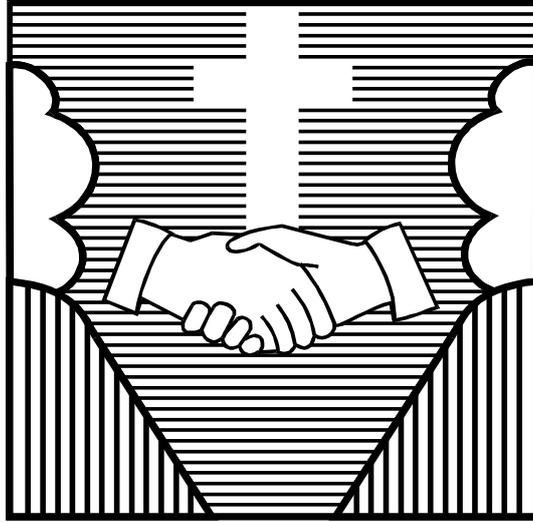


The Valley



Church

**One church of all ages, with a vibrant, dynamic, worshipping heart,
reaching out with the love of Christ to Marlow Bottom and beyond**

28th January 2018 – 4th Sunday of Epiphany

**09.30 Holy Communion with Prayer Ministry with
Roland Slade & Sami Watts**

**16.00 Lantern Lights with Graham & Sami Watts
18.30 Be Still (lay led)**

Services – February

**04 Feb 09.30 Holy Communion with Roland Slade & Graham Watts
11.00 Lantern in The Chapel with Graham & Sami Watts**

11 Feb 09.30 Holy Communion with Duncan Cronchey & Dave Bull

**18 Feb 09.30 Holy Communion in The Chapel
11.00 Lantern in St. Mary's with Graham & Sami Watts**

**25 Feb 09.30 Holy Communion with Prayer Ministry with Sami Watts
16.00 Lantern Lights with Graham & Sami Watts**

NEWS AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

This evening, you are invited to **'Be Still'**, a new, lay-led reflective service with prayer at 6.30 at St Mary's. This is the first of a series which will also take place on 25th March (at the Chapel), 27th May, not 25th as previously stated, (St Mary's) and 29th July (the Chapel). Each service will be slightly different but all will be an opportunity for quiet and calm."

LENT COURSE - Graeme Slocombe will be running a Lent course this year, based on a booklet written by the Bishop of Oxford, entitled Abundant Life, reflections on the raising of Lazarus. The course will run on 4 Tuesdays, (7.30 - 9pm), 27th Feb, 6th, 13th and 20th March. Venue [3 Badgebury Rise, Marlow Bottom, SL7 3QA](#). The booklets cost £2.50, and as he needs to order them soon, please let him know if you want one. (07785 262078 or email graeme_slocombe50@hotmail.co.uk)

You would be welcome to join for all 4 weeks, or for whichever evenings you can make.

ALPHA

It's not too late to join the daytime Alpha course running at All Saints' Marlow on Monday mornings 10am to 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

Have you ever thought about being confirmed? The next Confirmation Service in our area is on Sunday March 4th in the evening at St Mark's Church in Bourne End. There will be Confirmation classes run for adults and young people in preparation for the Service, please speak to Graham or Sami if you are interested.

At any time in the life of a church, there are people who are struggling - through illness, bereavement or other circumstances. There is a lot of care that already goes on in our congregations, but there is also a need for others to get involved. If you would be interested in finding out more about this, Sami will be running **1 more training evening in January - Tuesday 30th, 8-9.30pm at 165 Marlow Bottom**. Please contact her if you are interested Sami.watts@4u-team.org or 01628 440106

Another way we can be involved in supporting others is through prayer. Alan Greening, from the chapel, sends out regular emails updating prayer requests and prayer needs. If you are not on Alan's circulation list and would like to be, again, please contact Sami.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Women's World Day of Prayer service will now be held at Marlow Bottom Methodist Chapel on Friday 2nd March. More details to follow.

CONCERT AT ALL SAINTS MARLOW

Sat 3rd February Chiltern Arts Festival – Russian Choral Music. Further information from naomi.taylor@nltevents.com

Readings for next week: Romans 6: 1-11 Mark 1: 4-18

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

Together **PRAYER** **4U Team**
Week beginning 28th^t January 2018

A Prayer for Epiphany: O God our Father, Creator of the universe, whose son, Jesus Christ, came to our world, pour your Holy Spirit upon your Church, that all the people of the world, being led through the knowledge of your truth to worship you, may offer the gold of intellect, the frankincense of devotion and the myrrh of discipline to him who is with you and the Holy Spirit who lives and reigns forever one God, world without end. Amen (Church of Sri Lanka)

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, to use our gifts in service to you and to all.

Pray that we will grow good habits of prayer, learning more of your word and growing in faith.

Pray for Sarah, Henry and James who will be baptised today and for their families and supporters, as they start their Christian journeys of faith and love in Jesus.

Give thanks 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, severe weather and tragic accidents, especially the people of California, hardly recovering from devastating wild fires and now victims of destructive mudslides.

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. **Pray** for those who provide food, warmth and comfort for those in need.

Pray for the Wycombe Shelter and the many volunteers who make it work, and for those coming for shelter and succour.

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 as we take time to review the last year and plan for the year ahead. Grant all members, patience discernment and tolerance give each respect for other's opinions and grace to reach a consensus that will enable all our congregations to feel part of a generous and inclusive church community, where all are valued and loved equally and all voices are heard.

Pray for those who are sick in body mind or spirit and all those who struggle to make sense of their lives, 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. **Pray** for those recovering in hospital or at home; those waiting for further treatment; those coming to terms with disability or changed lifestyles. **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 healing presence



four churches,
one vision