

St Mary's : Church Diary

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

Wed 27th Mar	10.00 am	Holy Communion
	7.45 pm	Night Prayer (in St Peter's Chapel, Church Centre)
Thurs 28th Mar	10.00 am	Holy Communion in St Peter's Chapel, Church Centre (followed by coffee)
	7.45 pm	Christian Meditation Course (Leslie Room/Church)
Fri 29th Mar	11.00 am	Holy Communion (at Horsham Hospital)
Sat 30th Mar	12 noon	Lent Lunches (in the Barn, Church Centre)
	7.45 pm	Jazz Fish and Chip Supper in the Barn
SUNDAY 31st Mar	8.00 am	Holy Communion
Mothering	9.30 am	Church Family Communion (no Lighthouse Sunday Club)
Sunday	5.00 pm	Café Church (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 Caring as a Fellowship**; We pray Lent will help us to consider those in our community who are homeless, and ways in which we might help – however large or small.

Monday Our care for the suffering (visits in hospital & at home, healing prayer team)

Tuesday Our welcome ministry (sidemen, coffee team, office staff etc.)

Wednesday Our ministry with the elderly (Almshouses, Nursing Home visits, Sunday lunch)

Thursday Our leaders in pastoral care (Clergy, Readers, Pastoral Visitors etc.)

Friday Our bereavement ministry (Funerals, visits, memorial book)

Saturday Our church social life (fun events, coffee mornings, catering & social teams)

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 contact the Church Office on 01403 253762)

Today

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|-----------------|--|
| 8.00 am | Holy Communion (Reading 1 Corinthians 10.1-13; Luke 13.1-9) |
| 9.30 am | Parish Communion (with the Lighthouse Children's Club)
followed by St Mary's AGM |
| 11.30 am | Kairos (informal service for children and their families) |
| 5.00 pm | Evensong (Hymns from NEH 187, 182, 186; Ps 85; Readings Genesis 28.10-19a & Luke 1.26-38) |

TODAY St Mary's AGM 24th March You are warmly invited to attend our church AGM which takes place after the 9.30 service. There are several opportunities to serve on one or more of the groups which help to make decisions regarding all aspects of our church and parish life. Please do prayerfully consider whether you could help in this way and talk to a member of the clergy or one of the Wardens. Sign up sheets are on the board at the back church. AGM packs are available to read in advance of the meeting: paper copies to borrow, read and return are at the back of church and you can also see them on our church website.

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.

Coming soon

Wednesday Evenings in Lent: 7.45pm 27th Mar – 10th Apr Night Prayer held in St Peter's Chapel, in the Church Centre

Tues 26th March 10 for 10.30am in the Causeway Barn, Mothers' Union Horsham Branch welcome you to our open meeting when Helen Crooks will talk about QEII, the special school for the disabled (aged 2-19) with a hub at Collyers (aged 19-25), along with their inclusive practice and their building of strong community links. Helen will also talk about QEII's link with a similar school in Kenya. Entry £1 to include tea/coffee and biscuit.

Thursday 28th Mar 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 11th April.

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 in church or via the church office.



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.

Sunday 31st Mar 8am Breakfast - all welcome in the Leslie room for free continental breakfast after the service. (Next date is 5th May.)

Sunday 31st Mar 5pm – Café church/ informal service request for help with refreshments: please can anyone offer to help with serving the refreshments (all the food etc will be provided already) because the usual team will be away? Please can you let the church office know if you can help.

Monday 1st April 10.00am – funeral service for Mrs Esther Tranter. Please remember the family in your prayers, and you are most welcome to join them at the service in giving thanks for Esther's life.

Mon 1st April 7pm Local Election Hustings – in the Barn: The Horsham Society is advertising "Question Time" style Hustings chaired by Mark D'Arcy, BBC Parliamentary Correspondent. An opportunity to hear from local politicians standing for election to Horsham District Council and ask them about their plans for Horsham. Everyone welcome.

H.O.P.E. Parish Prayer Evening 7.45-9pm Monday 1st April here at St Mary'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 7.45pm on 6th May at St John's.

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.

Thursday 11th April 10:00am to 12 noon: Please come and help make Palm Crosses in the Church Centre – no experience necessary – just bring a pair of scissors! Contact Val Burgess for details via the church office.

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

Decorating the Church for Easter: The flower arranging team will be grateful for any help and donations of foliage to decorate the church from **9.30am on Easter Saturday morning 20th April**. No experience is needed and all are welcome, women, children and men. Hope to see you there and thank you.

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.

WhoLetTheDadsOut? Sat Apr 27th, 9-11am, in the church centre (Barn) for all dads/male carers and their children. Come and have some “Movin’ and Groovin’” fun with breakfast too! All the usual activities: pool table, table football PLUS an obstacle course, activity challenges and a dance workshop (in the Manor room). Suggested donation of £2 pp to cover the costs. All welcome except mums!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

World Vision - Disaster Emergency Appeal: Over the last week Cyclone Idai has affected Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe. Many people have died and around 2 million people have been affected in the three countries across southern Africa. As more affected areas are accessed the scale of need is likely to increase. For more information see <https://www.worldvision.org.uk/> and donations can be made using the emergency appeal envelopes at the back of church.

Easter Lilies – if you wish to purchase a lily at Easter in memory of a loved one please place a donation in one of the envelopes provided (available at the back of church) **and write on it the name of your loved one.** A list of names of those remembered will be displayed in the church over the Easter period.

Fri 5th Apr 6pm Petworth Area Churches Together: Spring Lecture ‘Developing character through education’ Damian Hinds MP Secretary of State for Education to speak with reference to Faith Schools. All welcome, especially those connected with local schools, Teachers, Heads and School Governors at Petworth (St Mary's Parish Church) GU28 0AD wine and canapés following, free entry parking in town centre car park (6 minutes walk) Further info: Gerald Gresham Cooke 01798 342 151 Geraldgreshamcooke@gmail.com

“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.

Parenting Course: A six week group for parents & carers of pre-school children will be starting on Thursday May 9th at 8pm (break for half term). We will share experiences and explore the skills which help us encourage, listen and set boundaries, enjoy time with our children and make the most of family life. Cost: £9 which includes a handbook to keep. For more information contact Hennie Sleeman via the church office, speak to Fiona Prentice or Laura Fletcher in church, or leave your contact details with the church office.

Monday 6th May 10.30am : St Mary's 5k Trail Run & Children's Colour Run & Funday in the Barrack Field with children's entertainment, forest crafts, stalls, & refreshments.

MAY CAMP 2019 24th May – 27th May – Camping at Plumpton Race Course – Horsham and other local churches young people are going to this Diocesan camp. Do join us at this event which is for all young people in West Sussex from Year 6 up). For details see our church website or speak to Becky Hawkins in church (or via the church office).

Confirmation 2019 : There will be a Deanery Confirmation service at St Margaret's, Warnham on **Wed 5th June at 7.30pm.** Anyone wishing to be confirmed should contact Alison in St Mary's office in the first instance.

Flower Festival 13th - 16th June : The theme for this year's Flower Festival is “Diversity “ Interpreting Local Culture in flowers. The Flower Festival is always very popular, a great way of outreach to the town and a great way of raising funds. Last year it raised over £4200! It's success is very dependent on sponsorship and donations mainly from local businesses and churches to cover the costs of the flowers for the arrangements and for stocking the cafe. If anyone would like to consider sponsoring an arrangement or giving a donation (however small) it would be greatly appreciated. If you have contact with a local business or run one yourself, perhaps you would consider asking them to supporting us? All sponsors are included in the programme and publicity. Please contact Judy Brinkworth, Jo Benson or Ali in the Church Office.

Church Welcomers

One of St. Mary's greatest assets is our Church Building as a welcoming haven for visitors to Horsham and from further afield. Every day we try to have our Church open to visitors who greatly appreciate the opportunity to spend some time in our Church building.

Quote from Trip Advisor:

“Warmly welcomed and offered choice of leaflets for self-guided tour around church.”

In order that we can keep our Church open and offer a friendly welcome we urgently need some more 'Church Welcomers'.

If you can spare one or two hours a week to be in Church to meet and welcome our visitors, please let Terry Brinkworth or one of our Churchwardens know.

Thank you

HORSHAM MATTERS : As you may know, Horsham Matters has lost at least £90,000 of West Sussex funding which had previously enabled the Charity to provide support to the most vulnerable members of our community. Horsham Matters would be grateful if you could think about ways in which you may be able to fundraise, for example you may be able to ask your workplace to benefit the Charity at a corporate day or if you belong to a group or organisation could you raise funds through an event with your members? If you would like to discuss any ideas please contact Emma Elnaugh, emma.elnaugh@horsham-matters.org.uk “

LENT STUDY & PRAYER 2019

Prayer Room during Lent : *“You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you in a dry and parched land where there is no water.” Psalm 63v1*
Come and spend some time in the prayer room during Lent. Some prayer activities have been prepared for you to use or you can use the time as you choose. You can book a slot in the diary hung on the door or just turn up and see if it is free. The prayer room is at the top of the Bethany building which is the extension on the south west corner of the church and is open whenever the church is open.

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 23rd 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 LUNCHESES: Saturdays 23rd March – 13th April 12-1.30pm in the Barn – Join us for a simple meal to raise money for Turning Tides.

LENT COLLECTION BOXES: Lent Collection “Pillar Boxes” are available in church from 24th Feb to help us collect small change.

LENT ANGELS – Scheme 23rd March – 20th April: small jobs by volunteers to raise funds. Please phone Veronica James via the church office and sign up to help or have a job done!

Coming soon

St Mary's 5K Trail Run and Family Fun Day: On **Monday 6th May**, St Mary's Preschool are hosting their second annual 5K Trail Run and Family Fun Day! On Barrack Field from **10:00 am - 2:00 pm**, there will be a wide range of entertainment including bouncy castle, forest crafts, giant games and giant bubbles, alongside a variety of acts performing in our outdoor arena. As well as the adults' 5K trail run, there is the children's obstacle colour run, with different heats for different ages. We will have a variety of food and drink vendors in attendance including a bar, plus face painting and a selection of stalls from local businesses. You can register now for the 5k and colour runs, or buy children's wristbands which give you unlimited access to all children's entertainment for the whole day. Visit the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/StMarys5krun> and book now through Eventbrite. See you there!