

# THE OTHER SIDE

29th July 2018 – Ninth after Trinity

All Saints  
Marlow



08.00 Holy Communion (said)  
09.15 Holy Communion  
10.59 Informal Service  
17.30 Said Evensong with Hymns

Mieke Gaynor  
Mieke Gaynor  
Sarah Fitzgerald  
Sarah Fitzgerald

*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*

**Thank you from the Bulls!** Dear church family, as we leave to set off on sabbatical we want to say an enormous thank you for the many loving and supportive messages we have received. We do not feel deserving of so much kindness. In particular we were completely overwhelmed by the generous gift you have given us to send us on our way. It will make our time away extra special and we simply can't thank you enough. We will miss you and look forward to catching up again when we return in the autumn. Please pray for us. We will be praying for you. With our love, Dave, Helen, Thomas, Lauren & Josh.

## Summer Plan - Informal Evening Service

This year, the plan for August for the Informal evening service is as follows:

### 12th August: Social (no meeting in Church)

Meet at 7pm in the Old Brewery pub. Open to anyone who is available and wants to join us

### 26th August: Worship Special

Service at 7pm in ASM. This will be another service open for people to bring instruments and join in, or to come along and sing. Our worship will be interspersed with times to pray, and share what God is doing in our lives. All welcome. For more information, contact Gill Taylor.

**Pastoral Support** Did you know that we have a trained team of people on hand to offer pastoral support to you? This team works in partnership with the clergy team, providing pastoral support to those in need, which may include listening, encouraging, supporting, befriending, visiting, practical help and prayer. All members of the Pastoral Ministry Team have received training, are DBS-checked and are careful to observe confidentiality. Leaflets are available at the back of church with more details.

**"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

**CONCERT THIS AFTERNOON AT 3pm. Please come & support Phoebe & Isabella in their fundraising efforts** and hear ukulele songs, classical duets, musical theatre solos and more. There will be a retiring collection and tea & cake!

## 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](mailto:sarah.j.jones@gmail.com)) if you would like to buy some. Many thanks for your continued support and prayers

**David, Marilyn & family** would like to say a huge thank you to all those who have faithfully prayed, sent cards, texts, emails and all manner of things showing your concern for David. What a lovely church family! It has been a miraculous turn around from the beginning of June when he took ill. Although not completely there yet, he is still progressing well and we give thanks to God for prayers answered.

**John Asplin** It is with great sadness we are letting you know that John passed away on 26<sup>th</sup> July at home. He has been a great supporter of the church and was a member of the choir for many years. Funeral details will be communicated when known.

## **Sabbaticals - what and why?**

Clergy in the Church of England are granted a sabbatical of 12 weeks away from parish work every 10 years after being ordained. A sabbatical is not a holiday! It is a period away from the pressures of normal work for the purposes of retreat, rest and study. The goal is that clergy will return refreshed, re-envisioned and reinvigorated for the next decade of work. As many of you will know, Sarah Fitzgerald has recently returned from her sabbatical. Dave Bull is now taking his - his study element will be how the church can communicate the good news of Jesus to the Instagram generation. Detailed plans are in place to cover Dave's absence, so it should be "service as usual". In the first instance please contact Roland Slade, who is acting as "Vicar of All Saints" during Dave's absence. Please remember to pray for the clergy team during this period. *Thank you!*

## **CHURCH FORUM – SUNDAY 1ST JULY**

Thank you to everyone who attended the Church Forum. Dave talked about the Church Council's current and future priorities. Questions from church members included topics related to Dave's sabbatical, church finances and the budget deficit for 2018, the Parish Giving Scheme, and church communications. Paul Taylor gave an overview of the church's participation in the Eco Church scheme and announced that we have now been awarded a Bronze Award for our initiatives to help care for God's earth. The next Church Forum will be taking place on **Sunday 14th October at 7.00pm in the Church Hall.**

**Roland & Caroline Slade, and Sarah & Richard Fitzgerald** will be sharing stories, photos and videos from the trip to the Compassion project in Tanzania at services in All Saints, Little Marlow and Bisham on **Sunday 26th August.**

**Marlow Refugee Action** – Thank you to all those who came and supported our charity garden party where we raised over £700. We were blessed with more lovely sunshine, many delicious cakes and just a little thirst-quenching Pimms. Thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement, and please keep the evening of the **15<sup>th</sup> September** for our joint Barn Dance with the Burundi appeal.

**Tiddlywinks Toddler Group is a Churches Together in Marlow enterprise**, running since the year 2000, in Marlow Methodist church on Monday mornings in term time. We are a very popular group with mums/dads/carers, grandparents & their preschool children, but even though a stalwart few lovely All Saints ladies & 1 gentleman generously give us their time & support, we are desperately short of volunteers to help run the sessions. Would **YOU** be able to help?

We need people from 9am til midday, on a rota, once or twice a term, to help set up, wash up & clear up - and chat to the mums! If you think you could help, please get in touch with Liz - 07799 854 535.

If helping practically is not for you, would you consider praying for us regularly on Monday mornings - we would appreciate that too! Thank you!

## **In the coming week**

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

**Sanctuary at All Saints' Bisham on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 8pm** – a space for peace & stillness

## **Other notices**

### **Small Groups for the Autumn Term**

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](mailto: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. **The cut-off date for submissions is 31st July.**

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

### Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July

**ASM Priorities/Vision:** The Church Council continued their discussions surrounding God's vision for ASM and our priorities (both imminent and future). We are working on a plan to communicate this clearly to our whole church family and we are hoping to do this after the summer

**Wedding Display** Paul and Matt met with Dennis to discuss how we could better promote weddings within the church. They have agreed that a simple display be posted on a notice board on the vestry wall. A supply of information leaflets will be provided alongside. Also, Dennis has purchased a 'roll-up banner' which will be displayed nearby the notice board on weekdays only.

**Plan for Youth and Children's Work** We are working on a plan to ensure our Youth and Children's Work can be maintained with the help of our amazing volunteers. Ruth and Julie will be following up on the volunteer meeting that Dave had before he left for sabbatical.

**Finance** At the end of the first half of the year with are in deficit by £25K; this includes some non-repeating exceptional costs. There has been a healthy increase in income through the blue envelopes. However, Church Hall income has fallen (largely because the management team were asked to allocate time to church youth and children's' activities rather than external letting) and donations were lower than expected. We will be looking at ways to encourage anyone who is

entering the church on a casual basis to make a donation. We would also encourage everyone in our church family to consider switching to the Parish Giving Scheme as well as consider the amount of financial support they are giving. Without a considerable increase in our income, we will be unable to continue all the activities and good work we are currently doing and it makes future planning and initiatives very challenging.

### HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF BECOMING A SCHOOL GOVERNOR?

**Marlow CofE Infants School**, (Sandygate), one of our linked church schools have a **vacancy for a Foundation Governor** starting from this September. We are looking for an enthusiastic, active and committed person to join our team to ensure that our church school remains an outstanding Christian school.

Meetings are varied and constructive where every one's contribution is valued. You also have the added joy of being able to meet our exceptional staff and children as they work in school, when doing governor visits, and welcoming them when they join us for various services in church. Do look at the school website where you will learn a lot more about our school <http://www.marlow-infant.bucks.sch.uk/website> and to find out more talk to

*Please could information for The Other Side be sent to the Parish Office by Wednesday morning at the latest. [parish.office@4u-team.org](mailto:parish.office@4u-team.org)*  
*Many thanks*

## SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Tuesday 10.30 Holy Communion  
Wednesday 08.15 Morning Prayers

Next Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August – 10th after Trinity  
08.00 Holy Communion (said)  
09.15 Holy Communion (sung) with Baptism  
10.59 Informal Service (Lighthouse Presentation)  
17.30 Said Evensong with Hymns

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

All Saints  
Marlow



four churches,  
one vision

# 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.