

Services Next Sunday— 1 April 2018

**Easter Day: 6.15am Assemble & depart from Parish Rooms for
6.30am Sunrise Prayer on the hill above Chipping Norton**

St Mary's 8am Holy Communion (BCP) Leading: Rev James Kennedy
Reading: Acts 10:34-43 (Martin Jarratt)

St James' Chapel Over Norton 9.15am: Holy Communion (BCP)
Leading: Rev Roger Simpson

St Mary's 10.45am All Age Family Communion
Leading: Rev James Kennedy Talk: Emma Kennedy
Reading: tbc Prayers: (Bill Rees)



Sharing the life-changing love of Jesus
serving our whole community

25th March 2018
Palm Sunday
Morning Worship

Contacting St Mary's

Clergy Team

Team Rector of Chipping Norton Benefice:

Rev Dr James Kennedy
☎ vicar@stmaryscnorton.com
Tel: 01608 642688
N.B. James takes his rest day on a Friday

Curate

Rev Martha Simpson
Currently on Maternity Leave

Team Vicar of Kingham & Churchill:

Rev David Salter
☎ david.salter@stmaryscnorton.com
Tel: 01608 658852
N.B. David takes his rest day on a Friday

Team Ministers:

Rev Ursula Simpson
☎ ursula.simpson@stmaryscnorton.com
Tel: 01608 674541 (Mon-Wed)

Rev Jackie Jones
☎ jackie.jones@stmaryscnorton.com
Tel: 01608 658616

Church Wardens

Linda Carpenter
Graham Povey
☎ churchwarden@stmaryscnorton.com

Financial Giving

If you would like to give to support the mission and ministry of St Mary's, may we encourage you to join our planned giving scheme. If you are a UK taxpayer you may be able to add Gift Aid which increases your giving by 25%. Please pick up a leaflet to explore ways to give or you can give online at <https://my.give.net/donations>

St Mary's is a caring fellowship.

Being a member of a **Small Group** is the best way to make sure you are both cared for, and able to care for others. For more information about joining a group please email smallgroups@stmaryscnorton.com. Otherwise, if you or anyone you know is sad or unwell, in hospital or in need of any other support, please let the Church Office know. We have a team of pastoral visitors who would love to help.

Youth, Children & Families

Jonny Lowe (Youth Worker)
☎ youth@stmaryscnorton.com
Tel: 07521 219810
N.B. Jonny takes his rest day on a Saturday

Becca Sterry (Children and Families Worker)
☎ becca.sterry@stmaryscnorton.com
Tel: 01608 645668
N.B. Becca works part-time.

Catherine Spring (School and Community Support Worker)

☎ Catherine.spring@stmaryscnorton.com
Tel: 01608 645668
N.B. Catherine works part-time.

Office

Church Administrator

Emma Bayley
☎ office@stmaryscnorton.com
Tel. 01608 646202

Administrative Manager (and Finance)

Emily O'Shea
☎ finance@stmaryscnorton.com
Tel. 01608 645668

Church Office,
St Mary's Parish Rooms, Church Street,
Chipping Norton OX7 5NT
(Office hours 09.00-11.30 weekday mornings)
Registered charity no.: 1132070

The Beatitudes: Courageous church

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of the king of Assyria and the vast army with him, for there is a greater power with us than with him.”
2 Chronicles 32:7

Welcome to today's service!

With churches around the Diocese, we're looking at how Jesus urges his church, through the Beatitudes, to shape our lives to be like him and to be Contemplative (Blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn), Compassionate (Blessed are the merciful, the peacemakers and those who hunger after justice/righteousness), and today—Courageous (Blessed are those who are persecuted, insulted, falsely accused because of Jesus). The fact that, in the Bible, God tells us not to be afraid over 100 times tells us that living for him will lead us into places or encounters that would otherwise leave us feeling afraid. It's natural to be afraid. We might not live in the sort of country where we fear for our lives when we identify ourselves as followers of Jesus, but the truth is that even stepping out and inviting a friend to come to church, or to a Christian event will leave most of us feeling afraid—afraid of rejection or ridicule. We will find ourselves afraid, but what God wants for us is that we don't allow that fear to have the final word. If we are led by him to do something, we can trust that he will also give us the strength that we need, so let's allow ourselves to be led, and at the same time, let's pray him to give us the courage that we need.

James Kennedy (Vicar)



During our 10.45 service, to serve our families, we run a supervised crèche, Ignite (for 3-5 year olds) OneWay (for children aged 6-11), and Ablaze (for youth aged 11-16). Everyone is welcome!

This Sunday - 25 February 2018

Palm Sunday (NB Clocks go forward 1 hour)

St Mary's 8am Holy Communion (BCP) Leading: Rev Victor Story
Reading: Mark 11: 1-11 OR John 12: 12-16 (Matthew Carpenter)

St James' Chapel Over Norton (No service on 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays)

St Mary's 10.45am Morning Worship (with Creche, Ignite, 'Oneway' & Ablaze)

Leading: James Kennedy Preaching: David Cranston
Reading: 2 Chronicles 32:7-8 & Matthew 5:1-9 (David/Susan Bishop) Prayers: Ann Lewis
8.00pm **Men's Curry at Spice of India**

Praying round the Deanery. This week: St Giles, Wigginton

Please pray for John Acreman and the Churchwardens, Nicholas Case & Hugo Brown..

*****NOTICES*****

A new curate at St Mary's

While Martha is on maternity leave, we are delighted to announce that we have been offered another curate to join the clergy team in July. Toby Artis will be ordained in Christ Church, Oxford on June 30th and—with his wife, Emma — will be with us from 1st July. When Martha returns at the end of the year, they will then serve alongside one another until Martha completes her training in 2020. Please see the insert for a little more information about Toby and Emma, and pray for them as they make their transition next term.



Alpha... BIG LAUNCH with 'Ace' from 1990's TV show 'Gladiators'! —7.30pm, Tues 24th April, Parish Rooms

Do you ever ask those big questions: Why am I here?; What is the purpose of life?; Where am I heading?; What has Christianity got to offer? Why not come along and join us for Alpha after Easter? Alpha

offers a wonderful opportunity, following a shared meal, for you to ask them (however awkward or daft you think they might be) in a relaxed, informal setting that makes no demands on the individual. At our launch on 24 April, we have a special guest, Warren Furman – "Ace" of the 1990s tv show, Gladiators, which should be a lot of fun. We'd love to see you there. It would also be a great evening to bring a friend along: why don't you simply pray and ask God to prompt you with a name or a face, and then ask him for the courage to invite them along & let God do the rest! For more info, pick up a flyer or e-mail Judith Marshall (alpha@stmaryscnorton.com)

Please also continue to pray for those who are part of our **Youth Alpha** on their day away this Sunday.

CAN YOU BAKE A CAKE?

Please sign up and bake a cake to support our youth mission trip to Kenya this summer..... We are serving teas at Chastleton House on the 29th March and 14th April and we would love it if you can bake us a cake. On the day people will donate money towards our trip as we serve them. Thanks for your support....If you have any questions please just speak to Jonny or email him at jonny.lowe@stmaryscnorton.com

CHURCH DIARY

THIS WEEK - 26—31 March 2018

Mon 26 Mar St Mary's Pilates (6.00-7.00pm in Parish Rooms)

Tue 27 Mar Funeral: Rev Hugh Williams (2.30pm at Long Compton church)

Wed 28 Mar St Mary's Minis (10—11.30am in Parish Rooms)

Thurs 29 Mar Maundy Thursday Communion + coffee (10am in Parish Rooms)
Passover & Communion at St Andrew's Kingham (7.30pm)

Fri 30 Mar Good Friday Reflections on the Cross (12—3pm in Church)
Meditative Service with Hymns at St Mary's Salford (12 noon)
(NB correction re venue)

Journey to Easter Interactive displays at St Mary's

Mon 26 March —Sun 1 April

Help needed for Welcoming and serving Refreshments throughout the week. Please see Christine Clinch in church to sign up on the rota. It's not too late to offer to help!

Opening Times

Mon 26 March 3pm—5.00pm **Fri 30 March 12noon— 5pm (with pauses**
Tues 27 March 12noon—8pm **pauses for thought 12—3pm)**
Wed 28 March 12noon—5.00pm **Sat 31 March 9.30am-5pm**
Thurs 29 March 9.30am—5.00pm **Sun 1 April 1—5pm**

Lilies for Easter

Traditionally, at Easter we decorate the church with Easter Lilies. People often like to make a contribution towards their cost in commemoration of loved ones, so if you'd like to do that, please direct it to the Church Office or Jo Graves tel.643976

Electoral Roll Revision With the APCM coming up on Sunday 22 April if you regard St Mary's as your spiritual home, we'd love you to show that by making sure your name is on our Electoral Roll. Forms are available at the back of the church. Please complete one and return it to Emma in Church Office..

CALENDAR OF FURTHER EVENTS

Fri 13 Apr All Day Youth Hike (Depart 9.30am and ends at Parish Rooms)
Women's World Day of Prayer - re-scheduled date
(10am and 7.30pm Services in the Methodist Church)

Sat 14 Apr Outreach Project (Dunstan Ave) re-scheduled date
(Breakfast & lunch in Parish Rooms)

Sun 22 Apr APCM Meeting (12.30pm in Parish Rooms)

Tues 24 Apr Alpha Launch (7.00-9.30pm in Parish Rooms.

Wed 25 Apr Colin Buchanan Live (5pm at St David's, Moreton-in-Marsh)

For further information, please contact the Church Office