



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

**Sunday 29th October**

**Theme: In Jesus' Name**

**Readings: Colossians 3:12-17  
and Matthew 24:30-35**

**9.50am Children's Church (3 - 13+)**

**meet in the Church Centre for their activities,  
before joining their families in church  
for Communion and Final Blessing**

**10am Morning Worship with Communion and Prayer Ministry**

**Wednesday 1st November**

**Holy Communion Service at 10.30am**

**in St. Mary's Church**

**led by Canon Peter Gilks**

**Sunday 5th November**

**9am Holy Communion**

**Theme: The Word Of God In Us**

**Readings: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13  
and Matthew 24:1-14**

**10.30am Active All Age Worship with Baptisms and Prayer Ministry**

**Theme: Water, Ice, Steam - The Trinity**

**Reading: Matthew 28:16-20**

**3pm All Souls Service**

*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.*

### **Thank You**

Canon John and Sue would like to express their gratitude to you all for the totally unexpected card and very generous gift during 'Thank Your Vicar Week'. We were extremely touched by the sentiments expressed by so many of you on our card, as well as by your generosity, and wish to say we consider it a privilege to serve the people of St. Mary's - thank you very much.

### **Message from Reverend Lee**

It's a strange feeling moving from Curacy to our first Parish, especially as it's only next door and we've not yet moved house! But we'd like to take this opportunity to say a big 'thank you' to all of you at St. Mary's. I've really enjoyed starting my ministry with you and doing all the 'first time' things that happen during Curacy and really felt your prayers, love and support during our time with you, especially during the difficult times. I'd especially like to say 'thank you' to Canon John for all that he's invested in me during my curacy. Finally, a big 'thank you' to all of you that contributed to the very generous gift of appreciation that was presented to me last evening by Gordon, we were touched by the support from those of you who were able to make it and for your generosity. This isn't 'goodbye' as we're not really moving location, so 'see you around' and 'thank you' once again. Reverend Lee, Emily, Jordan, Timmy, Luke and Annie-Joy.

### **Christmas Choir**

Our Christmas Choir would love it if you would join them. The next practice is on **Monday 30th October at 7.30pm** and will continue on the following dates: 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th November in the Church Centre Chapel. The last practices on the 4th and 11th December will be in church. It is not too late if you wish to join the choir, please speak with Pru or just come along.

### **Children's Light Party**

This will be held on **31st October from 6pm to 7pm** in St. Mary's Church. We will 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 will provide refreshments for parents.

Most importantly, we would value your prayers as we seek to provide a safe alternative for children; for God to encourage and draw children to Him. Donations of cakes for parents will be needed by 5.30pm on the 31st October. Do speak with Diane in the Church Office if you can help, or just bring in any cakes to the office between 9.30am and 2pm or to the church after 3pm. Thank you. Andy and Jo.

### **Parish Prayers**

Many of us miss out on so much because we only pray by ourselves. Yet, when Jesus gave us an outline for prayer, He spoke about praying together. There is power in group prayer so if you are not praying with other believers, you are not getting the support you need and are missing out on one of the major benefits of being a Christian. Do join us on **Thursday 2nd November, from 7.30pm** for about an hour, in the Church Centre, and be blessed by God.

### **'Sharing God's Life'**

The Women's Group are hosting an evening on **Friday 3rd November 7pm for 7.30pm** in St. Mary's Church. All women are welcome - see insert for details.

### **The Friends Coffee Morning**

You are assured of a warm welcome when you join us on **Saturday 4th November 10am to 12 noon** in the Church Centre for the next Coffee Morning. Come and enjoy good company and excellent refreshments!

### **3R's (Relax, Refresh, Revive) Café**

Thank you to those of you who support this outreach to the residents of Picket Twenty. Please continue to support us on **Saturday 4th November from 2pm to 4pm** at Pilgrims' Cross School, especially if you are able to bake a cake or other goodies to offer to those who attend. Cakes, (do please include a note of ingredients), can be left with Diane in the Church Office on Friday 3rd November between 9.30am and 4pm. Thank you.

### **St. Mary's Walkers**

Our next walk on **Sunday 5th November from 12.15pm** takes around three of the churches in Andover, all different in age and style of architecture, and perhaps churches you would not normally visit. Distance is just over 4 miles, some uphill and mainly by pavement. Please bring a packed lunch and a hot flask of soup or coffee! Do indicate on the list at the back of the church if you intend coming. Many thanks, Rosemary Baker.

### **All Souls Service**

This year our service will be held on **Sunday 5th November at 3pm** in St. Mary's Church, as we gather to remember those who have died and offer prayers of thanksgiving for their lives. There will be a sheet at the back where people can record names of loved ones, and these will be read out during the service. You are welcome to stay for tea and refreshments after the service.

### **Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child**

Every shoebox is a tangible expression of God's amazing love to needy children around the world, and shares the good news of Jesus Christ. Last Christmas over 11,486,773 boxes were delivered by Samaritan's Purse to children in 109 countries! Thank you to all the women from St. Mary's who have generously created 34 Christmas shoeboxes to be sent to join the others for Christmas 2017. There are a few more empty boxes if anyone would like to make one up before **Wednesday 15th November**. Full details of what should be included are with the shoeboxes at the back of church. Canon John and Sue will be delivering the completed shoeboxes to our local drop off point, before they are centrally distributed. A £5 donation per shoebox helps towards the cost of shipping, and subsequently notifies us of which country our shoeboxes were sent to in time for Christmas. Please give any donations to Diane in the Church Office by **Wednesday 15th November**. Thank you for making this a special Christmas for at least one needy child.

### **Prayer Ministry Training**

We are holding a Prayer Ministry Training Day in the Church Centre on **Saturday 25th November from 10am to 12 noon**, refreshments will be available from 9.45am. If anyone is interested in being on the team or would like to know more, please contact Tim or Rosemary Townsend.

*And whatever you do,  
whether in word or deed,  
do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks to God the Father through Him.*

*Colossians 3:17*



### Donations Required

- Teddies and other cuddly toys or dolls for adoption stall
- Bric-a-brac
- Good quality, clean, toys
- New gifts
- Books
- Tombola items
- Raffle prizes
- Items for luxury food hamper (check use-by dates!)
- Contributions to produce stall (cakes nearer the time!)

Please leave all donations in the box at the back of church.

Please sign up for a 45 minute session manning one of the stalls if you are available.

If you don't have anything to give, a cash donation towards the mince pies or other items would be gratefully received!

**Thank you!**

# 'Sharing God's Life'

- what might be God's invitation to you?!

This workshop provides an opportunity to 'get connected' to God's purposes for you, and to discover how a Rule of Life might support you in your discipleship.

*Led by the Reverend Sally Dakin, Spirituality Adviser.*

**Date: Friday 3rd November**

**Time: 7pm for 7.30pm**

**Venue: St. Mary's Church**

*Format: Input and prayer*

*Time alone; optional chat with Sally*

*Plenary and prayer*

