



NoticeSheet

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

EASTER NOTICES 9th April to 29th April

Sunday 9th April - Palm Sunday



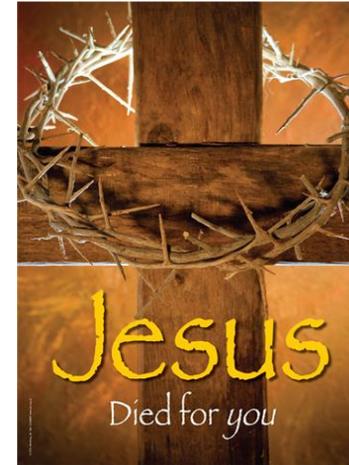
9am Holy Communion and Prayer Ministry

10.30am Morning Worship with Communion,
Baptism and Prayer Ministry

10.30am Little and Junior Saints meet in Church for worship
and the Baptism, before leaving for their activities in the Church Centre

*There is an unsupervised crèche available for 0-3 year olds,
through the doors at the back of church. The area contains toys, books,
colouring and comfortable seating, in addition to sound and vision*

14th April - Good Friday

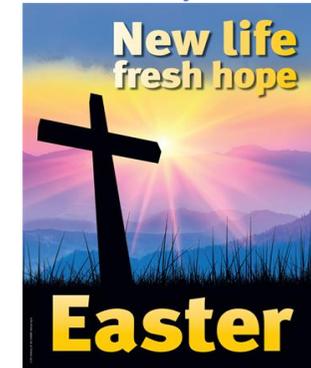


10am Andover Churches Together Service

Followed by Walk of Witness and the Passion Play in the Town Centre

2pm Reflective Service

Sunday 16th April - Easter Day



6.30am Sunrise Service

10am Easter Praise Communion and Prayer Ministry

Sunday 23rd April

9am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship with Communion and Prayer Ministry

Sunday 30th April

9.50am Children's Church meet in the Church Centre

10am United Morning Worship with Communion and Prayer Ministry

We offer a very warm St. Mary's welcome on Sunday 9th April to:

Ann Smith and Gwen Van-Der-Decken on behalf of the Vine Trust Bookshop who have a display of Easter cards and items for us to browse and purchase. Please do support this valued ministry from our local Christian Bookshop.

The family and friends of Monty Knight who are with us this morning to celebrate Monty's baptism. We pray for Matt and Holly, as well as Monty, on this special day.



Andy, Jo, Steven, Nathan and Peter

We thank God for their safe arrival in Andover, and pray not only that their house would quickly feel like their new home, but also that they settle and find themselves very much a part of the family of God here at St. Mary's.

Crèche Area

There is an unsupervised crèche available for 0-3 year olds, through the doors at the back of church. We are grateful to Joan Bruce whose legacy allowed us to create this area, which contains toys, books, colouring and comfortable seating in addition to sound and vision so you can see and hear the service.

Grateful thanks to Liz Medley

Liz is stepping down after 7 years from her role as leader of our children's ministry. We thank God for her faithful and committed service, and for the impact she has had on so many of our church children over the years.

April Mid-Week Communion Services

These shorter reflective services followed by refreshments, will take place on **Wednesdays 12th, 19th and 26th April at 10.30am** in St. Mary's Church.

Agape Supper - Thursday 13th April, 7pm for 7.30pm

Our thanks to Stella Bruce-Kerr who has kindly volunteered to co-ordinate this year's Agape Supper.

There are two lists at the back of church to sign, one if you are coming and the other to indicate which food selection you will be bringing. Fruit juice, water and white wine will be provided, if you wish to bring any other drink please do so. Help is needed to set up at 12 noon on the day in the Harris Hall, to assist with refreshments during the evening, and to clear up after the evening has ended. Please speak with Stella Bruce-Kerr, or contact the Church Office. Thank you.

Easter Church Office Hours

Please note that the Church Office will be closed on **Friday 14th April** and reopen on **Monday 24th April**.

Good Friday Collection

There will be a retiring collection taken at the end of the 10am Andover Churches Together Service on **Sunday 14th April**. This will be sent to the Disasters Emergency Committee in aid of the East Africa Crisis Appeal, where 16 million people are on the brink of starvation, and urgently need food, water and medical treatment. Please give generously to this appeal. The service will be followed by a March of Witness from the Church into the Town Centre, where the Passion Play will be performed outside the Guildhall.

Baptisms and Confirmations

Please remember in your prayers Richard and Karyn French who are being Confirmed on **Easter Eve, Saturday 15th April in Winchester Cathedral**, as well as other members of our congregation being Baptized/Confirmed here at St. Mary's at the 10.30am service on Sunday 11th June by Bishop David.

Easter Sunday Sunrise Breakfast

If anyone attending the Sunrise Service on **Sunday 16th April at 6.30am** would like to join together in the Church Centre for a full English Breakfast after the service ends, please sign the list at the back of the church. We have to limit the Breakfast to a maximum of 40 people, so the list will close on Wednesday 12th April to confirm numbers for catering purposes.

Word of Light: John's Gospel in the Flesh

A one man dramatised story telling of the Gospel of John performed by Angus Stuart, Rector of St. Francis-in-the-Wood, West Vancouver, Canada is on **Saturday 22nd April from 4pm to 6.30pm** at All Saints Church, Upper Clatford, SP11 7HP. Tickets cost £10 and are available from Clatfords Village Store, Abbotts Ann Village Shop, email sue253@btinternet.com or telephone

07393-944245. All proceeds will be donated towards Andover Street Pastors and St. Francis-in-the-Wood Church, Vancouver, Canada.

Men's Group

Our next monthly evening gathering will be held on **Sunday 23rd April** from **6.30pm to 8.30pm** in the Church Centre Chapel. The evening will start with soup and rolls, and be followed by a Bible study on Amos, led by Ian Willis. For more information speak with Derrick Norton.



Eco Church - Why not walk to Church on Sunday 30th April?

We are all encouraged if we can, to walk to church on the fifth Sunday in April for the 10am service. By doing so we will help to reduce our carbon footprint. Walking will enable us to appreciate the local environment on a Spring morning whilst taking exercise that is good for our general wellbeing. Please only consider walking to church if you are fit and able enough to do so.

Congratulations! Eco Church Bronze Award

As part of our pMAP objective to work towards the three levels of the Eco Church Award, we have now successfully achieved the Eco Church Bronze Award! Our thanks go to Ann Smith who is leading this initiative, and to all of you who are supporting it. Well done for this first significant step forward.

Children's Church - 3 years to 13 years plus

Our Summer Term activities will commence on **Sunday 30th April at 9.50am**. Please bring your child/children directly to the Church Centre for registration. The morning will commence with contemporary worship, and there will be child friendly Bible based teaching and interactive prayer. The children will come into church in time to receive a blessing or communion.



THY KINGDOM COME

Thy Kingdom Come

This is a prayer initiative, started by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, which this year will be held between **25th May and 4th June**. During this time communities and churches around the world gather together to pray that their friends, families and neighbours may come to know Jesus Christ. Prayer events of all shapes and sizes will take place across the 9 days, as people gather together to worship and to pray for the empowering of the Holy Spirit. There will be a special Pentecost Praise Service, organized by Andover Churches Together, held in St. Mary's on **Sunday 4th June at 3pm** to which all are welcome. Please use these 9 days of prayer as the Spirit leads you, more information can be found at www.thykingdomcome.global.

Women's Bible Study Group

We are planning a monthly group, on a Saturday morning. If you would be interested in joining us, please speak to or email Karyn French (10.30am service or email karynanne@me.com). We would likely launch with a prayer breakfast and each month will form a distinct study. Details are to be decided upon. Please do all pray for this new ministry.

What is Prayer Ministry?

The ministry we offer is to pray for people to receive the love of God, seeking healing, restoration and peace. This can be for any one of us, including prayer for ourselves or perhaps someone else we know, or to give thanks to God for answered prayer! Our Prayer Ministry Team members have received training, have signed to agree to follow our Guidelines and Values, and always wear an identity badge. Prayer Ministry is offered during our services on the 2nd Sunday of the month at the 9am service in the South Transept area, at the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays at the 10.30am services and on the 5th Sunday at the 10am service by the organ.



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Deanery Synod - Please pray about whether you might serve as one of our three Deanery Synod representatives on behalf of St. Mary's. This will be a very important role in the coming months, especially if you would consider joining the Deanery Mission and Pastoral Committee (DMPC) to help shape the way forward for our parish, as well as the other local parishes. DMPC membership can be a commitment for a fixed 12 month only period if you wish.

HOPE^{into} ACTION

Enabling churches to house the homeless

Thank you again for your support in seeking investors for the project to buy a house in Andover in which we can support homeless people and help them reclaim their lives. We would like to update you on the progress so far. We are now up to £160,000 pledged investment; having looked at house prices we have revised our target down to £210,000. We have been looking at properties in Andover and have identified a couple that have great potential but financially we are not quite there yet and we cannot make an offer on property that we could not fulfil. We have had some quite encouraging expressions of interest which have not yet been followed up with a pledge. We would be immensely grateful if you would mention in your church notices that if members are interested in investing then now is the time to put that intent into action. Equally if you know of other people in your congregation whom you think might be willing to invest please encourage them to get in touch. Although the worst of the winter is behind us we are more determined than ever to see real changes made in the lives of homeless people in Andover. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact either Derrick Norton at stmarysandover@btinternet.com or Peter Kinross at peterkinross@yahoo.co.uk. Thank you.

Forthcoming dates for your diary:

Friday 28th April - Annual Parochial Church Meeting in the Church Centre. Written reports available **from 6.30pm**, meeting starts at 7.30pm.

Saturday 29th April from 10am to 11.30am - Prayer Ministry Team Training in the Church Centre Day for all existing team members, and for anyone who would like to find out more. Coffee and cake available at 9.45am.

Saturday 6th May from 10am to 12 noon - The Friends Coffee Morning in the Church Centre.

Saturday 6th May from 2pm to 4pm - 3R's Café at Pilgrims' Cross School.

Friday 19th May at 7.30pm - Women's Group in the Church Centre 'Food As God Intended It.'

Saturday 27th May from 10am to 12.30pm - Plant Sale 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 let Diane know.

Saturday 17th June at 8am - Men's Breakfast at The Redbridge.

Saturday 24th June from 10am to 4pm - Away Day - Fun, Fellowship and Friends. Do come and join us at Tanglely Parish Hall, Hatherden. This **FREE** Day is designed for Fun, Fellowship and Friends and will consist of both indoor and outdoor games and activities for children and adults. Bring your own lunch, refreshments will be provided and there will be plenty of space to enjoy time together.

Friday 7th July and Saturday 8th July 9.30am to 4pm - Art Exhibition in St. Mary's Church.

Friday 22nd June to Sunday 24th June 2018 - Church Weekend Away at Pilgrim Hall, East Sussex www.pilgrimhall.com. Programme to follow after Easter.

Jesus told the disciples,

"This is what is written:

*The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,
and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached
in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."*

Luke 24:46-47

