

St Mary's : Church Diary

Mon - Sat (except Bank Holidays): 9 am Morning Prayer

Wed 27th Feb	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Thurs 28th Feb	10.00 am	Holy Communion in St Peter's Chapel, Church Centre (followed by coffee)
Fri 1st Mar	10.30 am	World Day of Prayer Service
	11.00 am	Holy Communion (at Horsham Hospital)
SUNDAY 3rd Mar	8.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday next before Lent	9.30 am	Church Family Communion (no Lighthouse Sunday Club)
	11.30 am	Matins
	5.00 pm	Informal Service in the Barn, Church Centre

St Mary's : For our Prayers

Sunday Intercessions & Prayer Focus for each day this week

In 2019 St Mary's is supporting the following organisations:

- In Horsham: Horsham Matters, Turning Tides (formerly Worthing Churches Homeless Projects) Horsham Services, & Salvation Army's Hope In project
- In Sussex: Family Support Work
- In the wider world: TeachBeyond & Christian Aid

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**; A number of TeachBeyond workers are facing increasing difficulty in getting work visas. We pray for favour in the eyes of various governments as the organisation seeks to keep all its missionaries in legal compliance with their respective service countries. Of key concern are parts of India, China, many Muslim regions and, potentially, Europe for our UK missionaries as a result of Brexit.

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

8.00 am	Holy Communion (Reading Revelation 4.1-end & Luke 8.22-25)
9.30 am	Parish Communion (with children's activities in the Leslie Room)
11.30 am	Kairos (informal service for children and their families)
5.00 pm	Evensong (Hymns from NEH 397, 464, 250; Ps 65; Readings Genesis 1.1-2.3 & Matthew 6.25-end)

Electoral Roll Update: ...

The Electoral Roll for Horsham Parish is the closest thing the Church Of England has to a "membership list".

Every six years this list is completely renewed and everyone needs to apply to be on the roll if they want to be included - which we hope you will.

We are doing this renewal during February and early March 2019 so that the roll can be ready in time for our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (as is required by Church Of England Law).

Please complete the form if you would like to do so and give it to your church electoral roll officer as soon as possible (or hand it into the St Mary's Church office). Paper copies of the blank forms are available in church or from the church office.

Did you know: ...

Morning Prayer is led daily in Church at 9am (note the new time!), except on Sundays and Bank Holidays: You are most welcome to join the clergy, and fellow lay members of our church, for these quiet daily services of prayer and reflection. We follow the service using the order of "Common Worship : Daily Prayer", with its simple liturgy and Bible readings from the lectionary, and space for personal prayer (our intercessions are offered in silence).

Coming soon

Thursday 28th Feb 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 March.

Friday 1st March 10.30am World Day of Prayer Service in St Mary's church – This year the country represented is Slovenia and the theme is “Come, everything is ready”. All are welcome to come and pray and to enjoy refreshments after the service.

Saturday 2nd Mar Chichester Cathedral – Horsham Parish will be prayed for at the cathedral, our Mother Church, at the 12noon Holy Communion Service and again at the 3.30pm Evensong. We have been invited to tea at the Cloisters Café from 2.30pm – please contact Charlotte Erskine asap if you'd like to attend.

Sunday 3rd Mar 8am Breakfast - all welcome in the Leslie room for free continental breakfast after the service. (Next date is 31st March – Mothering Sunday.)

Monday 4th March at 2pm – Funeral Service for Janet Palmer to be held in St Leonard's Church. Please remember the family in your prayers, and you are most welcome to join them at the service in giving thanks for Janet's life.

H.O.P.E. Parish Prayer Evening 7.45-9pm Monday Mar 4th at Holy Trinity (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 7.45pm on 1st April at St Mary's.

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. (This is a progressive course and Alan will be creating a course booklet for each session which you can read if you need to miss a session.)

Rebecca Tuck and Joyce Brown have organised some sessions to prepare children to receive **Holy Communion before Confirmation** on Sunday afternoons at 3.30pm during March and April. If you would like your child to join these please speak to them or email curate@stmaryshorsham.org.uk

Wed 13th Mar 10am Holy Communion will be in St Peter's Chapel because of the St Mary's School Prayer Spaces taking place with the school children in the church.

Wed 13th Mar 2.45-4.15pm: Interactive Prayer Spaces, in the church. Come with your child and enjoy the creative prayer spaces set up around the church. Drop-in, refreshments served, all ages are welcome! Queries to Fiona families@stmaryshorsham.org.uk

Wed 13th Mar 7.30pm: St Mary's Book Group in the Leslie Room: We are reading Gilead by Marilynne Robinson. All are welcome. No need to let us know in advance, but if you want to find out more, either speak to the Church Office or speak to Katherine Potter.

Sat 23rd Mar 7.00pm-9.30pm : The London Welsh Male Voice Choir in Concert in St Mary's Church. Tickets £15 from <https://lwmvchorsham.eventbrite.co.uk> or

concerts@londonwelshmvc.org. For more details call Simon Edmands 07753 821964 All proceeds to the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

St Mary's Church AGM 24th March: You are warmly invited to attend our church AGM which takes place after the 9.30 service. More information coming soon.

Sat March 30th - please keep this morning free and come and help make Mothering Sunday posies ! The Barn will be open from 9.00am and Jay Pearson will be VERY grateful for any help. We need to make 300 posies before 11.30! No experience is needed and all are welcome, women, children and men. Also very welcome - donations of flowers and particularly greenery and forsythia! Hope to see you there and thank you. Any queries see Jay Pearson.



Sat 30th Mar 7.45pm St Mary's Jazz Evening with fish and chip supper – tickets (£18) are now on sale from the church office, our website and Waterstones.

Sat 6th April 3-5pm St Mary's Egg Party in the Barn: You are invited to come and celebrate new life with an egg hunt in the Church followed by Easter crafts, games, cakes and a hot tea for the children at the Barn. Tickets £5 per family. Please book via MyChurchSuite, or the “what’s on” page on our website or via the Church Office.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Stewardship Weekly Giving Envelopes: the new stewardship envelopes for 2019-2020 are available at the back of church for those already in this scheme. If anyone would like more information about this regular giving scheme, please could they get in touch with our Stewardship Office Jean Mitchell.

St Mary's Grass Cutting: We are looking for someone to keep the grass neat and trimmed around the east, north and west sides of St. Mary's. This typically takes three hours, every two weeks during the grass growing season. If you are interested in this **paid work, equipment can be provided if needed**, please contact the Church Office on 01403 253762 or speak to a churchwarden.

KINDER LIVING HOME SHOW Sat 2nd – Sun 3rd March at County Hall North (Parkside); Free entry. Can you support an **Eco Church stand** at this event?

<https://www.kinderliving.co.uk/events/home-show-2019/>. For info, and to volunteer, please contact Rosemary Couchman, HCT Development Co-ordinator – rosemary.couchman@horshamct.org.uk or 07566 202741.

Sponsorship Request: Jane Gorrie is taking part in the YMCA DownsLink SleepEasy 2019 again this year – please considering sponsoring or joining her! *Homelessness is not just about rough sleeping*. Many young people may find themselves sofa surfing – staying with friends and family, without a stable place to call home, or they may live in unsafe or overcrowded accommodation and this is a cause close to Jane's heart. Donate via: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Jane-Gorrie> or see Jane in church for more details.

LENT STUDY 2019



The Diocesan Lent Course this year uses the 2019 Year of Vocation theme. We recommend that home groups make use of the following year of vocation resources - 'Living Christ' - a Lent course for 2019 and 'A Way of Living' - a programme designed to help you deepen your discipleship by adopting a rule of life. These are available in paper form from the back of church or from the church office or online at <https://www.chichester.anglican.org/yov2019/>.

Year of Vocation Lent Groups running for six weeks throughout Lent on Wednesdays or Saturdays: Wednesday evening group 7.45-9pm at Lynne Keeble's home in central Horsham beginning on 13th March; Saturday morning group 10-11am held in the church centre beginning on 9th March. Please book online via mychurchsuite or the what's on page on www.stmaryshorsham.org.uk or via the church office - all are welcome.

Year of Vocation 'Way of Living' is the theme at the informal and cafe church services (1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays). They begin on 3rd Feb – 7th April at 5pm in the Barn, Church Centre. Explore what living as a Christian could mean for your life and support, how to be more intentional... also with great worship, afternoon tea and great people!

Lent Fundraising 6th March – 21st April



This year our chosen charity will be "Turning Tides" which supports local people who are homeless and vulnerable with health, debt, homelessness, and getting into work. For more information about the charity see the notice board at the back of church or online <https://www.turning-tides.org.uk/what-we-do/recovery-housing-horsham/>.

LENT COLLECTION BOXES: Lent Collection "Pillar Boxes" are available in church from 24th Feb to help us collect small change. After Easter, please count up the change and gift aid the amount (if appropriate) with a cheque (made to "PCC Horsham No 1 Acc") to the value of change collected and return the pillar box and envelope to the church office or put it into the offering collection in a service by 3rd May.

LENT ANGELS – Scheme 6th March – 20th April:

Being an Angel - If you would like to join St. Mary's "Lent Angel" team of volunteers, please phone Veronica James and sign up to help! Simple jobs will be matched to volunteer skills (& physical strength), and times fixed with "hirers" to suit all parties – aiming to complete tasks during Lent.

Welcoming Angels - Do you have any simple practical jobs around the home (up to about 2 hours max duration) that you just can't manage or get around to? Just phone Veronica James – and for a small donation, we'll fix up angelic church members to do that job, to the best of our ability!

THANK-YOU : for being an Angel!

LENT LUNCHESES: Saturdays 9th March – 13th April 12-1.30pm in the Barn – Join us for a simple meal to raise money for Turning Tides. The Children and Families' Lent lunch is the one on 16th March (the church children will serve the lunch) and there will also be a cake stall run that day by the younger children with proceeds going to World Vision and a selection of Mothering Sunday crafts provided too. Please come and support us! (All donations of homemade cakes welcome for the 16th March Lent Lunch.)

LENT - HOLY WEEK – EASTER SERVICES

Wednesday 6th March 7:45pm ASH WEDNESDAY : Lent begins with this special Service of Holy Communion (this service will include the traditional ashing ceremony, which will also be available at the regular Wednesday midweek Eucharist at 10.00am).

Wednesday Evenings in Lent: 7.45pm 13th Mar – 10th Apr Night Prayer held in church

PALM SUNDAY 14th April : 9.10am – Please note the 9.30 service begins with Prayers and a Procession to Church while singing hymns and bearing palms. Please bring a green branch, and gather at the top of the Causeway at 9.10am. At **6.30pm** – You are invited to begin Holy Week with a meditative & dramatised reading of the Passion story, which is interspersed with hymns and Choir anthems.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday Evenings of Holy Week: 7.45pm 15th, 16th & 17th Apr Night Prayer held in church

MAUNDY THURSDAY PRAYER VIGIL : After the **Maundy Thursday Eucharist (7.45pm 18th April)** a silent prayer vigil will be held in church. You are invited to "keep watch" and pray, as Jesus and his followers did before his arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Good Friday “Walk of Witness” – Fri 19th Apr will be taking place as usual in the town centre. Everyone is welcome to join one of the walks:

- East Street Walk – assemble at Brighton Road Baptist Church (New Street Entrance) from 10.30am to move off at 10.45am towards the Carfax
- West Street Walk – assemble at St. John the Evangelist RC Church from 10.30am to move off at 10.45am towards the Carfax

From 10am, Hot Cross buns will be distributed to the general public. The Good Friday Joint Service is an exciting opportunity for Christians from churches in and around Horsham to witness about their faith on a key date in the Christian calendar. The service, which takes place on the Carfax Bandstand, starts at 11.10am and will be finished by 11.50am. Do come along! Volunteer stewards are needed for the event – if you are available to help from 10.30am-12 noon, please contact Rosemary Couchman, HCT Development Co-ordinator - rosemary.couchman@horshamct.org.uk or 07566 202741

Good Friday Devotion 12noon – 3pm 19th April :

“Meditating on and Celebrating Christ’s Work on the Cross”

12noon – 1pm: The Stations of the Cross, led by Fr. David Bouskill;

1pm-2pm: Seven Words from the Cross, led by Rev’d Alan Mayer;

2pm-3pm: St Mary’s Choir will give a performance of Stainer’s “Crucifixion”.

Good Friday Holiday Club Friday April 19th, 12noon-3pm, in the church centre. Age appropriate and engaging activities for school children **YEAR 4 up**: games, crafts, and make-your-own pizza lunch: £5 per child payable when you book. Helpers (YEAR 8 up) are free. Please register on the church website, via mychurchsuite or through the church office. Queries to Fiona families@stmaryshorsham.org.uk

“Messy Easter” – Holy Saturday 20th Apr: Horsham Churches Together are organising Messy Easter craft activities in Swan Walk from 10am-4pm. If you can help please contact Rosemary Couchman, Horsham Churches Together Development Co-ordinator - rosemary.couchman@horshamct.org.uk or 07566 202741.

EASTER SUNDAY 21st Apr: 8.00 am Holy Communion, 9.30 am Easter Celebration Communion (no Lighthouse Sunday Club); Note: NO evening service on Easter Day.