



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 service!

With lots of things going on in Marlow Bottom 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.

27th January 2019 – 4th Sunday of Epiphany

09.30 Morning Worship at The Chapel
11.00 Lantern at St. Mary's
18.30 "Be Still" at St. Mary's

Services in February

03 Feb	09.30	Holy Communion at St. Mary's
	11.00	Lantern at The Chapel
10 Feb	09.30	Morning Worship at The Chapel
	11.00	Lantern at St. Mary's
	18.30	Holy Communion at The Chapel

NEWS AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

There will be another opportunity to **'Be Still' tonight 6.30pm at St Mary's** which will be in the form of Compline (Evening Prayer) led by Graeme Slocombe. This service of approximately 40 minutes is a time for peace and reflection. We would love to see you.

Board Game Cafe

For anyone who enjoys playing board games. A chance to come and play some old favourites or learn new board games, meet new people and have a fun afternoon! Refreshments will be available to purchase. Under 16s need to be accompanied by an adult.

There will be a small entry charge, £3 per adult, £2 per child, family entry £10. This will include the cost of your first drink (tea/coffee/squash/hot chocolate) and any extra funds raised will be donated to the church.

When: From 2-5.30pm on the following dates: **Today**, plus Saturday 2 March and Saturday 23 March.

Where: St Mary's Church, Marlow Bottom.

Contact: [Sami Watts](#) or [Graham Watts](#).

If you would like to help with the board game cafe by donating cake or cookies, that would be very much appreciated. You will see the first session is before 'Be Still' so you can have a very fun afternoon followed by a very chilled out evening!

Prayer on Mondays is back:

28th January - Pray for the year ahead - come and commit our church, our lives and our community to God through a time of prayer and worship 8-9.30 pm at the vicarage

Beginning to share your faith

Generally we don't find it that easy to share our faith with others. It can sometimes be so daunting that we don't even start trying. This short course aims to start us off in sharing our faith.

We will look at the Bible, hear from others, think about our own journey of faith, discover God's story and have fun along the way!

When: Wednesdays from 8-9.30pm on the following dates: **6 February** and **13 February**.

For more info, see Graham

New Sermon Series

We have begun a series looking at some of Paul's adventures in the book of Acts. Do pick up the leaflet explaining the sermon series and why not try keeping up with the extra reading if you really want to get the most out of this series?

Share the Journey Lent Walk

Marlow Refugee Action is hosting a Lent Walk on Saturday, 16 March and would love you to come and join them. The walk will take you on a journey between all four churches that make up our parish, a journey that will provide an opportunity to reflect on the ongoing refugee crisis. More information will soon be made available at www.marlowrefugeeaction.org but in the meantime, please do save the date.

BREAKFAST WITH JJOHN - SATURDAY 9th MARCH 9-11am HARLEYFORD GOLF CLUB

This is a great opportunity for you to invite those that are interested in faith but don't go to church to join you to hear international speaker and author, Canon JJohn speaking on 'Why I am a Christian'. Tickets are £10 to include a cooked breakfast and are now available on-line at bit.ly/jjohn19 or All Saints Parish Office 01628 481806.

Small groups

Sign up for small groups for the Spring term has started. Booklets are available but the full range of groups can be viewed on line at 4u-team.org/smallgroups where you can also sign up. There is a varied range of groups so do have a look and see what interests you. They include this year's Lent Groups which will be inspired by the theme "Migration and Movement" and the refugee issue. If you have any questions please email smallgroups@4u-team.org
In Marlow Bottom there are various small groups that you might particularly want to think about joining:

LOVE Marlow Festival: 1-16 June 2019

It's time for us to start planning the 2019 LOVE Marlow Festival - which will once again be jam-packed with community events & activities, and will have opportunities to spread kindness and help others around the Town. If you have been involved before, or want to organise an event for the first time, please join us at Great Marlow School 6th Form Centre on **Thursday 31st January, 7.30-9pm**, for a chance to hear and discuss plans for this year; we want it to be bigger and better than ever! Contact hello@lovemarlow.co.uk for more details, or see www.lovemarlow.co.uk

Sanctuary at All Saints' Bisham on Thursday 7th February at 8pm – a space for peace & stillness

If you would like to sign up for the **parish giving scheme**, please talk to Lorraine Jackman or Graham Watts.

Admin Assistant (Voluntary) required. Are you looking for an opportunity to use your admin skills and have 6-8 hours available at flexible times in the week? Sarah Fitzgerald, Team Vicar, is looking for someone to support her with admin tasks, particularly dealing with emails and diary planning. You will need good admin and IT skills, ability in dealing with confidentiality and the ability to work from home via the internet. Hours are flexible but need to be spread across the week and would include a weekly meeting with Sarah. This is an unpaid post but expenses would be covered. For further info contact Sarah on 07815 117275 or sarah.fitzgerald@4u-team.org Closing date for applications 28th February.

ALL SAINTS CONCERT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 9th Feb 7.30pm Chiltern Camerata with a Celebration of JS Bach. Bookings 01753 889519

Tues 12th Feb 7.30pm Chiltern Arts Festival with An Italian Songbook – Hugo Wolf's Italienisches Liederbuch in a new English version. Contact chilternarts.com 01442 920303

**Readings for next week: Acts 16: 22-34
Luke 2: 22-40**

***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 IN MARLOW & MARLOW BOTTOM

A Prayer for all Disciples Gracious God, we forget sometimes that alongside the blessings of discipleship there is always the cost – sacrifices that will be asked of us; demands upon our time, energy, gifts and money; responsibilities we will be asked to accept. Help us to respond gladly to whatever you may ask; knowing that, however great the price may be, the rewards are infinitely worth it. Teach us to offer to you all that you ask from us, until that day when we rejoice in everything you hold in store for all your people. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord

Pray for all those who visit our church; may we be welcoming and offer hospitality in the name and Spirit of our Saviour Jesus Christ and share his love and joy for all people. **Pray** for all those who seek to find God in their lives. **Pray** for those seeking to grow nearer to God. May our church be a place of quiet reflection, a calm oasis in a busy and complicated life.

Pray for Lucy and Edward, who will be baptised today and for their families, friends and supporters, as they start their exciting journeys with Jesus.

Give thanks for the blessings each one of us has received this week

Pray for the clergy and members of our church and team councils as they work to make the best choices for good governance and to grow our mission in Marlow, particularly with our children and young people. **Pray** for our schools, the gifted and dedicated teachers, the many volunteers supporting the school clubs and activities, especially the involvement of the children in services this morning.

Pray for all those at home and abroad whose lives have been altered by violence, terrorist acts, severe weather and tragic accidents. **Pray** for our broken world, those continuing to flee from violence and poverty, all 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 the oppressed and suffering, the lonely lost and abandoned. **Pray** for those working to bring relief and genuine hope for all in need.

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, especially for those in our church family and community. **Pray** for the doctors, nurses, technicians and scientists who use their gifts and skills to bring healing and recovery

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 those who bring comfort and solace. **Pray** for the Pastoral Team