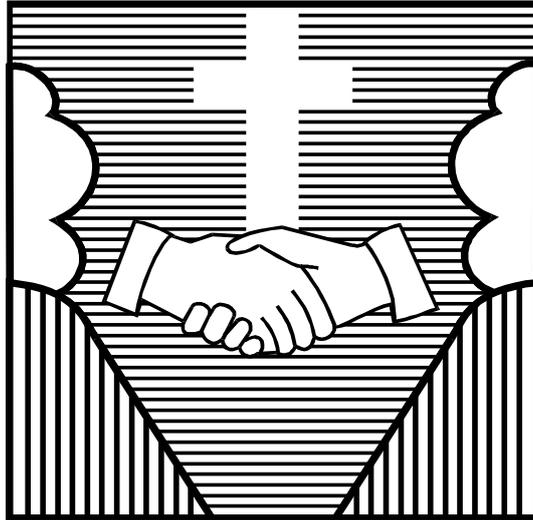


The Valley



Church

We are ordinary people led by an extraordinary God, whose love inspires us to welcome everyone, serve our communities and grow as we follow Jesus together

20th August 2017 – Tenth Sunday after Trinity

10.30 Service of the Word in the Chapel

Services – August/September 2017

27 Aug	09.30	Holy Communion at St Mary's with Dave Bull & Roland Slade
	12.30	Lantern BBQ at 8 Badgers Way (all members of all congregations most welcome!)
3 Sept	09.30	Holy Communion with Graham Watts
	11.00	Lantern in The Chapel with Graham & Sami Watts
10 Sept	09.30	Holy Communion with Roland Slade & Dave Bull

NEWS AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Vicarage Telephone - Graham & Sami have a new telephone number - 01628 440106

Across the 4u team of Churches we run **THE ALPHA COURSE**. This is a **community** of people **open** to thinking, sharing and **questioning** God, Life and the big questions that go with them. This could be for you or it could be for a friend you could invite.

Alpha has a great website with information about the course, videos that give you a taste of what goes on and stories of people who have done the course and how it has helped them. Do have a look at www.alpha.org

Our next course starts on Thursday 28th September 7.30-9.30pm at 165 Marlow Bottom. More details can be found here <http://4u-team.org/alpha/>

Should Thursday not be convenient there is a course starting Tuesday 26th September from 7.45-9.45 at All Saints Church Hall, Marlow, and lasting for 10 weeks, including a break for Half Term. Each evening includes a delicious meal. Please take a form to sign up or speak to any of the clergy.

Sunday 3rd September will see a change in how the children's work will be done at our 11am Lantern Service. Up till now, our whole service on the first Sunday of the month has been at the Chapel, with the children all together in the lower hall there for 'Lantern Kids'. However, with the number of children, and the wide age-range, we have decided to trial a new system this coming term. The older children will meet at St. Mary's from 11 - 11.40 so there will be a couple of leaders setting up after the 9.30 service and children arriving just before 11. We hope all the 9.30 regulars will enjoy a bit of crossover with this younger group, and still feel able to enjoy coffee time together from 10.30 till 11. Please do feedback to Rosemary Lewis or any of the clergy or wardens your thoughts on this change.

A new term means lots more opportunities to pray! We start our regular Monday prayer slots on Monday 4th September 8-9pm at 165 Marlow Bottom. All are welcome to pray for the building of God's kingdom here in Marlow Bottom. There will be new prayer calendars coming out for September soon.

What the Papers say Sermon Series

In this series we shall be taking a story from the "Papers" (or TV/Tablet/Interweb!) and looking at it through the 'lens' of the Bible. A Bible passage will be chosen by the preacher to look at and use, as together we ask what God has to say about the media story. How should we respond as God's people? How can we articulate our response such that it gets others thinking? God's love for us shown in Jesus isn't a distant love but a getting the hands dirty love. He cares passionately what is going on in the world and he wants his people to as well. That's why we are doing this series together.

August is a quieter month in church life, but we really hope that many of us will be able to make the opportunities to get together over food - the Methodist chapel 'drop ins' are great for that, as are the barbecues. Do please come along to these events. If you are able to **attend the barbecue on the 27th August**, please let Sue Bartram know, and also do bring an edible contribution if you can!

Youth Intern 2017/18

As some of you will know, we have really enjoyed having Hannah Fitzgerald as our youth intern over the past six months. Sadly, Hannah's time came to an end in July, but we hope very much that we might find another intern for September 2017 - July 2018. One issue, though, is that we would need to find accommodation for such a person. There would be a small financial allowance for a host household and the practicalities, of course, would have to be carefully worked out. But maybe this is something you could prayerfully consider? - If you think YOU could be that host, then please do let us know. Many thanks.

CONCERT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AT ALL SAINTS MARLOW

2nd Sept Chiltern Arts Festival Launch – Academy of Ancient Music

30th Sept Ascot Brass & Choir in aid of Rotary charities.

Please send any items of news to the Parish Office

parish.office@4u-team.org

by 9am on Wednesday

Tel: 01628 481806



four churches,
one vision

TOGETHER IN PRAYER 4U Team

Week beginning 20th August

A Prayer for Guidance Living God, you do not compel us to serve you but you invite us rather to respond to your love; you do not impose your will upon us or dictate the course we should take, but instead you offer your guidance, giving us signposts to walk by, yet ultimately leaving the decisions we must make in our hands. We thank you for this wonderful expression of trust, this freedom to choose and discover for ourselves and we ask that you will help us to use it wisely; trusting you in return, and seeking, so far as we understand it, to honour your will. Give us wisdom and courage to make the right decisions at the right time and in the right place, to the glory of your name. Amen

Give thanks for summer holidays, time to rest and refresh, catch up with friends and family and give thanks to God for all the blessings we have.

Pray for the young people receiving exam results, may they be rewarded for their work and application, but may they also remember when one door closes God will open another.

Give thanks for our friends, families and carers, all who support and nurture us; for the joy of sharing worship together and for a shared hospitality. Help us to be an open and welcoming church to all and any who seek to know our Lord better and to draw closer to God. Help us to be tolerant and respectful to each other and all whom we meet.

Pray for the opportunities to move forward in the power of a new Spirit as we grow in new and exciting directions as ordinary people with our extraordinary God. **Pray** for our Team Council that there will be new ways to include all our congregations in a generous and inclusive church community, where all are valued and loved equally. **Pray** that the exciting potential opportunities for growth will be discerned by prayer and careful consideration with God's guiding hand

Pray all those fleeing from oppression, violence and poverty, they may find a welcome and a safe haven offering hope, security and love for the future.

Pray for the people of Yemen whose war ravaged country is now facing famine and the worst outbreak of cholera in recent history; pray for those working in the most challenging conditions to bring relief. **Pray** for all those victims and survivors of recent tragic events that the support they need will be forthcoming, and they will slowly heal and know they are not forgotten.

Pray for Christians who are persecuted for their faith

Pray for all whose lives continue to be broken by the effects of escalating terrorist attacks in Afghanistan, Syria, and Mosul. **Pray** for the people of Venezuela and Columbia at this time of unrest

Pray for those who are sick in body mind or spirit and all those who have asked for our prayers, give thanks for those who are healing. **Pray** for those who are elderly and housebound, no longer able to get to church and who feel forgotten.

Pray for those who have recently died, all who are still missed, may those who mourn all know the peace and love of Christ, and his promise of eternal life.