

St Mary's Monthly Message



June 2024

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



A Note From David

BY THE RECTOR

'In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us'. We are living in a world where disciples of Jesus are increasingly needing to have courage. With all the problems in the world, these are challenging times when Christians can show others that there is a better way that is to be found in Jesus. When St Paul wrote about being 'conquerors', we need to remember that he was writing to a Church in Rome that was growing in the days of the mighty Roman Empire, when it was trying to stamp out the faith, feeding Christians to lions, putting them in prison, and crucifying them upside down. This was a time when the Empire seemed invincible, and when Rome was known as the Eternal City. A time when it would have been difficult to imagine things ever changing, and it was a lens through which everyone saw life. And yet for just 36 euros, you can now have a guided tour through Rome's ruins, as the Empire is no more - except in history books!

St Augustine, the fourth century bishop of Hippo, said that life is often like having your face pushed up against a stained-glass window. You see some colour and lots of glass fragments, but only God can see the whole window. God has got a bigger, greater plan in place that cannot be stopped or hindered, so rather than being motivated by fear, may we be filled with courage that comes from following Jesus, enabling us to walk forward positively, faithfully, and joyfully.

Every blessing, David

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Jane Cotton*

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The editor Louise Fell interviewed by Jane Cotton

Louise is married to Matthew, and they have two children, Claire, 21 and Joseph, 22. She became a member of St Mary's when the family moved to Princes Risborough in 2011. She was a Civil Servant for many years, ultimately working in nuclear safety and emergency planning. She is now a stylist with Colour me Beautiful.

Q. What led you to change direction in your career?

A. I found that I needed to be more "emotionally available" to my children than my role in the Civil Service was allowing and was fortunate to retire very early. As time went on and the children became more independent, I decided to take the plunge and train with Colour me Beautiful. I aim to empathise with, encourage and empower my clients and send them out feeling more confident. In contrast, people rarely left my office with a smile when I worked in nuclear emergency planning!

Q. Can you tell us about answers to prayer?

A. The Lord has been very generous where my children are concerned. They were an answer to prayer in the first place, arriving via adoption 15 years ago after I had prayed for a family for many years. Even now I feel the Lord is listening to us: I have seen a huge change in my son as he has started to feel excited about his future, and to put in place stepping stones to get where he wants to be, following my "audacious prayers" that Sue encouraged us to write down earlier this year. One of those stepping stones is learning to drive and I spend all my free time in the passenger seat of his car at the moment. I feel we have grown closer as a result.

Malcolm Cloutt: a PEG

Many of us will remember Malcolm Cloutt, a long-standing member of our church, who died recently aged 103. As a member of Gideons Society, Malcolm was dedicated to making the Word of God available to everyone and reaching souls for God. Whether he was on the bus, or having a coffee in Macdonald's, he sparked conversations with strangers, listened to their story, and shared his love of God, offering to pray for them and presenting them with a copy of the New Testament.

A former colleague of his at the Gideon Swan Camp in Western Australia shared these observations about him:

- Malcolm lived a life in constant PRAYER, praising and giving thanks to God in and for all situations.
- He lived a life as an ENCOURAGER, he did not judge but had godly wisdom and insight to elevate and point the person to God
- He lived a life as a GIVER, unselfishly gave both of his substance and time, and reached out to all.

There is no question that Malcolm was a PEG: a man of Prayer, an Encourager and a Giver.

Malcolm was once pulled up by a traffic policeman in Australia for speeding, and in the process of receiving the traffic infringement ticket, Malcolm, in his sombre polite manner said to the constable, "Thank you, sir, and may I exchange your gift to me by giving you this gift" and he presented the policeman with a copy of the New Testament.

It was an honour to know him.



Louise Fell

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

Romans 1:16-17



Malcolm Cloutt

In other news...

Do you know someone who would be interested in our exciting vacancy for a **Children's and Families Worker**? Or could it be you? Contact the Parish Office for more information or see the website for an application form.

D-Day Commemorative Beacon Lighting 6 June, 8.15pm, Stratton Memorial Garden. Princes Risborough Town Council invite you to join them as we mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day with a lighting of the beacon ceremony. 8.15pm for an 8.35pm start at Stratton Memorial Garden, Long Hide, PR, HP27 0JX

Lighthouse Quiz Night – Saturday 15th June 2024, St. Mary's Church, Princes Risborough – prompt 7:30 pm start, cost £5, Teams of up to 8 people, raffle and heads and tails game. Bring your own drinks and nibbles, no red wine as it stains the floor. To book a table, please contact Jamie carter on 01844 273286 (booking essential). If you would like to come and are not part of a team, please contact Jamie and you can be sorted into one. Offers of raffle prizes appreciated. Please contact Jamie if you would like to donate one.

'Big Parenting Questions' is a day seminar run by Care for the Family and it's coming to High Wycombe on 18 June. Speakers Cathy Madavan and Robin Vincent help to explore how to navigate the leap from childhood innocence to independence. Tickets from: cff.org.uk/bigparenting.

Andrew Walmsley's ordination is on Sat 22nd June at 4pm at St Mary's Church, Old Amersham. You are welcome to attend but please let the office or Andrew know in advance.

St Andrews Literature Festival, celebrating the best of Christian Literature, is being held in Great Missenden over the weekend of 21-22 June. Book your tickets at: www.stalitfest.co.uk.

Could you help out with **cleaning the church**? There are different jobs to suit everyone. Speak to the Parish Office or Heather Hardy - sign up list in church.

Can you help out at **Play Cafe**? Already running every Tuesday morning 9.30-11.00 and aspiring to run on Mondays too, Play Cafe is a blessing to those mums, carers, grandparents who bring toddlers to enjoy some fun in our church. It is well-attended and we are looking to expand to another day. Can you help with chatting to adults, cuddling babies, making drinks, putting away?

We are looking for volunteers to help with a new initiative with **young people at the Crew Cafe** every Monday from 3-4.30pm during term time. You will be working with a WYFC person to build relationships & you needn't attend every week.

Contact the Parish Office if you can help with any of the above activities.



Children's and Families' Worker recruitment



Can you help with cleaning the church?



Play Cafe

Sign up for our weekly e-news by going to the homepage on our website. Receive all the news from St Mary's direct to your phone!

Dates for your Diary

Lunch Club Wednesday , 5 June , 10am-3pm in church

D-Day Commemorative Beacon Lighting 6 June, 8.15pm, Stratton Memorial Garden

Bereavement Drop-in Group in the Chapter House, 3pm 10 June

Lighthouse Quiz Night – Saturday 15th June 2024, St. Mary's Church, Princes Risborough – prompt 7:30 pm

Tea for All in the Chapter House, 2.30pm on 23 June

Ladies' Breakfast, 9.00am Sat 6 July in the Church Hall

Men's Breakfast , Sat 13 July, 8.45 -10.30am Church Hall

Messy Church, Sun 14th July, 3.15pm in church

Prayers at the Yurt: Mon & Fri mornings, 7.30am to 8am

Youth Cafe: Mondays during term time from 3-4.30pm, Crew Cafe

Play Cafe: Tuesdays during term time from 9.30am to 11am in church

Services at St Mary's and St Peter's

Holy Communion at 8am (*said*)

Parish Communion at 9.30 on Sundays in church and live streamed to your home. See the St Mary's website for the link to our YouTube channel.

Live@St Mary's all age service at 11.15 in church. Kid's Church welcomes children to join them for activities during this service - contact the Parish Office for further info on sessions.

Mid week Holy Communion is on Wednesdays at 10.30 followed by coffee.

Third Sunday in the month (16 June) at 6pm, Evensong & shortened HC
St Peter's Church, Ilmer.

For your Prayers this month

D-Day Remembrance Prayer

Almighty and eternal God,
from whose love in Christ we cannot be
parted, either by death or life:
hear our prayers and thanksgivings
for all whom we remember this day;
fulfill in them the purpose of your love; and
bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

A Prayer for our World

Renew our world, Loving God,
Lord of heaven and earth, this earth,
our home, belongs to you.
Give us grace to love it as you do. Give
us courage
to give ourselves, as you do, for the
good
of all people and all of your creation.

Amen

We pray for the dedication service of Beatrice Cooper.

We remember these families in our prayers following the deaths of: Freda Pinnells and Darral Fell.

We uphold in prayer: Paula Knall, Geoffrey and Joy John, Jenny & Fred Deverill, David Coleman, the Rolfe family, Carl State-Claridge, Jackie Powell and her daughter Lisa, Kelly May, Mike and Maureen James, and all those bereaved, suffering ill health or facing operations.

Please pray for:

- the leadership team as it welcomes new members
- Andrew on his Ordination on 22 June and
- that a site manager can be found for Lighthouse.

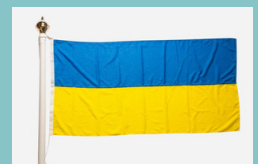
Copies of this newsletter are available in Church for you to collect and pass on to friends and neighbours.



Join our weekly prayer meeting on Zoom every Wednesday at 9am – Zoom invite available from the Parish Office .

We encourage everyone to pray for one another. Ask the Parish Office if you would like to receive details of prayer requests.

Prayers for Ukraine: are held weekly on zoom - Fridays @ 9.00am. Zoom Link - Meeting ID: 714 5146 5358 Passcode:262GY9



Contact the Parish Office
parishoffice@stmarysrisborough.org.uk

Tel: 01844 273300