



St. Mary's Church
Chiddingfold

Spring 2018 NEWSLETTER



Time

Talent

Treasure

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Gifts are often at the forefront of our minds at this time of year – we are still paying for them, we need to return them, or we are wondering what to do with them! The gifts that God has given us fall into the last category. It isn't always easy to discern these gifts – a clue is that we usually enjoy activities, and find fulfilment in roles, where they are engaged. Trying new experiences outside our comfort zones too can be surprisingly rewarding! The challenges of the year ahead present us with an opportunity to pull together to be the best disciples we can be; to discern our gifts and to grow in willingness for those gifts – in every sense – our time, talent and treasure – to be used to God's glory.

As you turn the pages of your pristine diary to make a note of all the events coming up, take time to think and pray about how your God given time, talent and treasure might be used to reflect your discipleship as part of St Mary's and the wider village community. What tangible contribution you might make this year...?

... February

Sunday, 4th February

10am – Parish Communion - Guest Preacher

We will welcome Revd Iain McKillop as our guest preacher. Iain is painter and art historian working mainly in the field of Christian religious art. He has exhibited in many cathedrals and churches throughout the United Kingdom. We are delighted that Iain has agreed to lead our Lent Course this year – see further on for dates and times.

6.30pm – Candlemas Evensong

The presentation of Christ in the Temple led by Rev Geoffrey Curtis.

Wednesday, 14th February – Ash Wednesday

Services of Holy Communion at 9.30am and 7pm with distribution of ashes. A reminder of earthly mortality and eternal hope, along with a challenge – not 'what are we going to give up' but 'what are we going to take up for God with all that we have been given?'

Saturday, 17th February – Gigantic Jumble Sale

There will be a Gigantic Jumble Sale at the Village Hall from 2 pm. Refreshments will be on sale to sustain you whilst you shop. Entrance 50p. Please bring items for sale to the Hall from 11 am or leave at the Rectory in advance. This event is an important fund raiser for our Church please be generous in your support.



Saturday 24th February 10 – 12pm,

Christenings 'Drop-In' morning in the church room.

Our friendly team will be on hand to answer queries and provide more information. Coffee, cake & crafts.

Monday, 26th February – 8 - 9pm, Lent Course begins

The first of three sessions reflecting on the themes of Lent, Holy Week and Easter through art and music, led by Revd Iain McKillop. In the church room.

Other dates: 5th and 12th March, same time and place.

Tuesday 27th February – Church Explorers Outing

The visit will focus on the Haslemere churches which have interesting Arts and Crafts Movement connections and, of course, a pub lunch together. Contact Ruth Goddard (ruthg17@gmx.co.uk) for more details.

... March

Friday, 2nd March - Women's World Day of Prayer

A short service at 10.30am provides an opportunity to join with women around the world celebrating this year's theme that all God's creation is good.

Sunday, 4th March – visit from The Bishop of Dorking

The Rt Revd Dr Jo Bailey-Wells will preach and preside at our 10am Parish Communion.



Sunday, 11th March – Mothering Sunday

Our 10am service will be wonderful opportunity for all ages to worship together. Posies will be given.

Saturday, 17th March – Friends of St Mary's Event: Godalming Rock Choir & Dinner – 7.00 for 7.30pm in the Village Hall

By popular demand The Friends of St Mary's are delighted to offer another evening with the Godalming Rock Choir. Come and enjoy a free glass of wine on arrival, followed by a two course meal with musical entertainment. For tickets (£30 each) contact Jo Lavis (01428 682160) or Andrew Steward (01428 684613). All proceeds to the Friends of St Mary's Church, preserving the heritage of the church building.

Sunday, 18th March – Friends of St Mary's Church AGM

As well as celebrating the vital work of The Friends during the 10am Parish Communion service, the Annual General Meeting will be held at 12 noon in the church room.

Sunday, 25th March – Palm Sunday: 'Deep Space'

As well as 10am Parish Communion there will be a Holy Week reflective session led by Revd Geoffrey Curtis, 4 - 5.30pm in the church and church room.

Monday, 26th March – Holy Week Supper and Talk: 7pm in the Village Hall

Look out for further information nearer the time.

Maudy Thursday, 29th March

There will be a 'bring and share' supper at 6.30 pm in the church room followed by Holy Communion at 8.00 pm in the church.

Good Friday, 30th March

Walk of Witness - 10.30 am: meet at St Mary's to begin a walk around the village following the cross.

The Last Hour - 2.00 pm: service of reflection and prayer keeping watch with Jesus.

Holy Saturday, 31st March – Easter Eve

At 6.30 pm a 45m reflective service of readings, reflections, music and prayer as we prepare for the dawn of Easter Day.

... April

Sunday, 1st April – Easter Day

Celebrating the new life, joy and hope in the Resurrection at 8am, 10am and 6.30pm.

Saturday, 21st April - Quintessentially English Sale 10.30 – 3.30pm at the village hall.

Come to this popular event to buy unusual gifts and quirky items for your home and garden.

Sunday, 22nd April – Bring and share lunch event

to launch St Mary's Parish Funding Programme – 'securing our financial future'. More details to follow.

Sunday, 29th April – Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) at 11.45 am

Open to all members. Come to elect your leadership representatives and hear more about future plans and priorities.

... advance notice of a May date

Saturday, 12th May – Gift Day and Flower Festival

Come to enjoy the flowers and support the heritage of St Mary's Church – more information soon.

... for families there is so much going on over the next few months there isn't space to list it all here! Please refer to the Spring Family Flyer in church/ on website.

... and regular events that happen every month

Messy Church – 4pm to 6pm. No charge!

(11th Feb, 11th March, 15th April)

Can you help? Volunteers needed to assist with a wide range of roles. Contact Hannah - hanbpye@gmail.com



Churchyard Working Party – 9.30 – 12pm

(3rd Feb, 3rd March, 7th April)

Willing hands always welcome to help keep the churchyard tidy. Come and join this very sociable work out once a month.



Hearing Aid Clinic – 10 – 12pm

(20th Feb, 20th March, 17th April)

Come to St. Mary's Church Room for free hearing aid adjustment and service. Stay to enjoy tea, cake and good company. Please bring your brown NHS book.



In other news

Our congregation grew for the second year running during 2017. Forward this newsletter to someone you know who might like to know more about us – there's something for everyone at St. Mary's!

You will see a new face in the pulpit very soon! Richard Flenley is commencing his training as an Occasional Preacher and we wish him well.



This newsletter is compiled by Jane Bell and any feedback, comments or suggestions are most welcome - jane.bell@btinternet.com)