



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.

7th April 2019 – Passion Sunday

**09.30 Holy Communion at St. Mary's
11.00 All Age Worship at The Chapel**

Services in April

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|-----------------|-------------------|--|
| 14 April | 09.30 | Morning Worship at The Chapel |
| | 11.00 | All Age Worship at St Mary's |
| | 18.30 | Holy Communion at The Chapel |
| 18 April | 20.00 | Holy Communion at St. Mary's |
| 21 April | EASTER DAY | |
| | 09.30 | Holy Communion at St. Mary's |
| | 11.00 | All Age Communion at The Chapel |
| 28 April | 09.30 | Holy Communion at The Chapel |
| | 11.00 | Service Sunday at St. Mary's |

NEWS AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Message from Sarah Fitzgerald I would like to thank everyone for their best wishes and all the messages of support I have received. For those who haven't already heard, I have been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. It is obviously difficult news but I am encouraged that it is still early days and that there are treatment options available. Please bear with me as we adjust to the situation. Your concern and prayers have meant a lot to me and are very valued. God bless, Sarah

All members of the Lantern Community Church are warmly invited to a spring supper party on Friday 12th April at 7pm at 165 Marlow Bottom. Please let us know if you can join us - we would love to see you there!

During Holy Week you are invited to join in the journey as we approach Easter. This year, our services each evening will follow the story through the eyes of a different character under the title 'Were you there?' There are also special services for all ages, so do join us for as much or as little as you wish. Please see the separate leaflet for more information, but here are the times and places of services that you might find particularly helpful:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Monday 15 April: | 8pm at All Saints' Marlow |
| Tuesday 16 April: | 8pm at All Saints Bisham |
| Wednesday 17 April | 8pm at St John the Baptist, Little Marlow |
| Maundy Thursday 18 April: | 8pm Holy Communion at St Mary's Marlow Bottom 8pm Tenebrae Service at Marlow Methodist Church |
| Good Friday 19 April: | 9.30am Holy Communion at All Saints' Marlow 10.30am Churches Together Open Air service and Walk of witness, Higginson Park 11.15 Churches Together All age Service, Marlow Methodist Church 12pm Three Hours at the Cross meditative Service at St John the Baptist, Little Marlow |

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM) will take place on Wednesday 24th April at 8pm at St John the Baptist, Little Marlow. All welcome.

Marlow Refugee Action Since starting in 2016 as an informal group trying to do our bit to help refugees we have had amazing support from people in our church team and from the wider community. We are now established as a registered charity and guided by an amazing group of trustees. We are working with projects supporting refugees both locally and abroad and are particularly seeking volunteers to help us with fundraising, administration and marketing and communications, as well as people interested in helping refugees with 1-1 language support. Jesus challenges us to welcome the stranger (Matthew 25:35 'I was a stranger and you invited me in'). Thank you for the help and support you have already given which I am sure will continue and grow and is enabling Marlow to play a small part in this vast challenge.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Advance notice of two exciting events coming up in the summer:

Saturday 11 May: Quiz Night in Marlow Bottom (please note the date change)

Concert Saturday 22nd June: The London Male Voice Choir will be performing a concert at All Saints, Marlow, with all money raised to go to the Lantern Community Church

Small Groups Summer Term 2019

Registration is now open for leading a small group for the summer term! If you currently run a group and would like to continue it or if you would like to start a new one, please go to www.gothere.pro/summer19groups and enter all the details there.

If you have any questions or need any further information, please email smallgroups@4u-team.org. Registration must be completed by Monday 22nd April.

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*

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

Churches Together on Good Friday

Everyone is invited to gather in Higginson Park for a short act of worship at 10.30 am. This will be followed by a Walk of Witness up the High Street to the Methodist Church, where there will be a service for all ages at 11.15 am.

Reading for next week: Luke 22:14-end of chapter 23

***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 14th April

A Prayer for Lent You, Lord Jesus, knew great power, to heal, to transform, to proclaim the reign of God. So you met great temptations. The wrong way, glittering and possible, was open; you could rule if you chose, in majesty and wonder, more victorious than Alexander, more imperial than Caesar. But you said No, simply, decisively, forever, for us. Holy Spirit of God, enable us to respond to temptation with the strength of your word within us, so that we may hold firm to our calling and take your better way in faithfulness. Amen

Pray for all those who visit our church during Lent, 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. May the installation in the Prayer Chapel touch peoples' hearts to re ignite the need for practical and innovative ways to welcome and nurture refugees whose lives have been torn apart. **Pray** for healing

Give thanks for the blessings each one of us has received this week and guide us in a prayerful and reflective Lent as we focus on Jesus journey and our personal spiritual journeys.

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, and pray for them all as the Easter Holiday begins bringing a time to rest and refresh in a busy school year.

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 our Pastoral Care Team and the Bereavement Visitor Team, supporting those with needs in our church. **Pray** especially for the families of the two young boys who took their own lives and for all young people who suffer from mental stress which overwhelms them, and for those who work to understand these processes and offer meaningful and successful therapy.

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 peace and acceptance.