

St Mary's : Church Diary

Mon - Sat (except Bank Holidays): 8.30 am Morning Prayer

Wed 16th Jan	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Fri 18th Jan	11.00 am	Holy Communion (at Horsham Hospital)
	1.00 pm	Funeral Service for Mr Stan Coombes
Sat 19th Jan	7.00 pm	Horsham Music Circle Concert
SUNDAY 20th Jan	8.00 am	Holy Communion
3rd Sunday of Epiphany	9.30 am	Parish Communion (with the Lighthouse Children's Club and Additional Needs Drop In session)
	11.30 am	Holy Baptisms
	5.00 pm	Christian Unity Service Led by St John's RC Church

St Mary's : For our Prayers

Sunday Intercessions & Prayer Focus for each day this week

In 2018-19 St Mary's is supporting in the wider world: World Vision & Teach Beyond

In the UK & Sussex we are supporting: HCT Projects & Anchor Ministries

In Horsham we are supporting the Horsham Churches Together Projects; Anchor Counselling & Therapy. For more information on these organisations please see the Serving and Transforming the Community noticeboard at the back of church.

At St. Mary's – **Our Proclaiming the Gospel;** We pray for the work of Horsham District foodbank, ministering to people in our local communities who find their budgets and resources stretched to the limit. Give us generous hearts, O Lord, in responding to their needs.

Monday Our own personal witness to Christ (with family, friends etc.)

Tuesday Baptisms visits and preparation.

Wednesday Our Pilgrim Courses & special evangelistic events ("Open the Book" etc.)

Thursday Church Communications (Website, Notice boards, Literature etc.)

Friday Youth outreach (TGI Friday, Youth Alpha, Schools Teams etc.)

Saturday Ministry with visitors to St. Mary's (Church Stewards and guides etc.)

Welcome to St. Mary's!

Especially if this is your first visit – we hope you will enjoy the service. If you are new to us please pick up information about all that St. Mary's offers from the Welcome Table near the Church door. Members of the welcome team will of course be delighted to answer any questions you may have.

We hope you will be able to stay after the 9.30 service, and join us for a cup of coffee. Please do introduce yourself to one of the clergy or a member of the welcome team, who would love the chance to get to know you better.

To find out MUCH MORE about life at St. Mary's please visit

www.stmaryshorsham.org.uk

(or co.tact the Church Office on 01403 253762)

Today at St Mary's

8.00 am	Holy Communion (Reading Acts 8.14-17; Luke 3.15-7 and 21-22)
9.30 am	Parish Communion (with the Lighthouse Children's Club)
11.30 am	Kairos (informal service for children and their families)
5.00 pm	Evensong (Hymns from NEH 64, 114, 376; Ps 29 (or 46-47); Readings Isaiah 55.1-11; Mark 1.4-11)

Week of Prayer for Christian unity 18th – 25th January

We are invited to take part in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. All the information for this year's Week of Prayer is on the Churches Together in Britain and Ireland website - www.ctbi.org.uk – on the theme “Only Justice”. Please do attend at least one of the prayer meetings if you are able to and come to the United Service here at St Mary's at 5pm on Sunday 20th January – which is led this year by St John's Roman Catholic Church. Book marks with these venues, times and dates are available at the back of church.

Fri 18th Jan 7.30pm - 8.30pm	Holy Trinity Church
Sat 19th Jan 10am - 11am	Horsham United Reformed Church
Sun 20th Jan 5pm	Unity Service at St Mary's Church led by St John's RC Church
Mon 21st Jan 7.30pm - 8.30pm	London Road Methodist Church
Tues 22nd Jan 7.30pm - 8.30pm	Salvation Army
Wed 23rd Jan 7.30pm – 8.30pm	St John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church
Thurs 24th Jan 7.30pm – 8.30pm	Trafalgar Road Baptist Church
Fri 25th Jan 7.30pm – 8.30pm	St Leonard's Church

This Week at St Mary's

The Wednesday Pilgrim Group will be starting a course called Fruitfulness on the Frontline from **Wednesday 16th January**. The course is designed to help each one of us discover a rich variety of ways God may work in us and through us right where we are. **Anyone is welcome to join us** from 9.15-10.15am in the Leslie Room. Coffee from 8.30am.

Horsham Music Circle presents 'A New Year Celebration' on Saturday 19th January 2019 at 7pm in St Mary's Parish Church. Edward Dean, Organist at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Street, Will Duerden, double bass, Strings Finalist in the BBC Young Musician of the Year, and sopranos Jill Elsworthy & Valerie Lintott, join with the Choir of St Mary's and the Handbell Ringers KIPHRA in a programme of musical delights from Tallis to De Rose. Tickets are on sale from wegottickets.com/HorshamMusicCircle, and from Horsham Museum 01403 211661.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: See the front page of this pew sheet for the information about this year's week of prayer services.

Drop-in Lighthouse coffee morning in the church centre **Sunday 20th January 2019, 9.30-10.30am** for all families interested in improved inclusion and support of families with children with additional needs in the church. There will be a safe space with appropriate toys, crafts and refreshments. Please invite anyone you know who may be interested. Further details from Fiona Prentice families@stmaryshorsham.org.uk

Coming soon

Thursday 24th Jan 10.30 am: The **Informal coffee morning** will take place in the church centre. These coffee mornings follow on from a **simple Eucharist (in St Peter's Chapel in the church centre) at 10.00am** to which all are welcome and are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in the month. Next date is 14th Feb.

Saturday 2nd Feb at 9.30am: The **Crib** will be coming down. **Any help would be greatly appreciated.** No experience necessary! Steve Benson H. 255477

Sunday 3rd Feb 8am Breakfast - all welcome in the Leslie room for free continental breakfast after the service. (Next date is 3rd Mar.)

H.O.P.E. Parish Prayer Evening 7.30-9pm Monday Feb 4th at St Leonard's (Horsham Open Prayer Evening) We are encouraged to join with members of our 3 sister churches in Horsham Parish, in making this monthly prayer meeting a priority in our diaries. The next meeting is 7.30pm on 4th Mar at Holy Trinity.

WhoLetTheDadsOut? LIGHT morning 9am-11am on Sat 2nd Feb in the church centre. Dads (all male carers), bring your children and have breakfast with us! The usual bacon butties, choc brioche & coffee, table football & construction but also LIGHT themed activities (glow sticks, uv pens, mirrors, prisms and filters); have fun with shadows, refraction, reflection & colour! Suggested donation for breakfast: £5 per family. Further details from Fiona Prentice families@stmaryshorsham.org.uk All welcome; no Mums!

Sunday 10th Feb 2019 3.00pm-4.30pm Welcome Tea in the Leslie Room – A chance for all newcomers to St. Mary's Church to meet church leaders, ask any questions and hear about our vision as “a Church inspired by God's passion for the world”. **Please RSVP to the church office 01403 253762 or office@stmaryshorsham.org.uk**

Finding the Peace of God: Six evenings in Lent introducing silent contemplation, mindfulness, and meditation. Alan Mayer has taught meditation for over 40 years in the parishes where he has served, and now feels called to share this form of contemplative prayer with us in a short course with practical exercises. These evenings are very much for beginners, but those who have some experience of contemplative prayer will also be very welcome. These will take place on the Thursdays of Lent in the Leslie Room, beginning on 7th March at 7.45 p.m. Book the dates in your diary and let the church office know if you'd like to come.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Pre-School Christmas Fayre: The Fayre raised an amazing £1380. Some of this will go towards buying replacement equipment for the pre-school but £1200 has been given to the Thanks a Million project. Thank you so much for your support for this event.

Young People CIA Group (Christians In Action): The CIA group is for young people of secondary school age (year 7 and up) and meets on the 2nd and 4th Sunday's of the month during the 9.30am service. We meet in the Vestry, in an informal setting, to chat and think about issues that are relevant to young people and about what it means to be a Christian. If you, or your child, would like to attend in the future or you are not sure where to find us, please contact Becky Hawkins 07752 472280. We are also looking for new leaders to help with the CIA group and would love to hear from any adults who would like to know more or are interested to learn what this would mean. “

Prayer Room: The Prayer Room (upstairs at the back of the church in the Bethany extension) will now always be open for your use during Church opening times (which are usually 11am-2pm Mon-Sat in the winter). Please use the diary on the door to check or make any prior bookings. Here are some things that people have said about their time there: 'I spent a lovely hour in the Prayer Room from 7-8am ... It was a wonderful oasis in December and exciting to be part of the 24/7 journey.' 'I found it so easy to pray and to find God's peace in the Prayer Room.'

Help needed for Monday “Drop In - Drop Off” coffee mornings: Would anybody be willing to help with setting up and clearing away on a rota basis with the coffee mornings on Mondays? The coffee mornings are held in the Leslie Room from 8.30-9.30am and are primarily for parents and carers dropping off children at school or pre-school but are open to anyone. Helpers need to set up from soon after 8 and can be cleared away by 10. Please contact Karen Inglis-Taylor (email theitfamily@gmail.com or phone 01403 250900) if you can help.

Taster session for Godly Play is open to all on **Saturday, 19th January, 10-12.30 in Lewes.** Godly play is a way of telling Bible stories and exploring the connection with our own lives. You are welcome into Southover Church's Godly play room to hear some stories and experience the technique. All welcome, contact Fiona Prentice or the office for further details.

HORSHAM CHURCHES NIGHT SHELTER – 1st Dec 2018 TO 15th Mar 2019: Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help at the night shelters. Please email emma.elnaugh@horsham-matters.org.uk if you can offer further help. Thank you.

Horsham Matters has set up a “GoFund” page to raise money for a new van to be used to transport furniture to needy families within the Horsham District. Please go to www.gofundme.com/new-van-for-horsham-matters if you are able to donate. Thank you.

When are we getting a new Vicar?

As many people have been asking us, "when will we be getting a new vicar?", we thought that we must let you know what is happening behind the scenes.

Bishop Martin has asked for a Parish Review to take place. This will be conducted by Archdeacon Fiona and will happen in February and March next year.

The Parish review is expected to look at the current set up of the Team Parish of Horsham which is currently made up of four churches: St. Leonard's, Holy Trinity, St. John's and St. Mary's.

Any suggested changes from the review would then be considered by our parish Parochial Church Council before recommending a way forward. Currently our four churches work together and support each other in many different ways and we are blessed by our close working partnership. As far as we are aware there is no desire from any of the Churches in the team to break away. We have been told that a Parish Review is standard practice in the Diocese when a vacancy like ours arises.

As to our new vicar, well no appointment process can really be started until the Parish review is concluded. For the time being we are pleased to welcome Bernard Sinton who the Bishop has appointed as Interim Rector.

We will continue to let you know what is happening as and when we know.

Your Churchwardens

Nigel, Steve, Liz and Morag

During the current interregnum at St Mary's, Bishop Martin has asked Revd Bernard Sinton to act as Interim Rector during the vacancy. Bernard has worked in the Parish since 1990 and was our first SSM (Self Supporting Minister). He is based at Holy Trinity Church. Since retiring from a full time secular job, he has acted as Interim Minister during vacancies in Warnham, West Grinstead and Partridge Green and has just finished at Sullington and Thakeham with Warminghurst. Bernard's wife is the vicar of Shipley. Bernard can be contacted via the St Mary's church office.