

Grapevine



Welcome to St. Mary's Andover

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

Sunday 18th March

Theme: Passiontide

Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34 and John 12:20-33

9am Holy Communion

10.20am Children's Church (3 - 13+)

meet in the Church Centre for their activities,
before joining their families in church for Communion and Final Blessing

10.30am Morning Worship with Prayer Ministry

4pm Taizé Service

6.30pm Men's Group at Nigel's home

Wednesday 21st March

Holy Communion Service at 10.30am

in St. Mary's Church led by Canon Martin Coppen

Sunday 25th March

9am Holy Communion

Palm Sunday led by Bishop David Williams

Reading Mark 11:1-11

10.20am Children's Church (3 - 13+)

meet in the Church Centre for their activities,
before joining their families in church for Communion and Final Blessing

10.30 Morning Worship with Communion

*There is an unsupervised crèche available for 0-3 year olds,
through the doors at the back of church.*

*This area contains toys, books, colouring and comfortable seating,
in addition to sound and vision, so you can see and hear the service.*

THANK YOU ALL!

Dear friends

We write to express our deep appreciation to you all for the past eight years, and for our final weekend together last week. We cannot believe how the years have flown by and that we are now retired from full time ministry after almost 29 years of service to the Lord.

We are grateful to have served you and the people of Andover, the Deanery and the Diocese, for the last chapter of our ministry. We have indeed journeyed together with so many of you individually, as well as together as part of the church family at St. Mary's, and we have always been grateful to God for the privileges that has brought in walking alongside you all.

Special thanks for all that we have shared over that time, we very much appreciated the weekend and the wonderful farewell in the Harris Hall; we are grateful to so many of you for coming. Our thanks to Rosalyn, Jane Viggers and their team for organizing this splendid event. The Hall and tables looked amazing, having been decorated with such beautiful flowers, the Celebration Cake made by Pen was a work of art and all the food was absolutely delicious! What a treat to be toasted with Prosecco!

Your generosity in the card, the gift you gave to us and all the food provided has touched our hearts, thank you so much, we are now exploring what we might be able to purchase to remind us of you all in the future.

We were greatly touched too, as were all our family who shared with us, by the uplifting farewell service on Mothering Sunday, powerful music and song, the wonderful choir, a final shared communion together, all around the God-given theme of 'For such a time as this,' so entirely appropriate for the occasion. Our thanks too for the book of photographs and comments, how wonderfully personal.

Now a new chapter awaits us all. Please pray for us, as we shall indeed do for you all. ***"And this is love: that we walk in obedience to His commands."*** 2 John 1:6.

With our love.

Canon John and Sue

Could You Be A Street Pastor - Is God Calling You?

Do you want to reach out to the people of Andover? Do you want to make a difference for God? Can you spare one late night per month? Then please consider joining Andover Street Pastors! We are recruiting **NOW** and training began on the 23rd February. We need more Street Pastors and prayer teams to help us continue to make a positive difference in our town. If you are interested to find out more or to volunteer with us, please contact Barry Wadhams email Andover@streetpastors.org.uk or come out with us as an observer, to see first-hand what the front line looks like. The training dates are on the **23rd, 24th and 25th March**.

Men's Group

The Men's Group meet **tonight from 6.30pm to 8.30pm** at Nigel's home; new members are very welcome. We start with soup and rolls, and then have informal worship, with Ian Willis leading on Habbakuk. Please remember to sign the list at the back of church, and to bring a Bible. Contact Derrick Norton for more information.

The Friends of St. Mary's Lent Devotional Talk

This will be held on **Saturday 24th March at 2pm** in the Church Centre Chapel, followed by Afternoon Tea in the Gale Room. A warm welcome to everyone who would like to join us to hear this year's speaker Tim Townsend, who will be talking about 'Great is our Hopefulness.'

Maundy Thursday Agape Supper

Many thanks to Rosalyn Peszkowski for organising this event to be held in the Harris Hall on **Thursday 29th March, 7pm for 7.30pm**. There are two lists at the back of church to sign, one if you intend to be present at the Supper, 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.

Weekly Offering Envelopes

Kindly note the new sets of weekly offering envelopes are at the back of church for those who already use them. If anyone would like to start using offering envelopes, please speak with either Mary or June. Thank you.

Easter Day Breakfast

Please sign the list at the back of church if you will be attending this year's Breakfast, which follows the Sunrise Service outside church on **Sunday 1st April at 6.30am**.

Attention nature lovers.

Please join me (Neil Catty) for a guided nature walk around Chilbolton on **Sunday 15th April at 2pm**. It will be a short but slow stroll suitable for all ages. The path may be muddy so I would advise that suitable footwear is worn. We should see plenty of birds, butterflies and spring flowers. I will be leaving from the West Down car park which is Coley Lane SO20 6AX, first left turn after Station Road. Contact Neil for more information.

Andover Foodbank Quiz Night

The Foodbank are holding a Quiz Night on **Friday 27th April** at St John the Baptist RC Church Hall at **7pm** for 7.30. Tickets are £10 each which includes a two course meal and soft drinks. Please buy tickets in advance, for more information contact the Food Bank email office@andoverfoodbank.org.uk, phone 01264 362111 or contact Diane in the office to join St. Mary's Team.

Eco Church – Earth Hour

As part of our Eco Church commitments St Marys will be observing Earth Hour on Saturday 24th March at 8.30pm by switching off the church floodlights. Please consider personally joining in with Earth Hour by switching your home lights off at that time to show your own commitment to protecting the planet. More details can be found at www.wwf.org.uk/earthhour.

Eco Church – Cycle Racks

A cycle rack to hold up to 4 bicycles has been installed at the back of the church centre. Paving slabs will be laid in due course.

Bryan Beggs Memorial Service

The Memorial Service for Bryan Beggs will be taking place on Tuesday 8th May at 2pm.

Women's Group Film Night

Women's Group Film Night, **Friday 13th April from 7pm** in St Mary's church. Join us for a special showing of The Shack, with hotdogs, popcorn and drinks. The film will start at 7.30pm. The Shack is adapted from the best-selling

Christian novel, it follows one mans faith journey - it is a story of tragedy, belief, mystery and hope. Sign-up at the back of church.

Electoral Roll Revision

It is time for the annual Roll revision, so please check if your name is on the list on the noticeboard at the back of church. If so, there is nothing more you need to do. If not, you are warmly invited to consider filling in an application form **by Easter Day (1st April)**. If you live outside the parish (see www.achurchnearyou.com), you will need to have attended public worship here for 6 months. Please return the completed form to either Diane in the office, or Martin Bazire, Electoral Roll Officer. Do note that your name must be on the Roll in order to participate in the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) to be held on **Tuesday 17th April at 7.30pm** in the Church Centre.

St. Mary's Walkers - Sunday 8th April at 12.15pm

Spring is in the air so calling all walkers, less abled walkers and those who use mobility scooters or wheelchairs! We will follow a pretty walk that is tarmac, paving or wooden decking all the way and back. It takes us through St. Mary's Cemetery down to Anton Lakes where we will have lunch, so please bring something to eat and a hot drink. If you can come, please bring your scooter/wheelchairs around to the church side door. Speak with Simon Nash or Rosemary Baker for further information.

Andover Foodbank

This week we need Long Life fruit juice and Long Life milk, tins of fish, potatoes, tomatoes and rice pudding, jars of pasta sauce, packets of rice (500g or 1kg), razors, washing up liquid and cleaning products for the kitchen, bathroom and laundry. Thank you.

St. Mary's Church Office,

The Church Centre, Marlborough Street, Andover SP10 1ER

Church Office Hours:

Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 2pm and Friday 9.30am to 4pm