



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

Sunday 17th September

Theme: Called To Forgiveness

Readings: Romans 14:1-12 and Matthew 18:21-35

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 the final blessing**

10.30am Morning Worship and Prayer Ministry

4pm Taizé Service

6.30pm Men's Group at Nigel's home

Wednesday 20th September

Holy Communion Service at 10.30am

in St. Mary's Church led by Canon Martin

Sunday 24th September

Theme: The Last Shall Be First

Readings: Philippians 1:21-26 and Matthew 20:1-16

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 the final blessing**

10.30am Morning Worship and Prayer Ministry

***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.***

Eco Church

Last week we formally launched the Eco Church Newsletter. To reduce our carbon footprint many will have received an e-mail containing the newsletter. A printed copy can be found on the table at the back of the church together with some Council information leaflets on recycling.

Alpha Course

The Autumn Term Course started last **Monday 11th September from 7.30pm to 9.30pm** in the Church Centre. It's not too late if you'd like to join them this Monday. The meeting begins with soup and a roll, followed by a DVD and discussion. If you would like to find out more about the course, please speak with Kate Walbyoff or contact Diane in the Church Office. If you could provide soup and rolls for one evening, please would you sign the list at the back of church. Thank you.

Taizé Service

Take a break from the pressures of life and join us TODAY **Sunday 17th September at 4pm** for this quieter, more reflective and contemplative service. A Taizé Worship Service is elegantly simple, involving sung and chanted prayers, meditation, periods of silence and liturgical readings; there is no preaching. "It is a time to rest in God, to let the words listened to and sung penetrate one's being." Do come and join us.

Men's Group

Meeting tonight, **Sunday 17th September** for informal Worship & Bible Study, **6.30pm to 8.30pm** at Nigel's house. Starting with soup & rolls, the study will be led by Barry and then Ian on "Jonah". Please sign the list at the back of church

Christmas Choir

We are seeking this year to have a Christmas Choir once again and would love it if you would join us. Practices will begin at 7.30pm on **Monday 18th September**, and continue on the following dates: 2nd, 23rd and 30th October, 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th November in the Church Centre Chapel. The last practices on the 4th and 11th December will be in church. For more information or if you wish to join the choir, please speak with Pru.

Women's Group

At the meeting next **Friday 22nd September at 7.30pm** in the Church Centre the group will be assembling Christmas shoeboxes for children, to be sent out by Samaritan's Purse, a Christian Charity, as part of Operation Christmas Child. Everyone can help by:

- Collecting shoeboxes (any size - just leave them in the old Church Office at the back of church)
- Donating items to fill a shoebox (see list on the table at the back of church for suitable items and place your gifts in the box under the table)
- Giving money (£1 to £5) towards transportation costs
- Knit, Sew or Crochet a gift - for free patterns see the website www.pinterest.co.uk/occuk/occ-knitting-patterns/

Do join us in making up the boxes (please sign the list at the back of church). Refreshments will be available and some small savouries and sweets. Glue, sticky tape and labels will be provided; all you need to bring is Christmas wrapping paper sufficient to cover a shoebox, and any gifts you wish. To find out more visit their website:

www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/

There are also opportunities to join us on the committee, shaping the way forward, so do please speak with Eni Richardson, Jane Viggers, Karyn French or Sue Harkin.

Men's Group Pie & Pint

Please put **Wednesday 11th October** into your diaries for the next Men's Group Pie & Pint evening at the "Chalkhill Blue" SP11 8BF. **6.30pm to 7pm**.

Children's Light Party

St. Mary's is holding a Light Party on **31st October**, here in the Church from **6pm to 7pm**. We need your support to make this evening memorable! If you feel you could help us with this event in any way please speak to Andy & Jo Berry, or contact Diane Wilson in the church office.

The Light Party will be very similar in format and feel to the Holiday Club/Children's Church, which means all activities will be led from the front. We simply need people to encourage the children and be with them during those 60 minutes. We'll have a craft, video worship, video aerobics, a gospel

message, interactive talks, a live and very happy pumpkin carving as well as a quieter prayer zone. In addition, we'll provide refreshments for parents. Most importantly, we'd value your prayers as we seek to provide a safe alternative for children; for God to encourage and draw children to Him. Many thanks in advance - Andy & Jo Berry

Food Bank Items Needed This Week

tins of meat or fish, tinned potatoes or veg, tins of Spaghetti, tinned fruit or rice pudding, rice, pasta sauce, sugar, coffee, biscuits, longlife milk.

Church Weekend Away September 2018

We are pleased to offer to everyone at St. Mary's the proposed booking for Sidholme Hotel at Sidmouth for the Weekend Away from **Friday 14th to Sunday 16th September 2018**. Please look at this date for next year, and really consider coming along. **To secure your room we need a deposit of £10 per person by the end of September**, please pay this to the Parish Administrator as soon as possible. The hotel is excellent, seen by Paula and Nigel, and known by others too, with garden, sea, and good sizeable rooms, facilities, dining area and indoor swimming pool. Prices vary from £98 up to £160 per person for the whole weekend, they include full board and accommodation, all meals, no extras required. Big reductions for children depending on age, tots free, young 75% off to older 25% off. There will be a good outside speaker to lead us, Andy Peck, who has a wide experience and is well known. There will be a programme for the weekend, but you will be free to join in whatever you want.

Church opening on Saturdays

You may wish to note that St Mary's church is open each week on **Saturday mornings**, thanks to a willing group of volunteers acting in pairs. Opening times are usually from **10.30am to 12.30pm**, but these are occasionally adjusted due to weddings. Please do take the opportunity to call in. We need more volunteers, so that each person opens the church no more than once every two months. If you are willing, or interested in finding out more, please contact Martin Bazire.

Reverend Lee Davies

Lee's Licensing Service as the new Priest in Charge at Knight's Enham will take place on Monday 16th October at 7.30pm in St. Paul's Church and Community Centre, Smannell Road, Andover SP11 6JP. If you would like to attend the service and reception afterwards please contact Rachel Harper, Parish Administrator on 01264 335237 or at admin@knightsenham.org.uk. Rachel's working hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 8.45am to 4pm, and Thursday from 8.45am to 3.15pm. If you would like to make a donation as a farewell gift to Lee for his ministry here at St. Mary's, do please send your gift to Diane in St. Mary's Church Office marked 'Lee Davies.'

The Vine Trust

The Trust is urgently looking for volunteers to help in their Christian Bookshop in Bridge Street. They especially need help on Monday afternoons, Thursday mornings and Saturdays. The Vine Trust Bookshop is open 6 days a week from 10am to 4pm, operating two shifts per day, 10am to 1pm and 1pm to 4pm. They are looking for volunteers to help with either a half or full day. Please contact Brenda Sleath at vinetrustandover@gmail.com, 01264 355706 or call into the shop to find out more or to arrange a time for training. The Vine Trust, a Christian charity based in Andover, operates The Vine Trust Bookshop. Its purpose is to serve the Christian and Churches in Andover and the surrounding area, and to witness to the gospel of Christ.

For more information

Contact Diane

**St. Mary's Church Office, The Church Centre,
Marlborough Street, Andover SP10 1ER
01264 366 373**

Email stmarysandover@btinternet.com

**Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 2pm,
Friday 9.30am to 4pm**

