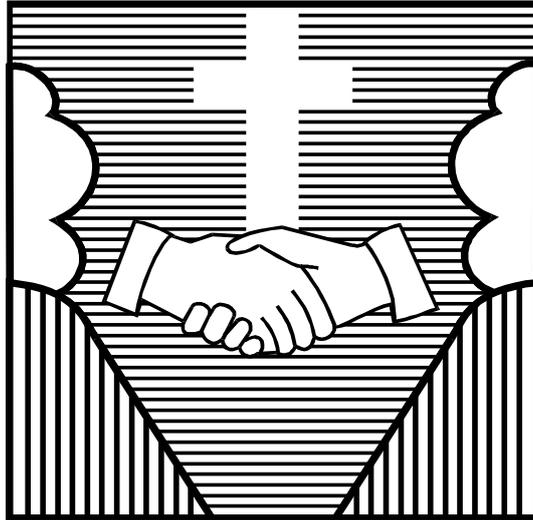


The Valley



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

3rd September 2017 – Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

09.30 Holy Communion with Sami Watts
11.00 Lantern in The Chapel with Graham & Sami Watts

Services – September 2017

10 Sept	09.30	Holy Communion with Roland Slade & Dave Bull
17 Sept	09.30	Lantern Holy Communion in The Chapel
	11.00	Lantern at St. Mary's with Graham & Sami Watts
24 Sept	09.30	Holy Communion with Sami Watts

NEWS AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

Our house group is meeting on Tuesday 6th September at 7.30 at 3 Badgebury Rise for more learning and sharing together. We are included in the Small Groups brochure for this term and a small number of new members would be very welcome.

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.

Smallgroups4U for autumn term We are pleased to announce the new programme of Small Groups for the autumn term goes live today! Please pick up a brochure from church or go to the website at 4u-team.org/smallgroups to see what we have on offer this term. There is a great variety so hope you find something that interests you to help you grow in relationships and faith and have fun! If you wish to continue in an existing group that is one of the ones advertised, you will still need to sign up, but your group leader may have done this for you so check with them. If you have any questions please email smallgroups@4u-team.org

Sanctuary 8.00pm 7th September, Bisham Church. Space for peace and stillness drawing on the Christian heritage of meditation, prayer, music and art. New leaflet listing future dates available at the back of church.

Churches Together in Marlow. There will be a **Men's Breakfast** meeting at Harleyford Golf Club at 8.30 am on Saturday 9th September. Vaughan Wickins (accompanied by his wife Virginia) will speak on the Refugee crisis in the Middle East. Enjoy good company, a bacon bap and coffee, and an uplifting message - £5 pay on arrival. To avoid clashing with the men's meeting, the **monthly prayer meeting has been brought forward to Saturday 2nd Saturday** (9 am at Christ Church URC).

Youth Intern 2017/18

As some of you will know, we really enjoyed having Hannah Fitzgerald as our youth intern and 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 AT ALL SAINTS MARLOW

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

THE OSILIGI MAASAI WARRIORS Sun 1st October at 7.30pm at All Saints' Marlow

After their thrilling sell-out concert in 2013, The Osiligi Maasai Warriors return to All Saints' Marlow to perform on Sunday 1st October at 7.30pm. ENTRY IS FREE, with A RETIRING COLLECTION. The concert is part of their 2017 UK tour and as our audience last time will confirm, the troupe are stunning performers. Their performances are a sensation to watch, with all audiences, aged 5-95, being enthralled and excited by their natural rhythm and song. Their jumping too is really something to behold! All performances are narrated. It's an unforgettable unique event, NOT TO BE MISSED!!

If you are a keen photographer you may wish to enter the Marlow Conservation Area Photo Competition. There are two age categories – under 16 and over 16 and the closing date is 7th September. More details can be found at www.marlowsociety.org.uk.

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 3rd September

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** now for all teachers and pupils returning to school, those starting school for the first time, those moving up to a new year group, those moving to a new school and to university and those still uncertain of their future. Pray that they will all be excited and eager with new things to learn and discover and may they grow in love and understanding.

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 in Spain, that the support they need will be forthcoming, and they will slowly heal and know they are not forgotten. **Pray** for all those whose lives have been lost, those who mourn their loss and whose homes devastated. Pray for all people in Houston and other areas, whose lives, homes and livelihoods have been changed forever as a result of the devastation of the hurricane and escalating floods. Pray for those risking much to bring rescue, relief and support, comfort and strength to heal and rebuild broken lives.

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.