

# THE OTHER SIDE

4<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

All Saints  
Marlow



08.00 Holy Communion (said)  
09.15 Holy Communion (sung)  
10.59 Informal Service with Adult Baptism  
17.30 Compline

Gabrielle Smith & Dave Bull  
Gabrielle Smith & Dave Bull  
Dave Bull  
Roland Slade

*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*

**Children and Communion presentation** by Yvonne Morris, Diocesan Children's Officer, on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> 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 Annual Church Council Meeting (ACCM) is on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30am.** This will be a joint service, (the 8.00 a.m. service will go ahead as usual but there will be no individual 9.15 & 10.59 services). There will be a sheet at the back of the church where you can sign-up for election to Church Council, Team Council and Deanery Synod (one place available due to one of our members retiring from this position). Please come along to the meeting and hear about everything that is going on in our church; if you would like to hear more about the various elected roles please speak to one of the Service Wardens or Church Wardens – we'd love to hear from you!

## **Church Council meeting 26<sup>th</sup> February Summary**

- Visiting speaker: Rev John Hughes came and gave us a very inspirational talk on 'Growing Churches' based upon his many years of experience.
- Narthex development: The building work has now begun; we will praying for the safety of the builders during this time.
- Crypt redecoration: The council supported the proposal for the crypt to be redecorated and for any necessary application to faculty, to be made.
- New wine interns: Roland Slade and Gill Taylor have visited one of the new wine hubs in Ealing, London, to review the set up and logistics that may be involved in ASM becoming a hub.

There is a possibility of us doing it for a trial period of 2018/19; they are going to review the feasibility of this and present back to church council next month.

- Parish giving scheme: This is a new method of planned giving, recommended by the diocese, which the church council have agreed to adopt. We plan to roll it out to the staff team and church council members before Easter and then to the wider congregation in May.

- Holy Trinity Church: The team reviewing the feasibility of this, and other alternatives, gave an update on their findings, and the options are now being considered.

**HANDY CROSS RESURFACING has been halted with work resuming on the weekend of 16<sup>th</sup> March.**

## **Prayer Ministry Training**

Would you like to know how to pray for others? Would you like to see more answers to your prayers? Would you like to see God working more in people's lives? Come along to our next Prayer Ministry Training session: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, from 8-10pm at the Church Hall. Please book your place with Gill Taylor:

[gill.taylor@4u-team.org](mailto:gill.taylor@4u-team.org)

**Trypraying** The trypraying booklet is a 7-day prayer guide now being used by many to pass on to friends and family with a few words of encouragement – 'Why don't you try praying for a week and see what happens in your life?' We'll be giving these booklets out on March 25<sup>th</sup> as part of a local scheme to challenge us to use the booklet ourselves for 7 days, before giving it away to someone who wouldn't normally come to church, but might consider praying.

See <https://www.trypraying.co.uk/> for more info, and to download

**ALL SAINTS CHILDREN'S WORK - FACEBOOK PAGE** Anna has set up a new Facebook page to advertise and give info of children's events/groups/activities. Every adult who likes the page itself on Facebook by midnight on Sunday 18th March will be entered to win one of 15 Easter prizes for kids that we'll be giving away! Search for All Saints Marlow Children's Work and give it a like for the chance to win! Or go directly to: [www.facebook.com/asmchildren/](http://www.facebook.com/asmchildren/)

### CHURCH FORUM

Many thanks to those who were able to attend another lively Forum on Sunday 4th February. Richard Powell gave an update on the feasibility of purchasing or leasing **Holy Trinity Church**, together with other options being investigated. Gill Taylor gave an update on our **Intern Program**, now in its 2<sup>nd</sup> year. We have budgeted for 3 interns for 2019 & are starting to advertise now. We are also looking at becoming a New Wine training hub; there are currently 15 hubs around the country with a 'gap' in our area. Gill & Roland are visiting the Ealing hub to find out what is involved.

Caroline Slade described our recent initiative around **Inclusion** – being open to everyone, not just those with disability. The focus is on children at the 1059 service but this can be expanded. The initiative will include people who have mobility, sight & hearing disabilities.

Ruth Frost & Peter Reynolds spoke on the **Parish Giving Scheme** a direct-debit system, originally developed by the Diocese of Gloucester, now being rolled out nationally, to provide a professional, effective donation management system to support parishes & fund their mission & ministry. We will be implementing this scheme with more information to come. Julie Purves gave an update on the **Prayer Chapel**, where discussions are ongoing with the DAC. Liz Kitch, Senior Church Buildings Officer at the DAC, visited us & was very supportive of our vision for the Chapel as a space to be shared by all styles of worship, prayer & a welcoming space for visitors to the church. She has proposed a number of ways forward that we can present to the Church Council including the replacement of the sofas with another style of flexible upholstered seating. There was also a time for open discussion. So you can see this is a very good opportunity to contribute to the exciting things happening in our church. Please join us for the next Forum on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April. *Dave, Ruth and Julie*

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> March, has now been moved to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm at St Peter and St Paul's Church, Medmenham.**

### Churches Together in Marlow

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

### Portaloos

You will see whilst the building work is underway there are 'portaloos' outside the church. Parents please note that during services when your children are in the church you are responsible for escorting them to these outside toilets.

**Smallgroups 4 Summer** As we start to see signs of spring & better weather 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 & interest groups to courses & 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 & 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](mailto:smallgroups@4u-team.org)

### CONCERT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**17<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm** Rotary hosted concert with music from Chiltern Music Academy. Tickets Marlow Information Centre.

### The Grand Piano Appeal

We have splendid new Yamaha C3-X, Thanks to many kind donors, some interest-free loans & the ready support of Julie Purves & the Church Council, we are able to pay the full cost outright (just under £13,000), which represents excellent value. All very exciting but we are still seeking donations to repay the loans (£5,000) within the next 12 months. Should you feel able to help in this important project, the Grand Piano Appeal Committee would be most grateful. Please see Rhidian Jones or Clem Virgo for a form. Thank you, in anticipation, for your support.

**The Grand Piano Appeal Committee** would like to thank the two very generous donors who wish to remain anonymous. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

## In the coming week

**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](mailto:parish.office@4u-team.org)

**CONCERT DATE: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 7.00pm**  
Chiltern Concert Band with Borlase Junior Girls  
Choir. Tickets on the door £10. (£5 children &  
students) **Please note revised time**

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

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

## Other notices

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, 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30 to 9pm.  
Venue [3 Badgebury Rise, Marlow Bottom, SL7  
3QA](#). Ring 07785 262078 or email  
[graeme\\_slocombe50@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:graeme_slocombe50@hotmail.co.uk)) Although  
the course has started you are welcome to join for  
whichever evenings you can make.

**Bookkeeper/Treasurer - Urgently** needed by  
**Bisham Church**. Experience not required &  
duties can be adjusted to match skills & aptitude  
of candidate. Guidance provided. Contact Rod  
Stevens 01628 524238 or Stewart Featherstone-  
Clark 01628 471195

**WYCOMBE DEANERY RETREAT DAY**  
**Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> May 10-3pm @ The Mill House**  
**Turville**. Lunch & refreshments provided. £5pp  
Contact [suemorton131@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.embraceme.org/vacancies).

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

## SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Tuesday 10.30 Holy Communion  
Wednesday 08.15 Morning Prayer  
Friday 19.00 Evening Prayers

Next Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March Mothering Sunday  
08.00 Holy Communion (said)  
09.15 Holy Communion (sung)  
10.59 Informal Service  
17.30 Compline  
19.00 Informal Evening Service  
Readings: Exodus 2: 1-10 John 3: 14-21

# **TOGETHER IN PRAYER 4U TEAM**

**Week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> 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