

# Welcome to St. Mary's

## *A beating heart for Andover*



Hi and welcome to St Mary's Andover on this **Mothering Sunday** - 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

## Vision for St. Mary's

Thank you to everyone who has participated in one of the four vision sessions we have run over the last week or so. This Wednesday, I was joined by another 15 or so people in the Gale Room. It has been so helpful for me to appreciate your questions and get a better understanding of the life of St Mary's. I hope you have also found them informative. We now have time to prepare for and enjoy Easter, but please look out for further opportunities to share in vision development together going forward.

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

Have you ever heard of the *konmari* tidying method? - it sparks joy! This Lent, we're taking 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.

## Planned Giving

The new weekly giving envelopes are available at the back of church for those signed up. If you would like to start giving in this way please talk with Mary Singleton or June Harris.

## Prayer Meeting

The next prayer meeting will be on Thursday 4 April in the Church Centre Chapel from 8pm to 9pm. We will be praying for the life of the church - using the bible story - 'the raising of Lazarus from the dead' as our theme as we continue to prepare for Easter. Do join us – everyone is welcome.

## Electoral Roll – sign-up today!

If you wish to be included in the Roll you need to complete a simple form. The renewal period runs to 31/3, (today!!) after which the Electoral Roll is frozen until after APCM.

## Friends of St. Mary's Easter Coffee Morning Saturday 6 April

All are welcome to join in the Friends of St Mary's Easter Coffee Morning – next Saturday in the church centre. Hot cross buns to enjoy in the company of friends!

## Easter Lilies

Please speak to Pen Barnes-Gorrell today if you would like to purchase Easter lilies in celebration or remembrance of someone.

## St Mary's Walkers

Next walk on Sun 7 April. The route will be about 5 miles. Start from St Mary's 12.15 pm. Bring a packed lunch and suitable footwear. More information? speak with Simon Nash.

## Eco-Church reduce your plastic in Lent

Did you know that many plastic bags in which bread, fruit and vegetables are sold can be recycled in the carrier bag recycling points in supermarkets? Suitable items indicate this.

## Pews

Some have asked about pews, so for the benefit of all: to register an interest in a pew, please speak to Karyn French or email [Karyn.french@stmarysandover.org](mailto:Karyn.french@stmarysandover.org)

## Vicar's contact details & day off

Revd Chris Bradish

Day off: Friday

[chris.bradish@stmarysandover.org](mailto:chris.bradish@stmarysandover.org) / 01264 363916 / 07985427930

Parish Administrator: Diane Wilson 01264 366373

Email: [parish@stmarysandover.org](mailto:parish@stmarysandover.org) 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 from Thursday 4 April reopening on Tuesday 9 April\***

## 31 March Theme & Readings

*Our Daily Bread:* Luke John 19:25-27 & Matthew 6.5-15

## Services Next Week

- ∞ Wednesday 3 April 10.30am Holy Communion Service
- ∞ Sunday 7 April 9am Holy Communion
- ∞ Sunday 7 April 10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion & Children's Church