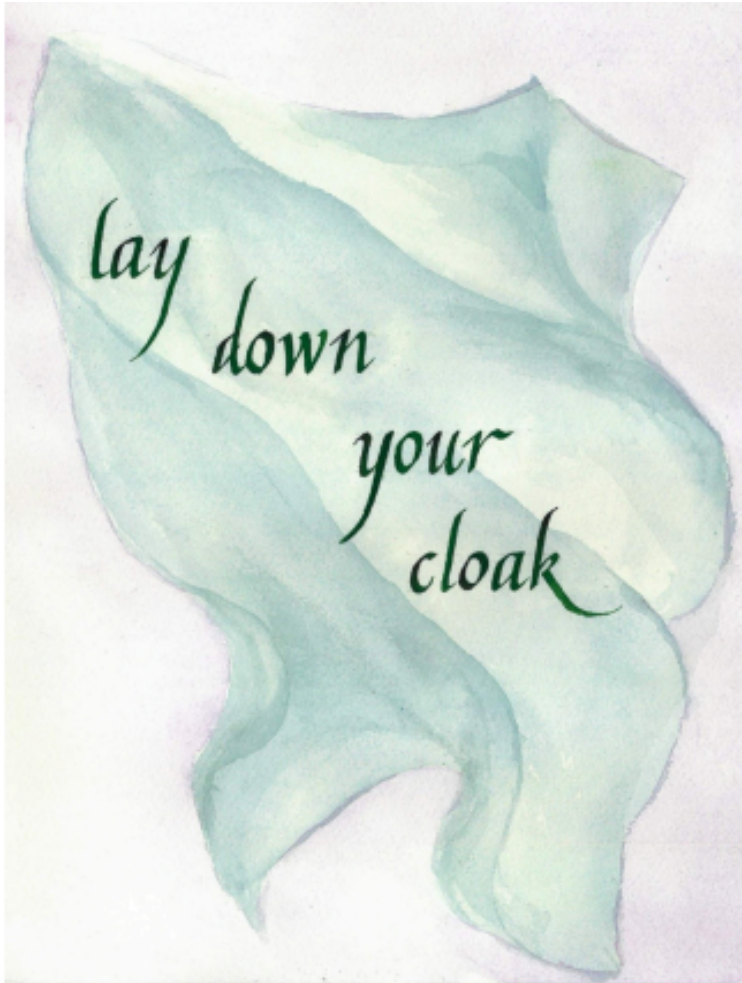


Palm Sunday 29th March

We usually bring branches to the Palm Sunday service and this year we will read Matthew's gospel.

At St Mary's there will be spare branches in the porch so do not worry if you forget to bring your own.

As always we will be reading the dramatised gospel - Felicity will be in church on Saturday at 4pm for anyone who would like to run through this.



Sunday 29th Mar
6th Sunday in Lent, Palm Sunday

8am Holy Communion (St Mary's)

10am Holy Communion (St Mary's and
livestream)

10am Holy Communion (St John's)

10am Holy Communion (Hampton Poyle)

8.45pm Pre Compline talk, 9pm Compline
(Chancel in St Mary's)

**Please find the list of Services
and all the details of Holy
Week on the following pages**

All livestreams are here:
www.youtube.com/@KidHPChurch

Don't forget our service sheets are downloadable
and online. Feel free to bring a tablet to the
service to help the environment.

Parish Office: 01865 375611
office@kidhp.org.uk



SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

All services in the parish for Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday are shown here. Please feel free to come to any of these as part of your Holy Week journey.

Palm Sunday	St Mary's K	8am	Holy Communion
	St Mary's K	10am	Holy Communion
	St John's	10am	Holy Communion
	St Mary's HP	10am	Holy Communion
	St Mary's K	8.45pm	Talk and Compline
Monday 30th	St John's	7.30pm	Evening Prayer
	St Mary's K	8.45pm	Talk and Compline
Tuesday 31st	St John's	7.30pm	Iona Communion
	St Mary's K	8.45pm	Talk and Compline
Wednesday 1st	St Mary's K	11am	Holy Communion
	St John's	7.30pm	Stations of the Cross
	St Mary's K	8.45pm	Talk and Compline
Maundy Thursday	St Mary's K	7pm	Maundy Agape Service with Foot Washing and meal Vigil until midnight
	St John's	8pm	Maundy Holy Communion with Foot Washing Vigil until midnight
Good Friday	St John's	9.45am	Start of Walk of Witness
	St Mary's K	12noon	Three hour devotions
	St John's	2pm	Service of Reflection
	St John's	4pm	Family Service
Holy Saturday			NONE
Easter Sunday	St Mary's K	5.30am	Dawn Service
	St Mary's K	10am	Holy Communion
	St John's	10am	Holy Communion
	St Mary's HP	10am	Holy Communion

Services for Holy Week and Easter

You can see above details of all the services offered in our churches from Palm Sunday to Easter Day. Some will be familiar to many people, but there are probably others that you've never heard of or tried before. Please do feel free to explore these as ways of helping you on your journey this week.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

- We will continue the Lenten Compline services in the Chancel at St Mary's Kidlington. The service is at 9pm, preceded by a talk at 8.45pm.
- At St John's there is a different service at 7.30pm each evening. On Monday this is the BCP Evening Prayer, which somehow still seems very fitting for this solemn week. Tuesday we will have the usual weekly service of Communion in the Iona tradition, with a special Holy Week litany. Wednesday sees the Stations of the Cross, when we reflect on the fourteen traditional "stations" or events of the day of Jesus' death, with short readings and prayers before each image around the walls of St John's.

Maundy Thursday

- At St Mary's Kidlington, the service starts at 7pm, with readings, songs and (optional) foot washing in the church, followed by a simple Agape meal in the Refectory. This is followed by a quiet return to the church for music and the stripping of the church furnishings.
- At St John's the service at 8pm will be a more traditional Holy Communion, including (optional) foot washing and the stripping of the church furnishings.
- There will then be a vigil in each Lady Chapel until midnight (no-one is expected to be there the whole three hours, but do come along for a time of quiet however long that is).

Good Friday

- Churches Together in Kidlington (CTK) will be holding their Walk of Witness this morning. It starts "at St John's at 9.45am and moves up to the High Street, stopping at St Thomas More Church and the Methodist Church with prayers and readings at each.
- At St Mary's Kidlington, the three hour devotion will start at 12noon. There will be a range of different forms of reflection, music etc during that time and you are welcome to come for however long you want.
- St John's will hold a one hour service of reflection at 2pm.
- Also at St John's there will be a 4pm service sharing the story of Good Friday for all the family – followed by more refreshments.

Holy Saturday

- We don't have any services in our churches today, but this is a very special peaceful time as people prepare for the Easter Day celebrations – putting back furnishings, doing flowers, preparing fires,

Easter Sunday

- If you are an early riser do join the atmospheric dawn service at St Mary's Kidlington at 5.30am. The lighting of a fire and walk round the outside of the church as dawn comes is always very moving.
- There will be celebration services of Communion in all three churches at 10am. If going to St Mary's Kidlington do take along a flower (any size, shape, colour) to decorate the cross with Easter joy. At St John's the service will start with the lighting of the fire (in the wilderness soon to be transformed into a Community Garden).

Parish Fete – July 4th 12:30-4:00pm Please save the date!

Thank you to those who have joined the planning team and helped ensure the continuation of the Fete. As we begin our planning we find we are short of a few key positions to ensure the day has the feel we love.

BBQ We are looking for keen BBQers to man the BBQs. We already have a couple of additional helpers, but we really need someone who can safely BBQ both the meat (sausages & burgers) and the veggie burgers. We have our own large BBQ and have the availability of another smaller one (for the veggie burgers), we just need someone with the time and skill to cook the food!

Children's Games Coordinator We need one or two people to head up the running of the children's games, again we have the equipment and information needed to run the games, we just need someone/small team to make sure it happens.

First Aiders Those of us that trained with the parish as first aiders have certificates that will run out before the Fete. So, if you have a certificate that will be active on 4th July and are going to be at the Fete (either on a stall, or just in attendance), we would love to hear from you. We are keen to have several First Aiders around the Fete so there is plenty of back up if needed.

If you can help at all please email: tilly.evershed@gmail.com

Do put the **Easter Fun Day (7th April) and the Desert Island Discs Show (18th April)** in your diaries and come and have some fun over the Easter period. All the money raised will go towards the costs of our Live Nativity Event in December (19th), so that we won't have to use resources from the Parish budget. And if you feel you would like to make a personal donation to this major community event, involving three Camels and other animals, please speak to David Meara (01865 803729. David.meara14@gmail.com) who can give you more details.

Felicity's Sabbatical

Felicity will be going on sabbatical from 1st May to 31st July this year. All Sunday services will continue as normal, thanks to our wonderful clergy team.

The protocol is that Oliver and the churchwardens will have oversight of the general running of the parish, and it is normal for the Area Dean to be involved in supporting, answering questions, and liaising with the diocese as needed. Robert Buckledee, as lay chair, will chair the PCC and Standing Committee. All the other PCC working groups will function as usual (finance, fabric, eco, Children and Young People...)

Supporting Oliver and the wardens are Malc and Margaret as our office and admin team, and the wider team of licensed clergy and ministers.

In the summer term we will enjoy the fete, a sermon series on Prayer, a Week of Accompanied Prayer, and the usual summer events.

Felicity will have time away, some time with family, and will be researching Equine Assisted Psychotherapy: an emerging therapeutic way of working with horses which more and more is being used to treat anxiety, ADHD, eating disorders, addiction, loss, depression, bereavement, anger, and other conditions which many of us live with.

Cleaner Required: 3 hrs a week I believe

Hoover refectory floor and lobby, Clean all surfaces tables and worktops, Clean toilets and sinks, Mop hard floors check the fridge and dishwasher , Top up paper towels, toilet rolls and soap, Empty bins in toilets and kitchen Occasionally cobweb and wipe window frames etc.

In the church - Empty bins, Hoover all carpets including plinth, Sweep or Hoover hard floors

Please contact: office@kidhp.org.uk if interested

Lent 2026



'Come and See'

This Lent, we're inviting you to *Come and See* - an opportunity to explore the profound meal at the heart of Christian life. Whether you're new to faith, returning after a break, or have been part of church for years, this is a chance to pause, reflect and explore what the Eucharist might have to say to you. In addition to the group, you can also sign up to receive free daily Lent emails with short reflections, plus a weekly video from Bishop Steven. You do not need to sign up to take part in the group, but if you wish you can sign up here:

<https://oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see>

We'll be running *Come and See* at St Marys on Mondays from 2:30pm - 4pm, starting on February 23rd, in a discussion group similar to previous years.

"The Making Group: Lent 2026"

The Making Group is convening again to respond to the Diocesan Lent Course "Come and See" in our own unique way. The group will meet on Friday afternoons in Lent, on the following dates:- Friday 20th and 27th February, 6th, 13th, 20th March, with 27th March as the day to put it all together. The Refectory, 2:30-4:00pm. All are welcome, and no particular skill is required. Just bring your imagination, an open mind, and a willingness to use your hands to create something special for Lent.

Please let Rosemary Meara know if you would like to join the group. Rosemary.meara@gmail.com

Compline Services and Talks – St Mary's Kidlington 8.45-9.15pm

On each Sunday evening during Lent and on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week, starting at 8.45pm, there will be a short talk followed by the service of Compline (starting at 9pm).

The ancient office of Compline is a service of quietness and reflection at the end of the day.

Help needed for organising catering for the Easter dawn breakfast and Maundy Thu

Agape meal at SMK - putting out tables and chairs, setting up for the Agape meal etc, please contact office@kidhp.org.uk if you can help, thank you !

Children & Young People: News

I'm pleased to announce the launch of the Youth Homegroup every 4th Sunday 7.00pm to 8.30pm at St John's Vicarage (next door to the church). It's for anyone of Secondary School age. Dates for this year are: April 26th, May 24th, June 28th July 26th [not August], September 27th, October 25th, November 22nd [not December]. Each week we'll look at one of Jesus's parables to see what we make of it and how it might have something to say to us. This will form the starting point of a discussion where they can raise or explore ideas and issues, ending with a short and simple time of prayer.

Everyone is welcome to one or the other or both – but NB spaces may be limited.

We're not booking places yet but if you're interested in finding out more just RSVP to Oliver: 07787 991320 or oliver@kidhp.org.uk

SUMMER SUNDAY TEAS



The summer teas rota is now being compiled. We serve teas in the Refectory each Sunday from May to the first weekend of September. We have 4 people to serve each Sunday and 3 people to bake cakes. This is very worthwhile and fun to work together to serve the community. I'm welcoming offers of help please. It would be very helpful if you could let me know when you can do this. We need a big team. Newcomers to the church would be very welcome. Thanks. Philippa. 01865 378444

Bach to Bollywood concert

We are delighted to let you know that a concert, "Bach to Bollywood", will take place on the evening of **October 24th, 2026, at St Mary's**. All are invited to perform!

You could sing, dance, play an instrument or recite a poem as a solo or ensemble, and are welcome to offer a piece of any genre. Please note that the duration of your performance should be a maximum of 4 minutes.

If you would like to participate, please contact Daffy (daffkrish@gmail.com) & Shreya (shreya@krishnanm.com)

Kindly note : The last date for sending details of the performance is 15th April.

Serving the Community

Dates for your diary :

Funerals:

Jean Hill
17th April, 1pm St Mary's

Sheila Thackray
27th April, 1pm St Mary's

In our Prayers this Week

Peter, Eirian and James
Sarah and Vassilis
David and Tricia, Pat, Diana
Andrew
David and Joan T
Graham Bullock
Cat and Hannah

Those who have died: Sheila

We continue to pray for all where there are wars, civil strife or natural disasters

APRIL BIG SING CHANGE OF DATE

Please note that the April 'Big Sing' at St. John's will be held on Wednesday 8th April and NOT on 1st April.

Brain of Britain

As some of you may know, Justin Scroggie is Executive Producer of the new series of "Brain of Britain", BBC Radio 4's longest-running general knowledge quiz, and they're currently casting for contestants for the 2026 season. If you fancy throwing your hat in the ring, or know someone you think might be up for it, do check out the flyer below for how to apply. Deadline in early April.

B B C

BRAIN OF BRITAIN

RETURNING FOR 2026

Russell Davies is back to host a new series of the legendary BBC Radio 4 quiz, which is looking for contestants nationwide.

We're looking for curious minds and general knowledge enthusiasts from all walks of life.

If you can tell Ariana Grande from Ariadne, and the difference between a baritone and a baryon, then why not take up the challenge of the world's longest-running quiz programme?

If you're interested in taking part, please email

CASTING@TELLTALEINDUSTRIES.COM

to request an application form.

**APPLICATIONS SCHEDULED TO CLOSE EARLY APRIL 2026.
ALL APPLICANTS MUST BE AGED 18+.
TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY.**





St Mary's Church, Kidlington

Easter Fun Day!

Tuesday 7th April

10am - 3pm

Free entry!

*charge applies to some activities

Bouncy castle*

Easter hunts with a chocolate
prize!

Easter crafts

Face painting*

Easter storytime

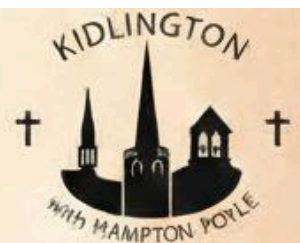
Garden games

Hot food from
'The Crock Pot'*

Refreshments*



Saturday 18th April
St Mary's Church
7pm



DESERT ISLAND DISCS

Buy tickets here:
<https://tinyurl.com/oliver-desert>



Rev'd Oliver Harrison

Interviewed by Jan Jeffreys

£12.50 on the door

Includes a glass of wine and nibbles



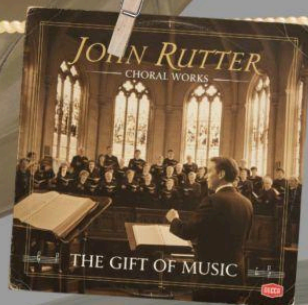
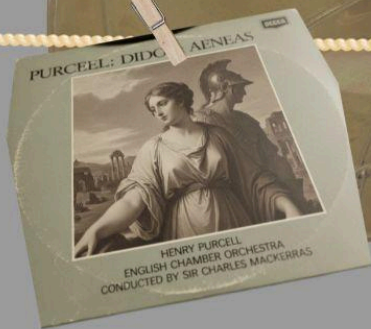
Kidlington Amateur Operatic Society

presents

Messages Through Music

from Purcell to The Carpenters

Thursday 23rd April
Saturday 25th April 2026



St. Mary's Church, Kidlington

7:30 p.m.

Tickets: £15; 11-17 years £10

for tickets call 01865 375613, online at www.kaos.news
or in person at Oxford Building Supplies High Street or Anemone
Florist Kidlington Centre

KAOS

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Friends
of



Musical Dialogue



Dame Imogen Cooper

in conversation about
the pleasures and
pressures of being an
international pianist -



Tim Horton

- also a brilliant pianist
and Kidlington resident



26TH APRIL 2026 @ 6PM

St Mary's, Church Street, Kidlington OX5 2BA

Tickets £25 - discounts available

Booking - fosmk.org.uk or Eventbrite

