

# Welcome to St. Mary's

## *A beating heart for Andover*



Hi and welcome to St Mary's Andover - we're so glad you're here!

At St Mary's, we have fun, laugh, share life, serve our community, care for each other and worship God together. We have a vision to be a beating heart for Andover – pumping love, life and hope around our town and beyond! In the coming months, we're going on a journey to work out what this looks like afresh. It's a great time to be here; you're so welcome and we invite you to join us!

Revd Chris Bradish, Vicar

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## Vision for St. Mary's

Nai and I are so looking forward to sharing the resource-church vision with you. Conversations at PCC have been ongoing, but the opportunity to share it across the whole community is really exciting. Following my institution as Vicar, many people have been asking me about the future: what are the plans for the church building? Who exactly are the missing generations? What about HTB? What does this mean for me? How can I be involved? How can I pray? How can I give? - these are all very understandable questions and I'm sure you have more besides. I would love to spend some time sharing the vision with anyone interested and have made some open invitations. These are invitations to share in conversation, hear more, ask your questions, to pray and for us to explore and get excited together about the future.

- 18/03/19: 7:30-9pm - meet in The John Russell Fox - buy a drink and chat around the table
  - 20/03/19: 11:30-12:30pm - meet in church after the mid-week communion service
  - 21/03/19: 4-5pm - meet at the Vicarage for a cuppa
  - 27/03/19: 7:30-9pm - meet in the Gale Room
- ...Hope to see you at one of these times!

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## **\*\*SPARK JOY\*\* continues...**

Have you ever heard of the *konmari* tidying method? - it sparks joy! This Lent, we're going to take some time to dwell in the words of the Lord's Prayer. The Lord's Prayer is a prayer we're so close to that its impact can be lost in overfamiliarity. But, it has world-changing power to 'spark joy' and be transformational. As it is preached afresh, our desire is that we might also learn to pray it afresh.

## Baptisms this Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday is the ultimate celebration of Jesus's victory over sin and death and his gift of new life. As part of our Easter Sunday worship this year, 21 April 2019, we're planning to offer baptism by full immersion. If you haven't been baptised or if you would like to reaffirm your baptism vows in this way, please do pray about whether now is the time to take this step of faith. If you are considering this, we would love to hear from you. Please email: [revchrisbradish@gmail.com](mailto:revchrisbradish@gmail.com). If there is interest, we will run a preparation evening at the Vicarage over a meal.

## Family Baptism

Please join us to celebrate Harriet's baptism at 10.30am on 24th March. Matt and Holly

## Electoral Roll

Everyone who wishes to be included in the Roll will need to complete a simple form. Forms are available by the south door and at the back of church. The renewal period will run to 31 March 2019, after which the Electoral Roll is frozen until after the APCM. Many thanks, Martin Bazire.

## Friends of St. Mary's

Lent Devotional Talk, Saturday 23 March 2pm in the Church Centre Chapel: 'The Colours of Easter' - Led by Chris.

## Parish Prayer Evening

Next prayer evening is on Tues, 19 Mar, 8pm to 9pm. The focus will be "Everyday Worship, prayer Monday to Saturday". Do join us in the Church Centre Chapel.

## Men's Ministry

The next Men's Evening is Sunday 17 March at Nigel May's house from 6.30 - 8.30 pm. Speak to Derrick Norton if you would like to attend.

Parish Administrator: Diane Wilson 01264 366373

Email: [stmarysandover@btinternet.com](mailto:stmarysandover@btinternet.com) Website: [www.stmarys-andover.org.uk](http://www.stmarys-andover.org.uk)

St. Mary's Office, The Church Centre, Marlborough St, Andover SP10 1ER

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 3pm, Friday 9.30am to 4pm

## 17 March Theme & Readings

*Hallowed Be Thy Name:* Luke 13:31-35 & Matthew 6:5:15

## Services Next Week

- ∞ Wednesday 20 Mar 10.30am Holy Communion Service
- ∞ Sunday 24 Mar 9am Holy Communion
- ∞ Sunday 24 Mar 10.30am Morning Worship with Communion & Baptism