

29th April 2018
5th Sunday of Easter
Benefice Communion

Teach us how to pray: don't worry!

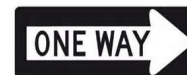
'...why do you worry..? ...seek first his kingdom and his
righteousness and all these things
will be given to you as well' *Matthew 6:28,33*

Welcome to today's service!

Some years ago an atheist campaign posted advertisements on the sides of London buses which read, "There's probably no god. Now stop worrying and enjoy your life." Two extraordinary things about the slogan were its complete failure to understand either the nature of God or the nature of humanity, especially given the backdrop of a rising epidemic of mental illness, including depression and anxiety, in a population characterised by plummeting confidence about who God is or what He promises. Our Bible passage this morning addresses that head-on. Jesus reminds us not only of how good God is and how precious we are to Him, but also of his infinite ability and desire to provide for our every need as we call upon Him. The closer we draw to God in prayer, the more powerfully and clearly we will experience Him and the assurance of His perfect provision. The more we push Him away, the more we will feel as though everything is down to us, and the greater the burden of worry we'll feel. Let's seek God first, and be overwhelmed by the way that He then works in our lives!



James Kennedy (Vicar)



ignite

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

Services This Sunday— 29 April 2018

Benefice Sunday
St Mary's NO 8am Holy Communion

St James' Chapel Over Norton (No service on 5th Sunday)

10.45am Family Communion

Leading: Rev James Kennedy & Rev David Salter **Preaching:** Richard Cunningham
Reading: Matthew 6 25-34 **Sue Coyne** **Prayers:** (Jen/Peter Williams)

Praying round the Deanery. This week: St John the Baptist, Fifield
Please pray for the parish during the Shipton benefice's vacancy.

*****NOTICES*****



Alpha 7.30pm, Tuesdays, Parish Rooms (Session 1 on 1 May)

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? 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. 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)

Volunteers needed to help with Catering on Tuesday evenings.

Please contact Brenda Davies if you can help with cooking (main meal, Veggie option or cake) or serving and clearing up. 01608 738374 or 07816 191534.



Marriage Course (Starting Monday 4th June)

We'll be running another Marriage Course at St Mary's on Monday evenings in the Summer Term—please see the larger note towards the end of the service sheet for more details (or e-mail marriagecourse@stmaryscnorton.com)

Outreach Opportunity:

Cycle Safety at St Mary's Primary School

We love the children in our town - and want to keep them safe. You probably did cycling proficiency at school... now it is run by volunteers and at St Mary's they are short of a volunteer to help them run this five week course. Are you free on a Tuesday afternoon 1-3pm and enjoy encouraging children? If so please contact Emma Kennedy 07900 976137 emma.kennedy@stmaryscnorton.com

Services Next Sunday— 6 May 2018

6th Sunday of Easter

St Mary's 8am Holy Communion (BCP) Leading: Rev James Kennedy
Preaching: Tim Kuiper. Reading: Acts 10:44- (Andy Thomson)

St James' Chapel Over Norton 9.15am Holy Communion (CW) Rev Jackie Jones & Judith Marshall

St Mary's 10.45am Family Communion (with Creche, Ignite, 'Oneway' & Ablaze)

Leading: Susan Coyne **Preaching:** Rev James Kennedy
Reading: Mark 4:30-32 & I Corinthians 2:1-5 (Emma/Johann Fourie) **Prayers:** Nicola Riley

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

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

Church Wardens

Linda Carpenter
Graham Povey
☎ churchwarden@stmaryscnorton.com
Tel: 01608 641727 (Linda)

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: 01608 645668
N.B. Jonny takes his rest day on a Saturday.

Becca Sterry (Children and Families worker)
☎ children@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 (& Finance)

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

St Mary's Parish Rooms, Church Street, Chipping Norton OX7 5NT
(Office hours 09.00-11.30 weekday mornings)

Registered charity no.: 1132070

CHURCH DIARY

THIS WEEK - 30 April —5 May 2018

- Mon 30 Apr** **Thanksgiving Service for Andrew Little** (2pm in the Church)
No St Mary's Pilates this week.
- Tue 1 May** **Alpha Course starts** (7.30pm in Parish Rooms) Set up 6pm
- Wed 2 May** **St Mary's Minis** (10—11.30am in Parish Rooms)
Thanksgiving Service for Gerald Forse (2.30pm in the church)
Followed by Refreshments in the Parish Rooms.
Members of the church family are welcome to join Eileen and her family.
NCGP Prayers (7.30pm at St Mary's CN)
- Thurs 3 May** **Midweek Communion + coffee** (10am in Parish Rooms)
- Fri 4 May** **Funeral: Julia Breed** (11am in the church)
Remix Youth Club (3.15—4.45pm at Glyme Hall)
- Sat 5 May** **Men United Breakfast** (8.30-10am in Parish Rooms)
Speaker: Jules Clarke. Contact David Bishop if interested
Tel: 01608 676113, Email: davidbish5@phonecoop.coop

Would you like to be confirmed?

On Sunday 17th June, we have Bishop Colin coming to St Mary's to lead a service of confirmation. If any of you, young or old, have been thinking about being confirmed, please do talk to or e-mail James Kennedy.

CALENDAR OF FURTHER EVENTS

- Sat 12 May** **LHNT Singing Day with Bob Chilcott** (10am-6pm in the church
and Parish Rooms)
Chastleton Teas in aid of Christian Aid. (during afternoon)
- Sun 13th to Sat 19th May** **Christian Aid Week.**
- Mon 14 May** **Come for Tea** (2.30-4pm in Parish Rooms)
- Thurs 17 May** **Chastleton Teas in aid of Christian Aid.** (during afternoon)
- Mon 4 June** **Marriage Course begins** (7.45pm in the Parish Rooms)
- Sat 16 June** **CN Choral Society's Community Singing Day Performance**
Vivaldi's Gloria & Chilcott's The Voyage. (5.30pm at St Mary's)
- Sun 24 June** **Confirmation Service** (6pm at St Mary's CN)
- Sun 24 June** **Encounter Service** (6pm at St Mary's CN)

For further information, please contact the Church Office



The Marriage Course is a series of seven sessions, designed to help couples invest in their relationship and build a stronger marriage.

Who is it for?

It is designed for couples who are married or cohabiting and seeking to strengthen their relationship and offers practical ideas and the tools to help you keep your relationship strong - whether you need urgent help, or just wanting to

build something better. May be you want to spend time investing in your marriage or you have a friend or relative who is struggling in their relationship - this might be a way of reaching out and offering them practical support.

What can you expect?

At The Marriage Course you are seating at your own table for two, served a delicious meal before a practical talk and time for private discussion between you and your partner. Background music ensures that you can chat in complete privacy and you never have to share anything about your relationship with anyone other than your partner. The Marriage Course is based on Christian principles, but everyone is welcome and the course is designed for all couples with or without a Christian faith or church background.

When?

Monday Evening 7.45-9.45pm in The Parish Rooms, starting on **Monday 4th June, 2018** for 7 weeks

If you would like to book on or have more details please email: marriagecourse@stmaryscnorton.com

Christian Aid Week: Sunday 13th May to Sat 19th May.

Would anyone be prepared to collect in Church Street? This is a road where many people will be used to the collection and it would be a shame to lose their support. We are selling teas in the church at Chastleton to visitors to Chastleton House (NT). Would anyone like to help on the afternoons of 12th May (Sat) and/or 17th May (Thursday)?

Could you provide a cake that could be cut into large slices?

Contact Fiona Rossington on 01608 643344 or lfrossington@hotmail.co.uk (NB: the first letter is a lower case L)