



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.

17th February 2019 – 3rd Sunday before Lent

**09.30 Holy Communion at St. Mary's
11.00 Lantern at The Chapel**

Services in February and March

24 Feb	09.30	Holy Communion at The Chapel
	11.00	Lantern at St. Mary's – Service Sunday
03 March	09.30	Holy Communion at St. Mary's
	11.00	Lantern at The Chapel
06 March	20.00	Ash Wednesday Service at St Mary's
10 March	09.30	Morning Worship at The Chapel
	11.00	Lantern at St. Mary's

NEWS AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Following the joint consultation process and the meetings of both St Mary's Church Council and MB Methodist Church Council, it has been jointly agreed that moving forward we will be collectively known as:

'The Lantern Community Church - An Anglican Methodist partnership in Marlow Bottom'.

As was explained at those meetings, the site names will remain the same, but this is the name of our joint worshipping community.

Confirmation Service

Some of our young people (Keziah, Annabel, Cameron and Alice) will be getting confirmed at All Saints Marlow on Sunday 3rd March at 7pm. It would be great to see as many as possible there to support them.

Annual Meeting Our ACCM (Annual Church Council Meeting) will take place at St Mary's on Sunday 24th March at 11am. All welcome.

To ensure you are able to vote at the meeting please complete and return your electoral roll forms to Graham, Sami or Rosie O'Connell by 28th February.

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: **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.

New Sermon Series

We are in the middle of 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?

If the current Sermon Series is inspiring you to think about how you share your faith with others then maybe you might want to come to the **"Sharing your Faith" course** starting after half term? Details are in the Small Groups brochure and online here <http://4u-team.org/smallgroups/> If you would like to talk to Rev Graham Watts about whether this is the group for you, ring him on 01628 440106 or graham.watts@4u-team.org

Lighthouse Marlow – 5 to 9 August 2019 Planning for this year's Lighthouse is going well and registration for helpers is now open! If you helped last year or the year before you should have received an email with a link to register. Children's registration will open in May – if you help for more than one day your children will get a place at Lighthouse. We need helpers in all areas – if you want more information take a look at <https://lighthousecentral.org/lighthouses/marlow/roles> . The more helpers we get, the more children we can take. Last year 438 children aged 4-11 learned more about following Jesus by coming to Lighthouse Marlow, as well as over 100 young people aged 12-17. If you have questions then please contact us by email at marlow@lighthousecentral.org . Hope to see you in the summer! *Sarah Jones, Chairman, Lighthouse Marlow*

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MARLOW Lent Study Groups Application forms to be returned to Tony Threlfall (tony.threlfall@live.co.uk) by **28th February** are available at the back of the church. This course is also contained in the Small Groups directory.

CTM Pancake Day This popular event will be at Marlow Methodist Church on **Tuesday 5th March**. Proceeds to Lighthouse Marlow. Sign-up forms for volunteers to provide soup & help on the day are at the back of the church. Alternatively, contact Tony Threlfall (Tel. 471610).

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.

Exploring Chaplaincy – Find out how you can serve and support your local Marlow working community & about opportunities for training & supervision. **Monday 11th March 7.30pm** @ Wesley Methodist Church Priory Road HW. Details 07746 373639 or 07450 737438

Share the Journey Lent Walk Join the 4U Team on Saturday, 16 March for a Lent Walk that will take you on a journey between all four churches within our parish. The Lent Walk will be in solidarity with refugees and migrants and in support of Marlow Refugee Action, and it will provide an opportunity to reflect on the ongoing refugee crisis. You can find out more, and register for the walk, by visiting www.4u-team.org/journey.

“Footprints” a service for anyone who has lost a child at any stage of life. **Friday 22nd March 7.30pm** at Holy Trinity Church, Lane End. Details Rev Sue Morton 01491 639286 or suemorton131@gmail.com

Small groups

It's not too late to sign up. Booklets are available, but the full range of groups can be viewed on line at 4u-team.org/smallgroups where you can also register. 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:

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

Saturday 16th March 7.30pm Wycombe Music Centre in aid of Rotary charities

Saturday 30th March 7.30pm Chiltern Concert Band with SWBGS

**Readings for next week: Acts 19:23-31
Luke 8:22-15**

***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

Week beginning 17th February

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, a place of joyful praise and worship.

Give thanks for the blessings each one of us has received this week and celebrate the coming initiatives, the visit of J John, the Art& Spirituality display and other events highlighting the refugee crisis and local initiatives to bring hope and a future with compassion and integrity.

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. **Pray** for council members standing down and pray for those considering taking up office to serve at church, team and deanery synod level.

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 in parliament as they struggle to find a way forward for a smooth and constructive Brexit.

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 our Pastoral Care Team and the Bereavement Visitor Team supporting those with needs in our church.

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.