



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

Sunday 28th January

Theme: The Significance of Faith

**Readings: Hebrews 11:1-7
and Matthew 8:5-13**

9am Holy Communion with Prayer Ministry

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 Communion and Prayer Ministry

Wednesday 31st January

**Holy Communion Service at 10.30am
in St. Mary's Church led by Canon John**

Sunday 4th February

9am Holy Communion

Theme: Green Communion

**Readings: Psalm 8:1-9
and John 1:1-14**

10.30am Active All Age Service with Baptisms and Prayer Ministry

Theme: Caring For God's Creation

**Readings: Psalm 139:1-18
and Genesis 1:26-27**

12.15pm St. Mary's Walkers leave church

*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.*

Spring Term 2018

This term our focus is on **Healing and Wholeness**, exploring different aspects of this in our sermons in January. We will also be running a short course which is open to all members of St. Mary's Church. Each of the four fortnightly sessions will be on Tuesdays in the Church Centre from 7.30pm to 9.30pm, covering the following topics:

30th January - Seeds of Faith, 13th February - Rich Soil for Growth

27th February - Leaves for Healing, 13th March - Growing a Healing Church

The course is a combination of teaching with PowerPoint slides, partner tasks, discussion/sharing and prayer; please bring a Bible and pen with you. An initial Healing Service is to be planned for April. Please sign the list at the back of church if you wish to attend, or contact Derrick and Heather Norton if you have any questions.

Parish Prayer Meeting

Prayer brings many benefits including peace of mind, Godly wisdom, comfort and strength under pressure, guidance, help, forgiveness and encouragement, so do please join us for our regular opportunity to pray together, this month to be held on **Thursday 1st February at 7.30pm** in the Church Centre.

The Friends of St. Mary's Coffee Morning and AGM

This will be held on **Saturday 3rd February from 10am**, in the Church Centre, with the **AGM at 11am**, all are warmly invited join us.

The 3R's (Relax, Refresh, Revive) Café

Please continue to support this greatly appreciated initiative, either by joining us on the day or by making some delicious cakes or biscuits. We meet on **Saturday 3rd February from 2pm to 4pm** at Pilgrims' Cross School. Thank you.

Caring for God's Creation

Next **Sunday 4th February** will be our 'Green Communion Day,' with both service themes reflecting our stewardship of God's creation. May we all ask ourselves, how good a steward am I of all that the Lord has entrusted to me?

St. Mary's Walkers

The next St. Mary's walk will be on **Sunday 4th February**. It will be from St. Mary's Church to Charlton Lakes, starting at **12.15pm**. Please bring a packed lunch and suitable footwear. If you are interested in coming or would like to know more, please speak with Simon Nash or Rosemary Baker.

Young Musician of the Year - Thursday 8th February at 6pm

This exciting annual event provides the opportunity for young people from local schools to showcase their talents in either a contemporary or modern category. **We require up to six volunteers please to help with refreshments during the interval**; there is no need to stay after the interval, although you are welcome to if you wish. If you can help please contact the Church Office.

Youth Bible Study Group

We won't be meeting as normal on **Friday 9th February** as we will be going to a special church youth event called 'Wildfire', being held in Winchester. Since it is happening when we would normally be holding our own regular time together, we thought we would make the most of the opportunity to do something a little different. Normal service will be resumed in March! Many thanks, Rob S, Kelsey W and Andy B.

Holiday Club Planning Sessions - Dates for your diary!

This year's Holiday Club will be taking place in the Harris Hall from **Tuesday 7th August to Friday 10th August from 9.30am to 1pm as well as a Fun Afternoon on Friday from 1pm to 3pm**. If you would like to be involved, planning meeting dates have been arranged! These will be on Thursdays 22nd February, 29th March, 26th April, 24th May, 28th June and 25th July from 7pm to 9pm in the Church Centre Chapel. Setting up for the Holiday Club will be on Sunday 5th August after 3pm and clearing away will be on Saturday 11th August.

Andover Foodbank

Thank you as always, for all your generous donations. Food items for this week include fruit juice, tinned fruit, tinned fish, packets of rice (500g or 1kg), bags of sugar, tinned tomatoes and jars/packets of pasta sauce.

The Vine Trust Bookshop

The Trust is still urgently looking for more volunteers to help in the Christian Bookshop in Bridge Street. They especially need help on Tuesday afternoons,

Wednesday mornings and Saturdays. The Bookshop is open 6 days a week from 10am to 4pm and operates two shifts per day 10am to 1pm and 1pm to 4pm. They are looking for volunteers to help with either a ½ or full day. Please contact Brenda Sleath at vinetrustandover@gmail.com or telephone 01264 355706, or call into the shop to find out more or arrange a time for training. Thank you.

Could You Be A Street Pastor?

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 consider joining Andover Street Pastors! We are recruiting **NOW** and training begins 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 on 07527296513 or 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 the 23rd, 24th and 25th February, 9th, 10th, 11th, 23rd, 24th and 25th March. Is God calling you to this powerful ministry?

Picket Twenty Request

Some of the 3R's Café children and parents attend a Wednesday after school club, from 2pm to 4pm, in the IT suite of the Community Centre next to Pilgrims' Cross School. It is also a time for collecting items for Andover Foodbank, promoted by the school. Sharon Wood, who runs the group, and Jenny Brain the Community Worker, have asked us if we can provide a volunteer each Wednesday, expertise not needed, as an extra pair of hands. This is an opportunity to meet a community need. Please contact Diane in the Church Office if you can help. Thank you.

**Now faith is being sure of what we hope for
and certain of what we do not see.**

This is what the ancients were commended for.

**By faith we understand that the universe
was formed at God's command,**

so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

Hebrews 11:1-3