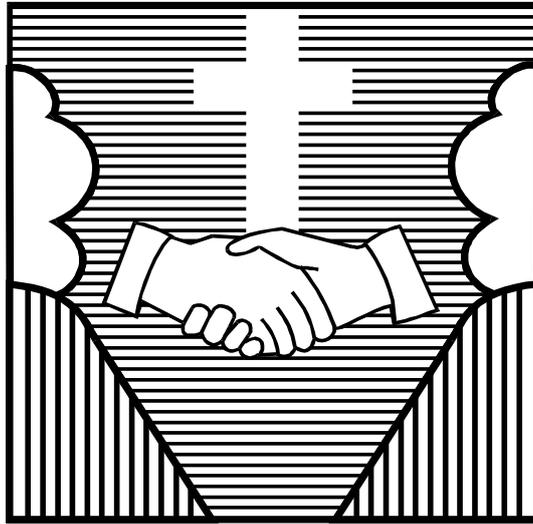


The Valley



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

19th November 2017 – 2nd Sunday before Advent

09.30 Lantern Holy Communion in the Chapel
11.00 Lantern Family Service at St Mary's with Graham & Sami Watts

Services – November/December 2017

26 Nov	09.30	Holy Communion with Gabrielle Smith & Roland Slade
03 Dec	09.30	Holy Communion with Gabrielle Smith & Roland Slade
	11.00	Lantern Family Service in The Chapel with Graham & Sami
10 Dec	09.30	Holy Communion with Graham Watts
	16.00	Lantern Lights Christingle with Graham & Sami Watts

NEWS AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

There will be an opportunity for early risers to meet to pray at 7am tomorrow morning at 165 Marlow Bottom.

Unfortunately we have had to cancel the race night on November 25th. We're sorry for any disappointment and inconvenience caused.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Mary Glover following the death of Garry on 10th November. The funeral will be held on Monday 27th November at 1pm at the Milton Chapel, Amersham Crematorium. We also send our condolences to Richard and Ryz (Maria) and the rest of the family at this sad time.

This year, our **Christingle service** is going to be slightly different as we are going to combine it with some elements of our 'Lantern Lights' service. So, as well as the traditional Christingle oranges, we are also hoping to provide a sandwich tea for the children who come and mulled wine & mince pies for the adults. If you can help by making cake, sandwiches or preparing the mull, please let Sami know. The service is on December 10th at 4pm, here at St. Mary's.

As a fun, festive and relaxed way of getting together before Christmas, all the 9.30 congregation are very warmly invited to an **Advent Tea at the Methodist Chapel on Saturday 16th December 3-4.30pm**. For more information, please contact Sue Bartram (472092) or Jennie Lewis (07703 361539).

ALL SAINTS MARLOW CONCERT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TODAY at 3pm – Wycombe Abbey School making a welcome return visit. There will be tea & cake!

9th Dec: Marlow Choral Workshop & Concert of Christmas music

16th Dec: Bucks Symphonic Wind Ensemble

BARCLAY'S BANK MARLOW have very generously offered to collect food for needy families in Lane End and, if successful, 4 more branches will also launch the appeal in the run up to Christmas. If you are passing Barclay's at the top of the High Street, any food items dropped into the shopping trolley in the Bank will be gratefully received.

HELP WANTED

The Marlow Team Sleepout is on 24th November. For the event to take place we need: **Stewards** who are prepared to be on duty in 2 hour shifts from 11pm until the sleepout finishes about 7:30am

If you are willing to help to make this event as successful as previous sleepouts please email Muriel at muriel.reynolds@4u-team.org or ring 473020. And don't forget you can always take part in the sleepout by joining others in the churchyard to sleep rough in aid of Wycombe Homeless Connection (advance registration required) or sponsor someone who is.

**Readings for next week: James 5: 7-11
Mark 8: 34-38**

TOGETHER IN **PRAYER** 4U Team

Week beginning 19th November

A Prayer for one another Almighty God, accept and make holy all that we are, all that we have and all that we offer you. Keep us firm in faith, strong in service, and create in us a new heart, that we may respond to your great love; for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen

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. **Give thanks** for the beauty of our towns and cities for the advantages we enjoy, for the abundant food we can eat, for our homes and gardens, for safety and the many leisure opportunities we have, for the wonderful education our children receive and the hope they can have in their futures. Remember those who have none of these things, especially the millions of displaced children across the world who have no access to any sort of education.

Pray for the people of Yemen, isolated and facing starvation a cholera epidemic and devastation of crops, homes and livelihoods. **Pray** the embargo will be lifted and aid allowed into the country to bring some relief to the millions at risk.

Pray for those involved with the negotiations around Brexit, for patience, grace and generosity.

Pray for the Prime Minister and all those in government at this time of confusion and unrest.

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 particularly in the matter of Holy Trinity Church.

Pray for the success of the Alpha courses bringing new people to faith.

Pray for all those fleeing from oppression, violence and poverty, in Europe they may find a welcome and a safe haven offering hope, security and love for the future. **Pray** especially for the escalating crisis of the Rohingya community fleeing violence in Myanmar resulting from religious intolerance and for Coptic Christians in Egypt facing persecution for their faith.

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, or living in residential homes with few friends or visitors especially members of our church family.

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

St Mary's
Marlow
Bottom



four churches,
one vision