

# 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. There is one more open invitation date to come if you haven't made it to any of the others. 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. The final date will be

Wednesday 27/03/19: 7:30-9pm - meet in the Gale Room ...Hope to see you then!

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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.

## Mothering Sunday

The flower Team will be in church making up posies for Mothering Sunday on Sat 30 March from 9am-1pm, all volunteers or offers of greenery welcome, talk with Pen if you can help

## 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.

## Eco-Church Please support Earth Hour

Once again this year we would encourage all of the church community to switch off their lights for 1 hour at 8.30pm on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March. Thank you for caring for God's earth.

## Electoral Roll – last week to sign up!

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.

## St Mary's Walkers

Our next walk is on Sunday 7 April. The route will include Knights Enham church and is about 5 miles. We will start from St Mary's at 12.15 pm. Please bring a packed lunch and suitable footwear. For more information, speak with Simon Nash.

## Prayer Ministry Get Together

Saturday 30 March 9.30am to 12 noon in the Church Centre. Come along if you are interested in finding out about joining the prayer minister team contact Rosemary Townsend if you would like to come along.

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

**The office will be closed on Tuesday 26 March for staff training**

## 24 March Theme & Readings

*Submission: Thy Kingdom, Thy Will:* Luke 13.1-9 & Matthew 6.5-15

## Services Next Week

- ∞ Wednesday 27 Mar 10.30am Holy Communion Service
- ∞ Sunday 31 Mar 10am Mothering Sunday Service