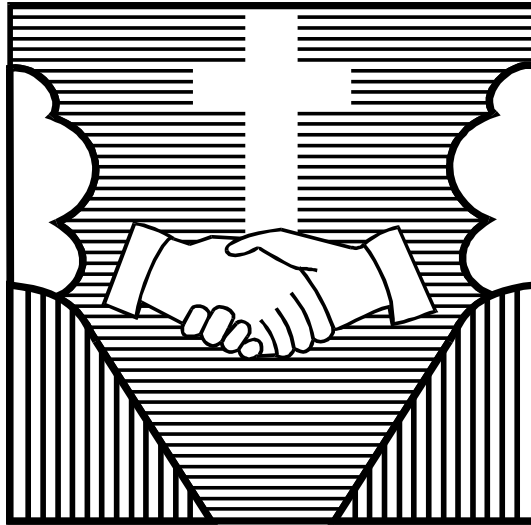


The Valley



Church

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

4th March 2018 – Third Sunday of Lent

09.30 Holy Communion with Sami Watts

11.00 Lantern in The Chapel with Graham & Sami Watts

Services in March

11 March 10.00 Lantern All Age Service at St. Mary's for Mothering Sunday with Graham & Sami Watts

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

**25 March 09.30 Holy Communion with Prayer Ministry with Roland Slade & Sarah Fitzgerald
16.00 Lantern Lights with Graham & Sami Watts
18.30 Be Still - a time for reflection - at the Chapel**

28 March 20.00 Evening Prayer with Sarah Fitzgerald

NEWS AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Confirmation Service There is a Confirmation Service taking place this evening, **March 4th, at 6pm**, at St Mark's Church in Bourne End. We have a number of young people and adults being confirmed and it would be great if you could come along to support them.

There will be an opportunity for early risers to meet at 165 Marlow Bottom to pray **tomorrow 7-8am**

Children and Communion presentation by Yvonne Morris, Diocesan Children's Officer, on Monday 5th March, 7.45pm at All Saints' Church, Marlow. The Team Council wish to consider adopting a policy of admitting children to communion before they are confirmed. This meeting is an important part of the necessary consultation and Yvonne has lots of experience of working with churches on this issue. Do come and find out more and have an opportunity to ask questions.

The Footprints Service – a service for anyone who has lost a child, or been affected by such a loss – which was due to take place on 2nd March had to be postponed because of snow. It will now take place on **Friday 9th March** at 7.30pm at St Peter and St Paul's Church, Medmenham.

NEXT WOMENS BREAKFAST, SATURDAY 10th MARCH 9-11am All Saints Church Hall. Speaker Wendy Bull. Suggested donation £5. To reserve a place, please give names to Parish Office 01628 481806 parish.office@4u-team.org

Be Still' our second lay led reflective service will be at the Chapel at 6.30pm on Sunday 25th March.

Churches Together in Marlow

Copies of the latest newsletter are available at the back of the church.

LENT COURSE - Graeme Slocombe is running a Lent course, based on a booklet written by the Bishop of Oxford, entitled Abundant Life, reflections on the raising of Lazarus. The course is running on **Tuesdays, 6th, 13th and 20th March at 7.30-9pm.**

Venue - [3 Badgebury Rise, Marlow Bottom, SL7 3QA](#). (07785 262078 or email graeme_slocombe50@hotmail.co.uk). Although the course has started you are welcome to join for whichever evenings you can make.

Smallgroups 4 Summer As we start to see the signs of spring and better weather to come it is time to start thinking about Small groups for the summer term. We would like to have our usual mix of groups providing opportunities to meet others, have fun and learn something new, from social and interest groups to courses and Bible study. We would especially like to see some that make the most of the warmer weather. So have a think if you would like to lead a group and what ideas you have. Submissions for groups must be completed by 16th March. For a form or if you have questions please email smallgroups@4u-team.org

HANDY CROSS RESURFACING work, which was due to finish this weekend has been halted because of the bad weather. Work will resume on the weekend of 16th March.

CONCERTS AT ALL SAINTS MARLOW

10th March 7.00pm Chiltern Concert Band with Borlase Junior Girls Choir. Tickets on the door £10. (£5 children & students) **Please note revised time**

17th March 7.30pm Rotary hosted concert with music from Chiltern Music Academy. Tickets Marlow Information Centre.

WYCOMBE DEANERY RETREAT DAY

Wed 23rd May 10-3pm @ The Mill House Turville. Lunch & refreshments provided. £5pp
Contact suemorton131@gmail.com tel:01491 639286

Vacancy for a Regional Manager (Church Resources) at Embrace the Middle

East. One year fixed term flexible part time position working within Embrace's Fundraising & Marketing Team to develop, produce & market engaging content for church & other faith-based resources, helping to build relationships within church structures & congregations. More details via our jobs page on www.embraceme.org/vacancies.

The next session of **Marlow Healing Rooms** will be at Christ Church URC on Saturday 10th March. 10am - 12noon.

Readings for next week: Exodus 2: 1-10 John 3: 14-21

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

St Mary's
Marlow
Bottom



four churches,
one vision

TOGETHER IN PRAYER 4U TEAM

Week beginning 4th March 2018

A Prayer for Lent You, Lord Jesus, knew great power, to heal, to transform, to proclaim the reign of God. So you met great temptations. The wrong way, glittering and possible, was open; you could rule if you chose, in majesty and wonder, more victorious than Alexander, more imperial than Caesar. But you said No, simply, decisively, forever, for us. Holy Spirit of God, enable us to respond to temptation with the strength of your word within us, so that we may hold firm to our calling and take your better way in faithfulness. 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, to use our gifts in service to you and to all.

Pray for those who will be baptised today, for their families and friends

Give thanks for the quiet moments this coming Lent to reflect on the magnitude of God's gift of his son and the impact his life and death should have on our lives and how we need to respond as a church and individually.

Pray for the suffering people in Eastern Ghouta, that those with the power and authority will cease their inhumane bombardment and allow aid to reach the innocent victims of this violent conflict

Pray for all those at home and abroad whose lives have been altered by violence, terrorist acts, 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.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Pray for those in our neighbourhood facing financial hardship and homelessness. **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. Pray for those suffering the effects of this extremely cold weather

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 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. Guide us to use our resources wisely.

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 treatment; those coming to terms with disability or changed lifestyles. **Pray** for those who have recently died and those who are still missed and give thanks for their lives; may those who mourn them know the peace and love of Christ and his healing presence. **Give thanks** for those who have been healed and restored to health.