



Welcome to
St. Mary's
Andover

NoticeSheet

**We are a community of faith
that SEEKS God in worship
SERVES one another
and SHARES the love of Jesus**

Sunday 5th March

9am Holy Communion

Theme: Temptation to Sin

Readings: Romans 5:12-19 and Matthew 4:1-11

10.30am Active All Age Worship

Theme: Mission Impossible: Temptation in the Desert

Readings: Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 and Matthew 4:1-11

12.15pm St. Mary's Walkers leave church

Wednesday 8th March

**Holy Communion Service at 10.30am
in St. Mary's Church led by Canon John**

Sunday 12th March

Theme: Spiritual Discipline - Meditation

Readings: Psalm 119:145-152

Luke 2:16-20

**9am Holy Communion with Prayer Ministry
10.30am Morning Worship with Communion
and Prayer Ministry**

Lent

The 40 days of Lent could be for us a period of sacrifice leading up to Jesus' death and Resurrection, as we prepare ourselves for Holy Week and Easter. May we be challenged this Lent by some words from the Pope, "We would do well to ask ourselves what we can give up, in order to help and enrich others by our poverty. Let us not forget that real poverty hurts; no self-denial is real without this dimension of penance." How are you marking Lent this year?

Generosity and Giving

Following two Sundays of reflecting on God's generosity to us, and our generosity in response to Him, we have information packs available for every member of our congregations. Do please take a pack and prayerfully review your giving to the Lord through the church. Then complete the enclosed Pledge Card and pop it in an envelope marked for our Treasurer, Mary Singleton. No one except Mary herself, will open any envelopes marked with her name, so no one else will ever know your pledge information. Thank you.

St. Mary's Walkers

This will be a History Walk around Andover Town, which is suitable for wheelchair/mobility scooter users, and anyone who would prefer to be walking on firm and level ground. Andover has a fascinating past so do come and see some of its oldest buildings. Please bring a packed lunch. We shall leave the church on **Sunday 5th March at 12.15pm**, and be out for around two hours. Any further questions, please speak with Rosemary Baker or Simon Nash.

The Friends of St. Mary's Lent Devotional Talk

All are welcome to join us on **Saturday 18th March at 2pm for 2.30pm** in the Church Centre. The stimulating talk will be given by Reverend Canon Martin Coppen and there will be the opportunity to join us for Afternoon Tea following the talk. We look forward to welcoming you.

Men's Group

Our next monthly evening gathering will be held on **Sunday 19th March from 6.30pm to 8.30pm** in the Church Centre. Help **from 6pm**, to get tables and chairs from the Chapel, would be appreciated. The evening will start with soup and rolls, and be followed by Informal Worship, led by Barry Wadhams. All men are welcome, please sign the clipboard at the back of the church.

Andover Foodbank

This week there is a need for Long Life fruit juice, sugar (500g bags), coffee, and tinned tomatoes, as well as dinner and side plates. **Easter Eggs** - Please start collecting chocolate eggs which will be distributed to children and vulnerable adults in our area who may not otherwise be given one. The eggs are to be received by **Monday 20th March** as this gives time for partner agencies to pass them on to the children. **FoodFreeLent has started!** This is an easy way to convert your food donation to cash. Simply download a moneybox from www.andover.foodbank.org.uk, or take one from the inside of the Foodbank container in church, and start collecting. Alternatively donate online or by cheque. Your donations give a valuable breathing space to someone in crisis. Thank you.

Eco Church

WWF Earth Hour and WWF Carbon Footprint

Why not prepare for Earth Hour on **25th March** by signing up to Earth Hour on www.WWF.org.uk to show that you want to take action to stop climate change. While on the website, please consider looking at the WWF Carbon Footprint, with a general calculation which can be found on the home page. It includes items such as air travel and spending patterns, and should take no more than 10 minutes. Please remember every small change matters and helps protect God's Earth.

Green Milk Bottle Tops

After Ann Smith urged us to 'do our bit' for the environment, Jane Bazire has found a contact who collects green (only) milk bottle tops for recycling into plastic garden furniture. If you would like to give Jane your washed milk tops, she will be happy to pass them on. Thank you.

Electoral Roll Revision

It is time for the annual revision of the Electoral Roll. Please would you check if your name is on the list near the South Door. If so, there is nothing more you need to do. If not, you are warmly invited to consider filling in an application form (available near the South Door) **by Monday 3rd April**. If living outside the parish (see www.achurchnearyou.com), you will note the need to have attended public worship at St. Mary's for 6 months. Please return the completed form to either Diane in the Church Office, or Martin Bazire, Electoral Roll Officer. Please note that participation in the APCM on 28th April requires your name to be on the Roll.

Little Saints Plant Sale

A Plant Sale will be held on **Saturday 27th May from 10am to 12.30pm** in the Church Centre. If you are able to offer any seedlings, perennials or plant plugs for baskets and tubs to donate to the sale, we would be very grateful. Also if you are able to set the date aside to help with the Plant Sale, please speak with Liz Medley. Thank you.

Change of Date

Kindly note the rescheduled date for the Away Day will now be **Saturday 24th June** at Tangley Parish Hall, Hatherden. The Day is designed for Fun, Fellowship and Friends (FFF) and will consist of both indoor and outdoor games and activities, including for children, refreshments and space to enjoy some time together. More details will follow nearer the time.

Church Weekend Away 2018

As part of our Parish Mission Action Plan (pMAP) it was agreed to hold a Weekend Away together as a church community next year. If you would be interested in principle in joining the Church Weekend, which will possibly be held on the weekend of **23rd and 24th June 2018**, please sign the list at the back of church. For more information, please speak with Paula Deverill or Nigel May.

Your Church Needs You!

Please would you consider joining the teams of either sound or vision operators, or act as a sidesperson. Full training will be given, and volunteers are URGENTLY needed please. Thank you. Canon John.

*Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert
to be tempted by the devil.*

After fasting for forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.

The tempter came to Him and said,

"If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

Jesus answered,

*"It is written: Man does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."*

Matthew 4:1-4