

THE OTHER SIDE

All Saints
Marlow



31st December 2017 – 1st Sunday after Christmas

08.00 Holy Communion (said)
09.15 Holy Communion (sung)
10.59 Informal Service

Mieke Gaynor & John Smith
Mieke Gaynor & John Smith
Pat Reading & Sami Watts

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

ALPHA

Asking questions about faith?

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith. The local Alpha Course (alpha.org) starts with a taster session on Monday January 22nd 2018 at 10 am. The course will run on Monday mornings for 10 weeks 10am-12 noon (no session on Monday 12th February – half term). Refreshments will be served. Creche provided for babies and pre-school children.

Contact: Vanessa Faulkner
vanessa.faulkner2@gmail.com (01628 477685)
or The Parish Office parish.office@4u-team
(01628 481806) to register

Tonight Sunday 31st December – There is no Evensong service at 5.30pm.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed towards the cost of flowers for Christmas decoration, and huge thanks to the ladies (plus David & Dennis) who made the church look so beautiful. *Heather & Helen*

A message from Dave & the Churchwardens

We would like to wish you a Happy New Year, and a time of many blessings. We look forward to worshipping and sharing with you in the year ahead, as we see all the amazing things that God has planned for us. *With love, Dave, Ruth and Julie*

In the coming week

Sanctuary at All Saints Bisham Thursday 4th January at 8pm – space for peace & stillness.
Contact Sarah Fitzgerald 481167 or sarah.fitzgerald@4u-team.org

Other notices

SUMMARY OF CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: NOVEMBER 27TH

- **Narthex development** – We were informed that 3 quotes have been received for the work and it was agreed that subject to obtaining a suitable quotation endorsed by our architect that is acceptable to the donor, we enter into a contract with the agreed company. This will now be taken for Team Council approval.
- **Protection of Graves** – we are applying for a faculty relating to a scheme to protect gravestones from vehicular damage
- **Health and Safety** – we had a comprehensive report from James Stacey (our Health and Safety Officer) and we agreed to support all the recommended actions
- **Finance** – The 2018 budget was approved and includes a task to raise an additional ~£25,000 this year
- **Holy Trinity Church Update** – a team has been formed to take things forward, under the leadership of Pat Reading. Dave has provided a separate update on this project
- **Operations Coordinator** – we are delighted to announce that Paul Taylor has taken on this role on a voluntary basis, working alongside Liz Kendall-Jones who will be Operations Administrator

Holy Trinity Church - communication

Over the past weeks, there has been some significant developments concerning the possible purchase of Holy Trinity Church on Wethered Road. A Church Forum has been held and four information emails have been sent out to the church family. If you are not on email or have not received these emails, copies are available at the back of church today. If you would like to be added to the database and included on future emails, please either fill in one of the purple Welcome Cards at the back of church and leave it in the tray marked "Welcome Cards" or email the parish office on parish.office@4u-team.org

Please join us for coffee in the Church Hall after the 9.15am service

Please could any information for The Other Side be sent to the Parish Office by 9am on Wednesdays. Many thanks

SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Tuesday 10.30 Holy Communion
Wednesday 08.15 Morning Prayer
Friday 19.00 Healing Service with Communion

Next Sunday 7th January 2018 Baptism of Christ
08.00 Holy Communion (said)
09.15 Holy Communion (sung) with Baptism
10.59 Informal Service
17.30 Epiphany Carol Service

Readings: Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2: 1-12

Together PRAYER 4U Team

Week beginning 31st December 2017

A Prayer for Christmas: Lord Jesus, this Christmas as we sing the familiar carols, hear the familiar readings and ponder on familiar mysteries, give to us the gift of pure worship – that ability which Mary had of attributing to you your true worth, your full value, your inestimable greatness. Teach us to be reverent; yet teach us how to express the love that burns within our hearts as we think of your goodness to us that you have come to be our light in darkness, our hope in despair, our strength in weakness, our shelter in the storm – yes, and our eternal Saviour.



Pray for peace, hope and faith in the New Year

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 especially at this time of Christmas.

Give thanks for the uplifting services of Carols, Christingles, and Nativities that we have enjoyed in schools and churches in Marlow, for the joyful occasions with our many children and young people and for the quiet moments to reflect on the magnitude of God's gift of his son and the impact that should have on our lives and how we need to respond as a church and individually. Pray for forgiveness of those who wilfully ignore this message of love and peace to all men and women.

Pray for all those at home and abroad whose lives have been altered by violence terrorist acts and severe weather and tragic accidents. **Pray** that all those fleeing from oppression, violence and poverty, may find a welcome and a safe haven offering hope, security and love for the future. **Pray** for those in our neighbourhood facing financial hardship and homelessness, adults and children unable to afford Christmas at all. **Pray** for those who made sacrifices at this time to provide food, warmth and comfort for those in need.

Pray for the opportunities to move forward in the power of a new Spirit in the New Year 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 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 recovering in hospital or at home. **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

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four churches,
one vision