



Lantern

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

Welcome to our new service pattern!

As we get used to changes, we will try our best to keep you posted through this Newsletter and in other ways. Please let us know if there are ways we can improve our communications and be patient as things change in the next few weeks.

7th October 2018 – 19th Sunday after Trinity

**09.30 Holy Communion at St. Mary's
11.00 Worship with children's groups in The Chapel**

Services in October

14 Oct	09.30	Morning Worship in The Chapel
	11.00	Worship Altogether at St. Mary's
	18.30	Holy Communion in the Chapel
21 Oct	09.30	Holy Communion at St. Mary's
	11.00	Worship with children's groups in The Chapel
28 Oct	09.30	Holy Communion in the Chapel
	11.00	Lantern Community Action Sunday

NEWS AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mondays continue to be prayer days in Marlow Bottom. Everything we do is undergirded by prayer, if you have never come along to pray, why not try it soon!?

The next two weeks our prayer opportunities will be:

8th October, 1-2pm Lunchtime Prayer in the Chapel

15th October, 1-2pm Lunchtime Prayer in the Chapel

House Group Our 'Learning and Sharing' house group will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Our next dates are 23rd October and 27th November at 3, Pheasants Ridge. Details will be in the new Small Groups brochure. We would love to welcome new members!

Quiz Night at St Mary's with fish and chip supper, raffle and bar! **Saturday 13th October, 7pm to start at 7.15pm. Tickets £12.50.** Come as a team or join others on the night Contact Graeme Slocombe for tickets on **07785 262078**

All Souls Service at All Saints Marlow Sunday 4th November at 5.30pm. This service gives a helpful opportunity to remember loved ones we have lost. It is for all those who have been bereaved, whether recently or longer ago. Followed by tea and refreshments in the All Saints church hall.

Youth Confirmation Thinking about getting confirmed? Confirmation is a great opportunity for someone to grow in their Christian faith. The preparation classes give time and space to explore what it means to follow Christ and to be a member of His church. If you are in school year 7 or above and would like to think about getting confirmed then there will be a series of sessions after half term to meet up with some leaders and with other young people to find out if this is for you. The sessions will be held on Tuesday evenings: 30 October, 6, 13 and 20 November in Marlow Bottom, with the confirmation service in High Wycombe on Sunday 25 November. Do please get in touch if you are interested, thanks!

Sami Watts sami.watts@4u-team.org

A meeting of St Mary's Church Council was held on 24th September. The following matters were discussed.

A formal risk assessment process should be put in place. All those with Church responsibilities are to complete a risk assessment by the end of October.

The name for the new combined church was discussed at length. No final decision has yet been made. The congregation will be consulted on Sunday October 14th.

It was reported that Matt, the new intern is settling in well.

There is to be a fund raising launch for the new Church Building to all congregations after Christmas.

It was suggested that we should have Methodist involvement in the 9.30 Service review. Nick is keen to be involved.

A promotional video was shown which was made by the new vicar appointed to lead the church graft from St. Andrew's, Hatters Lane to Sands in High Wycombe

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MARLOW

The Harvest Supper hosted by River Church will be held at Christ Church URC on Friday 12th October at 7.30 pm. Admission is by ticket bought in advance (£5 from Liz Ferris or Tony Threlfall). Food is provided by all the churches and offers of a quiche, salad or pudding would much appreciated. Please speak to Liz or Tony (Tel. 471610).

A period of Prayer for Today's Armed Forces will be held at Marlow Methodist Church on Saturday 13th October from 10 am to 1 pm. This is linked to the 100th Anniversary of the end of WW1 and the programme will include readings, prayers and personal anecdotes. There is an open invitation for people to pop-in and pop-out as they are able.

St Mary's Crèche Many thanks to all who have given so generously to get our crèche room ready. We are now working on making it super-welcoming and comfy for little ones and their carers. If you have any items of furniture (small sofa, bean bags) that might be appropriate, we would still really welcome those.

CONCERT DATES AT ALL SAINTS MARLOW

Saturday 13th October 7.30pm Cantorum Choir

Sunday 14th October 3pm Organist Colin Spinks

Saturday 20th October 7.30pm Wooburn Singers

Sunday 21st October 3pm Englefield Ensemble

WOMENS BREAKFAST SATURDAY 13th OCTOBER 9-11am ALL SAINTS CHURCH

HALL Jo Fothergill will be speaking on The God Of Hope. Jo is married to Richard, an Anglican minister, who founded The Filling Station. Both of them work for this ministry. They have two daughters in their twenties. To reserve a place, please give names to the Parish Office. 01628 481806 parish.office@4u-team.org Suggested donation on the day £5

All Saints Bisham are looking for a Book Keeper/Treasurer. If you can help please contact Rod Stevens (rodstevens@live.co.uk)

Fight homelessness in your sleep – join the Marlow Big Sleepout 2018! The night might have been cold but the fellowship was warm. Last year's sleepout raised over £14,000 for Wycombe Homeless Connection. Money spent helping homeless adults to find accommodation and give support while beginning to rebuild their lives. Wycombe Homeless Connection is a local Christian charity which believes that every homeless individual in High Wycombe has worth and should have the chance of a fresh start, no matter what their situation. It costs £200,000 per year to run, 90% of which has to be voluntarily funded. This year the Marlow sleepout is on Friday 23rd November. If you feel called to take part and share the fellowship or to help to steward for a few hours please speak to Muriel Reynolds muriel.reynolds@4u-team.org or for more information see <https://www.wyhoc.org.uk/fight-homelessness-in-your-sleep-join-the-marlow-big-sleepout-2018>

Readings for next week: Proverbs 1: 1-7

***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

Week beginning 7th October 2018

A Prayer for Guidance Living God, you do not compel us to serve you but you invite us rather to respond to your love; you do not impose your will upon us or dictate the course we should take, but instead you offer your guidance, giving us signposts to walk by, yet ultimately leaving the decisions we must make in our hands. We thank you for this wonderful expression of trust, this freedom to choose and discover for ourselves and we ask that you will help us to use it wisely; trusting you in return, and seeking, so far as we understand it, to honour your will. Give us wisdom and courage to make the right decisions at the right time and in the right place, to the glory of your name. Amen

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 at this difficult time

Pray for our staff team, for Gabrielle as she recovers from surgery; for Sarah as she leads the team for Dave as he continues 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 the many church occasions already planned, fundraising events for mission outreach, and the autumn concert season

Pray for the volunteer teams as they prepare programmes to continue Church activities and clubs for our children in the coming autumn session while decision are made about replacing youth and children's leaders. Give all wisdom, and inspiration.

Pray for all those at home and abroad whose lives have been altered by violence, terrorist acts, severe weather and tragic accidents. **Pray** for the people of Sulawesi as they struggle to survive and come to terms with the tragic aftermath of the earthquake and tsunami, the great loss of life and total devastation of their homeland.

Pray for those continuing to flee from violence and poverty; who seek a better future in foreign lands, pray they will find a welcome and a decent place to live with support to make informed decisions about their future and the best way forward with hope.

Pray for those negotiating for the best outcome regarding Brexit for commonsense and generosity.

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, technicians and carers who use their God given skills to heal and to mend. **Give thanks** for those who are healing.