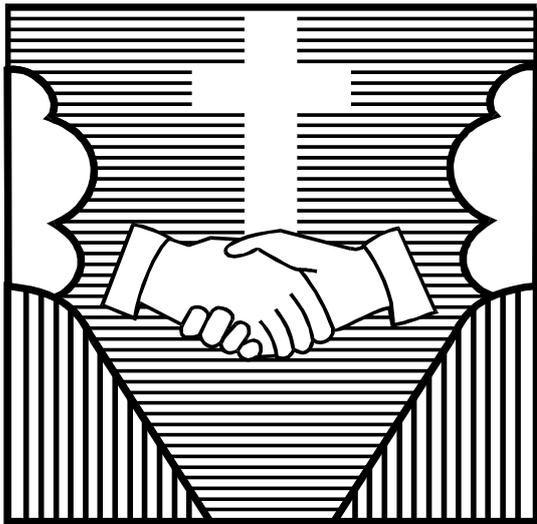


The Valley



Church



Lantern

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

29th July 2018 – 9th after Trinity

09.30 Holy Communion with Roland Slade

11.00 Lantern Community Outreach Service with Graham & Sami

18.30 Be Still – reflective service in The Chapel

Services in August

05 Aug 09.30 Holy Communion (Christian Aid) with Graham Watts

12 Aug 10.30 Holy Communion in The Chapel

**19 Aug 09.30 Holy Communion (Marlow Refugee Action) with
Graham Watts**

26 Aug 10.30 Holy Communion in The Chapel

NEWS AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Our **'Be Still' reflective service** is tonight at 6.30pm at the Chapel, a time of peace, calm and quiet amongst our busyness. Everyone welcome

Monday 30th July, 7.30-9pm, come to Graham & Sami's for a drink, a chat and a pray. There are, what feels like, quite a lot of changes happening in the church. A new service pattern, a new building, working together with the Methodists etc. We understand that sort of thing can cause uncertainty and we would love to talk about it. Please come and chat informally with us tomorrow at ours, we would love to have you. Sami & Graham."

SUMMER SOCIALS

Linda Lovell is hosting a summer drop-in at **17 Juniper Road Marlow Bottom on Friday 10th August 10.30 - 12.30**. All very welcome for coffee/tea and cake.

Our next afternoon tea for St Mary's and the Chapel will be a **Strawberry and Scones Tea** at the home of Jennie and Howard Lewis, 29 Redshotts Close, Marlow on **Saturday 18th August 4.30 - 6.30**. All welcome.

Cheese & wine evening at Graham & Sami's on Sunday 12th August at 7.30pm

"What I did on my sabbatical." A talk with photographs by Sarah Fitzgerald about what she has been doing whilst on sabbatical. Wednesday 22nd August 7.30pm at St John the Baptist Church, Little Marlow. All welcome

On September 9th at the 9.30 service, Roland Slade will be talking about his time in Tanzania this summer, visiting the Compassion Project where some in the Team sponsor children

One for your diaries – A Quiz Night at St. Mary's on Saturday October 13th at 7.30pm
There are two purposes for this: 1. So we can invite friends from outside the Church to come and be part of the community for an evening building relationships. 2. To raise money for the Church mission to Marlow Bottom. There is also a third reason, 3. TO HAVE FUN! So stick it in your diaries and come and join us in October

Lighthouse 2018

Thanks to all who have supported us in the build up to Lighthouse, with prayer, donations or by volunteering. It is going to be a great (if hot) week!

We have been given a handmade quilt (130 x 110cm) to raffle in support of Lighthouse. The quilt design is linked to the theme of this year's Lighthouse. The quilt will be on display on the Lighthouse site and tickets (£1 for 5) can be bought there, or contact Sarah Jones (sarah.j.jones@gmail.com) if you would like to buy some. Many thanks for your continued support and prayers

The launch service for this year's Lighthouse is tonight in the main tent at Holy Trinity School at 6.45 pm.

Small Groups

With the summer term coming to an end this month, we're already looking ahead and planning for the new slate of small groups to start in September. If you're already leading a group, we hope you'll want to keep going. If you've been thinking about leading a group but never quite got round to it, think no more! Just drop a line to smallgroups@4u-team.org with your idea and we'll send you a Google form to complete. We're looking for a whole range of groups - activities indoor and out, age specific from the very young to very old, courses that follow a specific curriculum, and Bible studies in all shapes and sizes. Christian life works better in community and we believe small groups are central to that. We hope you'll consider helping our community grow by being a small group leader.

Note that the sign up cut off is 31st July.

In September, our monthly pattern of services will be changing

(Please see insert)

If you want to talk to us more about any of this, please call us and we will come and chat it through with you.

Thank you, love Sami & Graham 01628 440106

Readings next week: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 John 6: 24-35

***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 IN PRAYER 4U TEAM

Week beginning 29th July 2018

A Prayer for the Blessings of Life Lord of all blessings, as we walk about your world, let us know ourselves blessed at every turn; Blessed in the spring sun and leaves; Blessed in the summer breeze; Blessed in rain and shafts of sunlight; Blessed in the moving stars; Blessed in the turning world beneath our feet; Blessed in silence; Blessed in sleep; Blessed in our children, our parents and our friends; Blessed in conversation and the human voice; Blessed in waiting for the bus or train or traffic lights; Blessed in music; Blessed in singing voices; Blessed in the song of birds; Blessed in the cry that pierces the heart; Blessed in the smile of strangers; Blessed in the touch of love; Blessed in laughter; Blessed in pain, in darkness, in grief; Blessed in the desert and the frost; Blessed in waiting for the Summer; Blessed in waiting and waiting and waiting, Lord of all blessing, we bless you.

Pray for Lighthouse. This week **pray** for EVERYONE at LIGHTHOUSE that the week will be filled with fun, laughter, love and friendship, surrounded by God's blessings and overflowing with the Holy Spirit and the love of Jesus. Pray this for Marlow but also for all the other Lighthouses as the movement grows across the UK

Pray for our Church Council and grant all members, patience discernment and tolerance, to give 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 and to do our best for our children and young people.

Pray for our staff team, for Gabrielle as she recovers from surgery; for Sarah as she leads the team as Dave starts his sabbatical and for Helen and the family. **Pray** for Sami, Graham, Roland, Mieke and the lay ministry team as they come together to cover additional duties and for our Church Wardens Julie and Ruth at this time of additional responsibility

Pray for all those at home and abroad whose lives have been altered by violence, terrorist acts, severe weather and tragic accidents. **Pray** for those all those involved in the tragic fires in Greece who have lost loved ones and their homes and now face hardship and deep grief. Pray for the people of Laos involved in the major floods resulting from a bursting dam the loss of life, the thousands homeless and the many still marooned without help or sustenance.

Pray for the many children involved in school clubs, after school clubs, Sunday school and daytime activities and all the volunteers who work to provide the teaching, the activities and the fun in knowing Jesus as a friend. For teachers and administrators and all pupils as they start the summer holidays, may they travel safely and take time to refresh and relax.

Pray for those who are sick in body mind or spirit and all those who struggle to make sense of their lives, and are facing personal times of crisis. **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 know the peace of Christ. **Pray** for doctors, nurses and technicians and carers who use their God given skills to heal and to mend. **Give thanks** for those who are healing.