

Collect for the Sunday before Lent

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Post Communion Prayer

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

PRAYER POINTS:

- For Mercy Ships.
- For all those suffering extreme hardship and hunger in the Yemen.
- For all those suffering as a result of knife crime and for those trying their best to protect children on the streets.
- For our teachers, school staff and school children returning to school after the half term break.
- For our clergy, PCC and all Church volunteers as the busy season of Lent approaches.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF HEALING AND PEACE:

Stephen Upton, John Hardy, Janet Rand, Mary Kent, Sue List, Tony Eccleston, Alan and Iris Austin, Oliver Baillie, Gladys Page, Suzie Aries, Michael Hopkins, Kelly May, Gordon & Kathleen Plumridge, Joyce Bapty, Richard Heaney, Alex Lake, Hazel Sullivan, Philip and Sally Jones, Shirley and Eric Watts and Barbara Higgins.

WE HAVE ALSO BEEN ASKED TO PRAY FOR:

Libby, Lisa and Russell Squire, Arabella Smith, Peter Covell, Ashleigh Nichas, Gideon, Mary Jefferies, Keith & Judy Brambleby, Barbara Platts, Tony Mead, Hazel Boon, Jorge, Peter Braithwaite, Michael George and Helena Oecken.

WE REMEMBER WITH THANKSGIVING THE LIFE OF:

Anne Marshall

parishoffice@stmarysrisborough.org.uk

Open: Mon & Tues: 9:30am -1.30pm, Weds & Thurs 9:30am -5.00pm

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St Mary's
with
St Peter's
PRINCES RISBOROUGH
& ILMER

News

Sunday 3rd March 2019, Sunday Next before Lent**Saints,**

Lent starts on Wednesday, have you decided what you are going to give up or even what you are going to take up? I was really heartened on Tuesday night at the evening encouraging us to create a 'Culture of Invitation' at St. Mary's. Maybe this is something we as a church can take up over the period of Lent, that is to invite somebody that God puts on our heart to one of the many events that we hold at this amazing church.

We are an active and dynamic church with many things going on outside of our services, we have breakfasts for men and women, we have coffee mornings, discipleship courses, pancake parties, as well as our services which will appeal to different people. So why don't you pray this Lent for God to put a name on your heart to invite to one of the many things we do. All we have to do is ask because God will do the rest! That's great isn't it, God is telling us who to ask and that person would be likely to respond to being asked and then the responsibility is His!

If we are really serious about our faith then this is something that we must take seriously. As we approach Easter this is a great opportunity to start a conversation about our faith and what it means to us. Statistics say that 70% of Christians have somebody in mind when asked if they had, but disappointingly 80 to 95% of us won't ask that person!

The good news at St. Mary's is that we don't care about statistics, we care about people. So this Lent let us change people's lives by asking them one simple question!

Many blessings, Dan.

NEWS & NOTICES

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE PARTY: This will be on Tuesday 5th March, 5pm-7pm. Everyone is invited, whatever age. There will be pancakes, a quiz, games and fun for all. Please let Gill know if you are coming (346145 or gill.sunfold@googlemail.com). Help is needed from 3pm to clear chairs from Church, so please contact Gill.

LENT: This week sees the start of Lent. Please take a leaflet home which tells you all the services that are going on and do join us on this journey through Lent to Easter.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES: There will be two special holy communion services on Ash Wednesday to mark the start of Lent so do support them. In addition to the 10.30am service with the imposition of ashes, there will an evening service at 7.30.

PRAYER EVENING: There will be a special prayer evening open to all in Church on Fri 8th March at 7.30pm so do come along.

TAIZE SERVICE: There will be a taize service at 4pm on Sat 9th March in St Mary's. Rehearsal at 2.30pm for those taking part. Tickets £5, including light refreshments. Contact stuartlhking@gmail.com for details.

BRING AND SHARE LUNCH: On Sunday 10th March there will be a bring and share lunch after TGIS, for everyone, especially those new to our Church family. Please sign the list in Church if you would like to come.

LENT RESOURCES: If you are looking for some inspirational reading over Lent or something for the children to do, please see our Lent resources box on the table by the main door where there are various items for purchase.

LENT COURSE: Revd Michael Hunt will be running a lent course on four Tuesdays, starting 19th March in the Chapter House. On the course, Michael will be considering what it means to turn to Christ and the four key questions we affirm at Baptism. Do you turn to Christ? Do you believe and Trust in God the Father? Do you believe and Trust in Jesus Christ? Do you believe and Trust in the Holy Spirit? For more information, contact Michael at midahunt@googlemail.com

EASTER CARDS: In aid of Helen House will be available from 13th to 20th March. It is hoped there will be a springtime quiz. Thank you for your support. Frances Ibell.

GIVING AND TAX: If you would like to support the running of our church, please consider regular giving. Are you or your spouse a tax-payer? If so, the church could gain an **extra 25p per £1** if you agree to "GiftAid" your giving; you still pay the same, but the church reclaims the income tax from the Revenue. For you, the process is very simple. Please pick up one of the little blue "Giving" leaflets in church or speak to Michael Hoey (275 192).

Sunday 3rd March, Sunday next before Lent

Readings: Exodus 34: 29-end, Luke 9: 28-36

- 8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's
- 9.30am** Parish Communion followed by coffee
- 11.15am** TGIS
- 3.00pm** Open Door, a Spring Tea, in the Chapter House
- 3.00pm** Evensong at St Peter's, Ilmer

What's on in the week beginning Monday 4th March

- Tues 5th** **5.00pm** Shrove Tuesday All age pancake party in Church
- Weds 6th** **9.00am** Wednesday Prayers in St Mary's
- 10.30am** Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes
- 2.00pm** St Mary's Church open for prayer and healing.
- 3.30-4pm** Evening Prayer
- 7.30pm** Holy Communion Service with the Imposition of Ashes
- 7.30pm** Alpha Course at St Mary's
- Thurs 7th** **10.30am** Coffee in the Chapter House
- Fri 8th** **2.00pm** Praise and Play
- 7.30pm** Prayer Evening in Church
- Sat 9th** **9.00am** Men's breakfast in Church Hall with speaker from MAF
- Sat 9th** **4.00pm** Taize service in Church

Sunday 10th March, First Sunday of Lent

Readings: Deuteronomy 26: 1-11, Luke 4: 1-13

- 8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's
- 9.30am** Parish Communion followed by coffee
- 11.15am** TGIS with speaker from MAF
- 12.30pm** Bring and Share lunch
- 3.00pm** Service at Icknield Court
- 6.00pm** United Service at PR Methodist Church

Rector: Revd. David Williams 346984

Associate Minister: Revd. Michael Hunt 344150;

Curate: Revd. Dan Beesley 345521;

Assistant Clergy: Revds. David & Nancy Wallace 290670;
Revds. Steve & Rose Williams 274225; Canon Nick Molony 273895;
Revd. Jenny Deverill 274269; **LLM:** Averil Stephenson 343649

Churchwardens: David Stephenson and Bryan Matthew