Parish Newsletter
Sunday 15th Nov
2nd before Advent

Sunday 15th November, St Mary's 10am Open Space without Communion.

"Un-named Women - We too have a Voice"

Communion is at the 10am Service at St John's if you prefer.



Open Space services are held at St Mary's Kidlington at 10am on the third Sunday of the month (aside from August and December)

These services are more free in their format than other Sundays and this allows a particular theme to be explored in reflective and creative ways.

Please come along ready to be thoughtful and sometimes provoked. All welcome.

The church was packed last Sunday with people, young and old at the **Remembrance Service**. Thank you wardens, thank you Kidlington Concert Brass, thank you to everyone who made it a special day.

Pause for Prayer is now once a week and will follow a theme. November is 'Holy Fire!'

18th - The burning Bush: turn aside Moses
25th - Pentecost : Anointed by fire

You can find these reflections on our Facebook page live at 10am each Wednesday or after that at a time of your convenience.
https://www.facebook.com/KidlingtonAnglicanChurches

Sunday 15th November
2nd before Advent

8am Holy Communion (St Mary's)

10am Open Space Service (St Mary's)

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

10am Holy Communion (Hampton Poyle)

5.30pm Evensong (St Mary's)

10am Pause for Prayer online
Now only on a Weds

Tuesday 17th Nov
7.30pm Iona Service (St John's)

Weds 18th Nov
11am Holy Communion (St Mary's)

Sunday 22nd November
Christ the King

8am Holy Communion (St Mary's)

10am Joint Parish Communion (St Mary's and livestream)

11.30 Coffee concert (St Mary's)

NO 10am Service at St John's this week

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

Calling All Parents & Carers

Our Children's & Young People's programme has restarted with the new academic year.
1st Sunday of the month 10am: **All Together at St John's** — an all-age service with art, craft and activities.
2nd Sunday of the month 10am: Choristers sing at St Mary's — OR— there Sunday School ("Junior Church") at St John's (in the evening there's the "TIG" youth group, 7-8:15pm at St John's; see details below*)
3rd Sunday of the month 10am: **Junior Church at St John's** — with breakfast beforehand
(in the afternoon the Choristers sing at Evensong; St Mary's, 5:30pm)
4th Sunday at 10am is a Joint Service, which alternates between St Mary's & St John's; either way there's Junior Church (in the evening there's the "Go 4th" home group, 7-8:15pm at St John's; see details below**)
Hope to see some of you and your fantastic kids on Sunday at St Mary's and/or St John's over the autumn.
God bless you! Oliver (The Revd Oliver Harrison)Team Vicar, Kidlington
* Our brilliant youth group, **"TIG" ("Together In God"), meets on the 2nd Sunday of the month** 7-8:15pm at St John's for Year 6 and up
** **"Go 4th" is a Bible study and discussion group for young people** who want to explore their faith in more depth, ask questions, and come away thinking about God, life, themselves and others in a new, more mature, way.

A message from Home-Start Oxford

This year, Home-Start Oxford has supported over 660 people across central and west Oxfordshire. Through our volunteer home-visiting service and free baby and toddler groups, we have offered practical help, a listening ear and connection when families have needed them most. Many parents are navigating overlapping challenges, from unsuitable housing to disability and mental health difficulties. Our support grows around each family, whether that means a trusted volunteer visiting at home, finding friendship at a group, or both, helping parents feel less alone in their children's earliest years.

As Christmas approaches, we want to thank everyone in the congregation for your kindness and generosity. Last year's donations were received with such gratitude by the families we support and we know any gifts we receive this year will be just as warmly welcomed. **We are once more looking for donations of supermarket vouchers and books suitable for children aged 0-5.**
Your support means so much to all of us at Home-Start Oxford and, most importantly, to the parents and children you are helping. At what can be a particularly difficult time of year, your generosity is a real reminder that local families are not forgotten. Thank you for keeping them in your thoughts and giving so generously this Christmas.
Please bring gifts to all three churches on Advent Sunday (29th November)

Serving the Community:

Funerals

20th November
Ken Morgan, North Oxford Crematorium, 2pm

3rd Dec
Sheighla Belcher, North Oxford Crematorium, 2pm

11th Dec
Annie Bosher, St Mary's, 11am

In our Prayers this Week

Peter, Eirian and James
Sarah and Vassilis, Pat, Diana, Andrew, David T
Graham Bullock
Cat and Hannah
David and Margaret
David Th
Joe and Zara
Pamela Jewitt

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



THE GATEHOUSE has sent details of their annual Winter Appeal - aiming to raise £10,000 for support of their community centre drop-in services including cafe, clothes store, showers, IT access/guidance, Women's Space, workshops and group activities.

In the cold of winter the Gatehouse provides nourishing meals, warmth and shelter, essential winter supplies and other essential support.

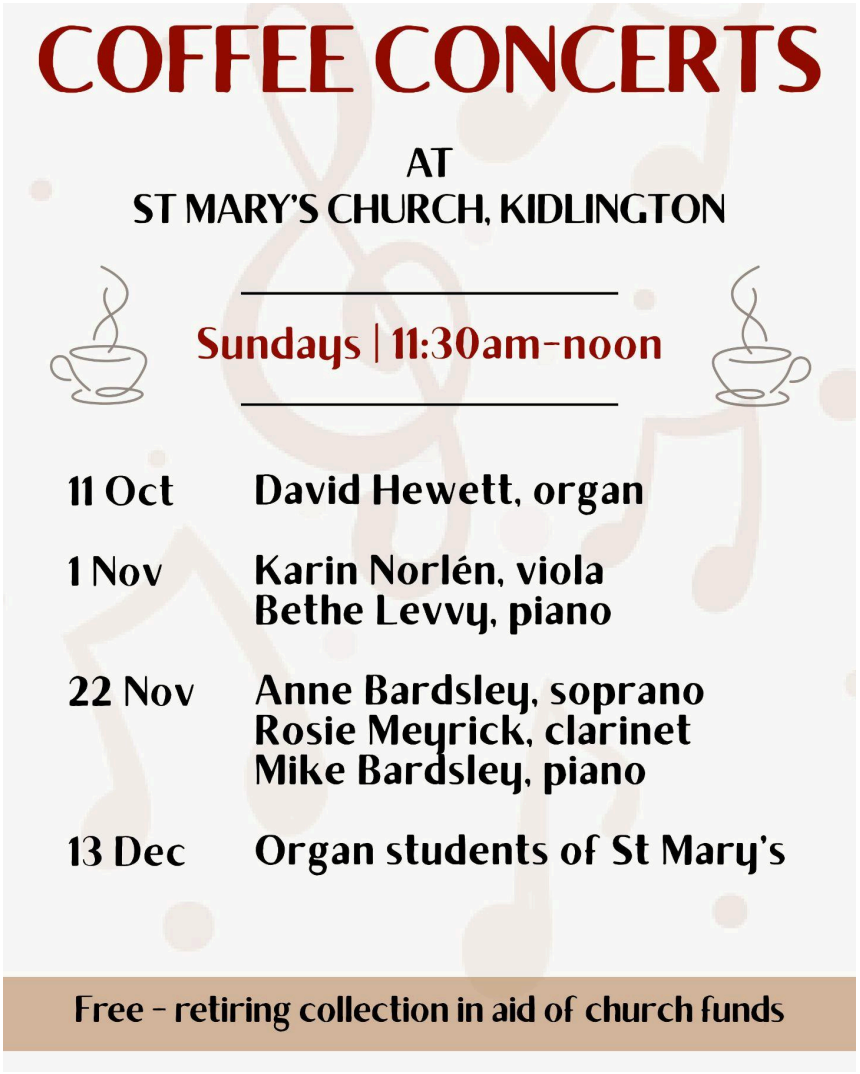
You can find out more by going to https://oxfordgatehouse.org/news/ or make a donation by using the QR code or web link in the poster.

Nativity characters needed!

CTK (Churches Together in Kidlington) will be out and about at the turning on of the Christmas lights on Thursday 26th November, and as in recent years are planning an activity for kids to engage with. We simply need a 3-4 volunteers to be dressed up and walking around as nativity characters on the evening so they can be "found." No acting experience required.
Please email Paul (curatepaul@kidhp.org.uk) if you'd like to help out.

Notification of PCC Meeting, to be held at St John's Church, 8.00pm on Tuesday 24th November. This is not a public meeting, but notes from the meeting will be published the following week.

Coffee concerts at St Mary's



Posada 2026

Advent will soon be upon us and the Posada will be travelling around the parish again.
For those unfamiliar with this - it is a small basket containing Mary, Joseph and a donkey. We mark their journey to Bethlehem and their search for shelter by welcoming them into our homes for a night or two before moving them along to the next house on the list. It will start from St John's on Advent Sunday 29th November returning to St John's on Christmas Eve.

If you would like to be included please let Margaret Day know **asap and certainly no later than Sunday 22nd November**. You can do this by completing an online form at https://kidhp.churchsuite.com/-/forms/5jfc4hjq

In order to keep the admin as simple as possible we aim to distribute the list of participants (with contact details) to everyone taking part so that it is easy to make arrangements for passing on the Posada or to swap dates. If you are happy with this, then please indicate this on the form. If you do not want this, you can say so on the form and we will make special arrangements to share your details with just the people before and after you on the list. We also ask you to confirm that you will delete contact details supplied to you once your participation is over.

If you need more information or help with this then please do contact Margaret, margaret.day12@btinternet.com.



Fairtrade & Ethical Group

Product focus No 2 – Chocolate

Most of us have a favourite chocolate bar or snack, whether it's milk, white or dark chocolate, contains biscuit, wafer, caramel or nuts. Are there any other factors in your choice of purchase?

Issues:

- **Low prices** paid for cocoa beans mean many cocoa farmers live below the poverty line
- **Child labour** is common in cocoa bean farming where there is no regulation
- **Palm oil** is widely used in mass-produced chocolate bars, the production of which leads to deforestation, land grabbing and human right's abuses
- Rainforest Alliance schemes have **no minimum price** and a considerably lower premium paid to the community than fairtrade
- **Pesticide** use is high in cocoa cultivation.

Solutions:

- Buy **Fairtrade** – this guarantees a fair price for the farmers and puts money back into the community.
- Buy **organic** to avoid heavy chemical use.
- Choose a **palm oil free** company or brand
- Fairtrade and organic certifications have **regulations** in place that **guard against child labour**

Divine CHOCOLATE · co op · TONY'S CHOCOLONELY · Ombar

To help you on your journey towards more ethical chocolate that is better for the producers and the planet we are planning a chocolate tasting session after the service on

Sunday 29th **November** at St John's
And Sunday 6**th** Dec**ember** at St Mary's
at both St Mary's and St John's

We will have bars from four more ethical brands that are also available locally – **Ombar**, **Divine**, **Tony's Chocolonely** and **Co-operative**. Where possible we'll have some milk, white and dark for you to try so that all tastes are covered and we'll provide information about where to buy and what else is available from each brand.

KIDLINGTON

HHH MAMPTON, HOILIE

Saturday 14th November

St Mary's Church

7pm

MAROONED WITH MUSIC



Buy tickets here:
https://tinyurl.com/yo-desert

Yo Davies



Interviewed by Jan Jeffreys

£12.50 on the door
Includes a glass of wine and nibbles

"EDUCATING GOD'S WAY"

David, Meghann, Joshua and Isaac Hewett share their recent experience of life, faith and education in Western Uganda



Saturday 21st November

7.30pm

St John's Church, Kidlington

Free entry with retiring collection for Child Care School, Maliba, Uganda.

KIDLINGTON with HAMPTON POYLE

We warmly welcome older residents in our local community to a special

Festive Afternoon Tea

at Gosford Hill School
Oxford Road, Kidlington

on Friday 4th December 2026

from 1:30pm to 3:30pm

Please RSVP by Friday 27th November

Email: office@gosfordhillschool.org

Telephone: 01865 374971

Oxford Gospel Choir

Oxford Gospel Choir

presents

DSO down syndrome oxfordshire

Together at Christmas

An afternoon of festive gospel for the whole family!

with special guest perfomances from the

Down Syndrome Oxfordshire Choir

Saturday 12th December 2026

3pm

Olivier Hall, St Edwards School,
Woodstock Road, Oxford

A JOYFUL AFTERNOON OF FESTIVE GOSPEL, SOUL AND POP CLASSICS

BAR FOR INTERVAL REFRESHMENTS

TICKETS
£15 Standard
£12 Concession
£6 Under 12s

Book now!

SCAN ME

https://www.trybooking.com/uk/HADP



Saturday 19th December, 2.00pm
Exeter Hall Car Park.

Join us in Procession with real camels to St Mary's Church for a spectacular Live Nativity.

The Anglican churches in Kidlington would like to thank Kidlington Town Council and Churches Together in Kidlington for their support

KIDLINGTON
with HAMPTON POYLE

KAOS

KIDLINGTON AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

presents

Love is All Around



Tues 22 - Weds 23 Dec
7:30 p.m.
St. Mary's Church
Kidlington

Christmas Charity Concert 2026

www.ticketsource.com/kidlingtonkaos

£15 | **17 & under £10**

Oxford Building Supplies, High Street
Anemone Florist, Kidlington Centre

Charity Registration No. 1170573

Sunday morning services this season, more about Advent and Christmas services soon!
More information on www.kidhp.org.uk

22 November	**St Mary's K**	**10am**	**Joint Parish Communion**
29 November (Advent)	St Mary's K	10am	Holy Communion
	St John's	10am	Holy Communion
	St Mary's HP	10am	Holy Communion
	St Mary's K	5.30pm	Advent Carols
6 December	St Mary's K	10am	Holy Communion
	St John's	10am	All Together Christingle
	St Mary's K	5.30pm	Presence & Absence
13 December	St Mary's K	10am	Holy Communion
	St John's	10am	Holy Communion
	St Mary's HP	10am	Holy Communion
20 December	St Mary's K	10am	Holy Communion
	St John's	10am	Holy Communion with Nativity Play
	St Mary's K	5.30pm	Nine Lessons & Carols
27 December	**St John's**	**10am**	**Joint Parish Communion**

Also 8am Service of Holy Communion in St Mary's Kidlington every Sunday.

More about Advent and Christmas services nearer the time

"FOLLOW THAT STAR" Nativity Procession and Tableau
Saturday 19th December 2026, 2pm - 5pm

Procession Marshals and Biblical Characters needed

If you would like to help marshall the procession, or dress up as one of the characters in the Nativity story, please email: office@kidhp.org.uk

Thank you !

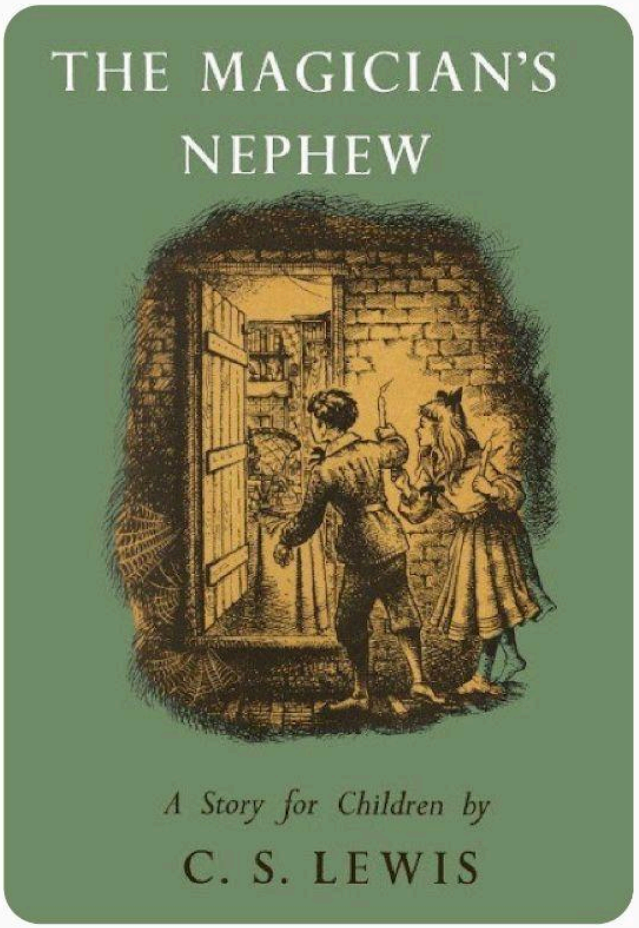
TEA TALK

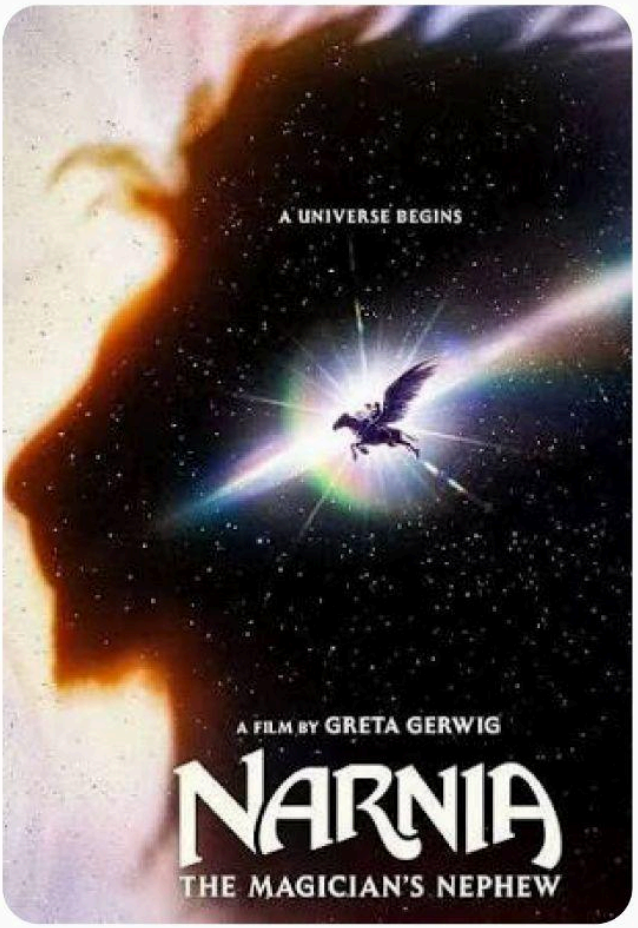
AT ST MARY'S CHURCH
KIDLINGTON, OX5 2AZ

C.S. LEWIS AND THE CREATION OF NARNIA

SIMON HOROBIN, PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE & FELLOW OF MAGDALEN COLLEGE

DID AN OXFORD DOORWAY REALLY INSPIRE THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE? JOIN US BEFORE GRETA GERWIG'S THE MAGICIAN'S NEPHEW HITS CINEMAS TO DISCOVER HOW A BACHELOR DON CREATED NARNIA.





SUNDAY, 10TH JANUARY, 2027

3:00 PM

TEA & CAKE WILL BE SERVED AFTER THE TALK
DONATIONS IN AID OF CHURCH FUNDS WELCOME