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Our church diary is available to view on the website

16th February 2020

Worship Matters!

Pudding and Praise Evening Friday 28th February 2020, from 7.30 in the Church

Please join us for an informal evening of music and songs, as we celebrate the musical gifts God has so graciously given us. We would especially welcome less confident singers and hesitant musicians to come along and have a go! Music will be available in advance for those who would like copies.

As always, there will be an opportunity for anyone to try their hand at the EW and PA equipment too. Whether you are a current member of any part of the team – music / singing / audio/visual - or would like to be involved, or are just a little curious, please come along!

Bring your instrument if you have one - however unskilled you are!

For more information, please speak to Chris McGrath 01420 564418 / chrismcgrath175@gmail.com / 07754 804786

Lent 2020

Lent begins on Wednesday 26th February with the Ash Wednesday Communion service. As Ministry Leader for Prayer I am very keen to offer the church family the resources to enable us to prepare during the Lent season for the events of Easter.

The team have decided to hold 2 meetings on Tuesday 18th February from 7.30pm to 8.30pm and Saturday 22nd February from 10-11am to explain what is being offered and to answer any questions. Some resources are produced by the Anglican church others are not. I do believe it is important that we try to prepare ourselves spiritually during Lent so that we can fully enter into the Passion of our Lord.

The Week Ahead

Sunday 16th February
Gifted | Physical Gifts
Hebrews 10:19-25 & Matthew 25:14-30

8am - Said Communion 9.30am - All Age Communion Service 7pm - Celebration Service with communion

Monday 17th February | Office Closed

10am - Bumps & Babies in church hall 7pm - Discipleship Explored in upper room

7.30pm - Visiting Team in church hall

Tuesday 18th February | Office Closed

7am - Early Morning Prayer in Chapel 7.30pm - Lent Prayer Explanation in church hall

Wednesday 19th February | Office Closed

2pm - Tea & Chat in Church hall 2pm - Tea & Bowls in Church

Thursday 20th February | Office Closed

9.45am - Ladies Small Group in church hall/upper room

Saturday 22nd February

10am - Lent Prayer Explanation in the church hall.

Sunday 23rd February Gifted | Gifting Others

1 Thessalonians 5:4-24 & Luke 9:1-6

8am - Said Communion 9.30am - All Age Communion Service 7pm - Celebration Service

Caring in Prayer

New/Updated

Malawi – Pray for Ali as she works in the UK on the curriculum and workbooks for the children at Starfish Malawi.

Young Couple – Pray for peace and comfort for a a young couple who have had to terminate a pregnancy due to the baby's heart condition.

J – Pray for strength, support and healing for J, who has liver cancer. Pray for any treatment she may be able to undergo..

Youth – Pray for the youth away this weekend; for safety, fun, fellowship and for our young people to grow closer to God.

Continuing

Church Finances – Pray for our church finances and the projected deficit. Pray for the PCC to be good stewards of the resources God has given us. Pray that we can be faithful to God's calling even where we see challenges.

Howard's Study Leave – Pray for a fruitful and restorative time for Howard. Pray for the church leaders and the congregation in his absence, for our growth (in faith and in mission).

Alpha – Give thanks to the interest in Alpha. Pray for future plans and courses. Pray for those who came along and for us to offer the best way to further their journeys of faith.

Mindfulness – Pray for those on the mindfulness course. Pray that the course will help to improve people's well-being. Pray for David as he leads the course.

Carmen – Has finished her course of chemotherapy and has now begun radiotherapy. Pray the cancer will be killed and pray for Carmen and her family..

William – William is back to usual. He is on new medication. Pray that it will be successful in controlling his fits. We do not take offerings at our services. Our preferred method of financial giving to continue the excellent work of Church is via Standing Order. Please contact the Church Office or our Treasurer,

Giving

David Craigen (01420 564152 or cogstreasurer@gmail.com) for more details or pick up a Standing Order Mandate at the back of the church. If you wish to make cash or cheque donations, please place in the receptacle. If you wish to donate online, these are our account details:

Acc No: 60003685. Sort Code: 60-01-13. Many thanks for your generosity.

Following the success of last year's **LADIES' AFTERNOON CRAFT TEA** we are considering something similar this year on Saturday 21st March. We do need a team of helpers though in the following areas so please, if this is something you enjoy and feel would be good to invite others along to, then speak to Jane Hughes or Caroline Andrews if possible in the next week. Thank you

- Stand at front to welcome and possibly share a short Christian thought
- Preparation for and supervising a craft or flower arranging activity.
- Making sandwiches, cakes and scones
- SUPA team (set up, put away)

Village Picnic 2021!

We are sadly not going to be holding a Village Picnic this year (2020). Thank you to all those who worked on our efforts exploring this year. We are looking forward to 2021 when we are planning to hold a refreshed Village Picnic. If you'd like to be involved in making the 2021 event happen, then contact Matt in the office.



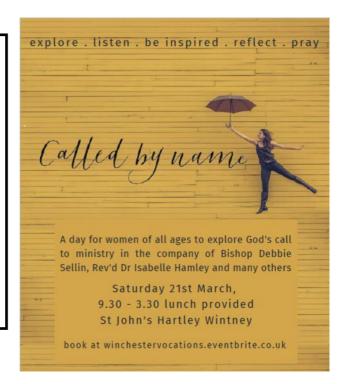
Easter COGS Club will be on Saturday 4th April this year! Please save the date and speak to Lorna if you would like to be on team

The tea and coffee rota is in need of some help. We have gaps in the rota on the 1st Sunday of alternate months beginning in March. If anyone can offer to cover one, some or all of these, please contact Matt in the office.

Lent on the Bookstall

In readiness for Lent, the bookstall is stocked with lent meditation resources, etc.

Do have a look and see what there is.





Poster and further details in the porch



Come & Sing!

Cecilia McDowall: Da Vinci Requiem & Vaughan Williams: 5 Mystical Songs

With Neil Ferris

Director of BBC Symphony Chorus & Patron of Luminosa

Sunday 1st March 2020

Alton Assembly Rooms

Rehearsals: 10.00am - 4.00pm (break 12.00 - 1.00pm)

Performance: 5.00pm

Please note the office is closed week beginning 17th February

Apologies for the inconvenience

Please email items for the sheet to the office by the end of Wednesday

Church Access on Tuesday 18th

We shall be lightening the load in the Church loft (which is above your heads as you enter the porch) on Tuesday 18 February. A skip will be positioned in the car park to receive our unwanted items. The porch will be closed off while we carry out this work, so access to the church will be through the side door. It will all be finished and cleared away in time for Tea & Chat on Wednesday. Questions please to one of us. Lynn Vine, Chris King-Smith

Message from Ali Beckett

Calling all primary and preschool teachers. Does anyone out there have any free printable worksheets on numbers, basic maths, phonics (letters and sounds) and shapes all up to year two? I need these to use with my children in Malawi and would be so grateful if you could email me if you can help.

Thanks

ali.beckett60@gmail.com

Sermons on-line and available on CD from the office

Howard's final sermon before Study Leave contained important information for us all. If you missed it, please do catch-up on-line or ask for a CD.

Holiday at Home

Please will you save the clear plastic, round-ended 1 litre ice cream carton lids to be used as bases for small Easter gardens. Leave in the porch, or give to me. Thank you.

Elaine King-Smith

This summer at Christ Church, Chineham



TASTER EVENING MARCH 17th 7pm - 8.30pm

All Welcome

For more information contact wendy.atkinson@winchester.anglican.org

Seeking willing Audio/Visual volunteers!

Our Sunday services couldn't happen without the amazing team of volunteers on the audio/visual desk. For some time now we have been shorthanded, and those on the rota have worked extra hard to ensure the roles are filled.

We would be delighted to hear from anyone who feels they could help out in this area at the 9.30 or 7pm services. If this is something you would be interested to learn more about, please speak to Chris McGrath, Mark Hughes, or anyone on the desk. No previous experience is necessary, just a willingness to learn! Thank You Chris McGrath, 07754 804786 chrismcgrath175@gmail.com 01420 564418

Saying yes to life: the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent book 2020

'As people of faith, we cannot just say what we believe. We are obliged to live out the life that Christ calls us to live, to care for our neighbours, for the creatures and the creation that God has so generously given us.'

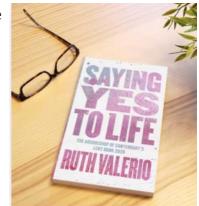
This is the challenge set out in Saying yes to life: the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent book 2020, written by Tearfund's Director of Global Advocacy and Influencing, Ruth Valerio.

It draws on the days of creation (Genesis 1) to explore what it means for us to be made in the image of God and entrusted to look after what he

has made. It features voices from around the world, prayers and discussion points to help you reflect over Lent.

This book will encourage you to go deeper with God in the lead up to Easter.

Available from the COGS bookstall, or direct from SPCK – go to: https://spckpublishing.co.uk/saying-yes-to-life



Small Group Notes – 16th February 2020 Gifted – Physical Gifts

Matthew 25:14-30

What do you think of as 'Talents'? What comes to mind when you hear this parable? Money? Something solid, of value? An investment?

Do you ever think of the talents as God's investment in his people? And if so – what might that investment be?

Why is there anger against the one who buried his talent? It's not that he lost his investment. Did he fail?

'You are a hard man'. Do you think of God as a hard man, the 'big stick in the sky', only interested in success, not failure? Contrast this 'hard man' with our Lord who hung on a cross, showing the love of God. Indeed, did Jesus 'fail'? (Look also at Mark 6: 5)

The focus of this parable is the third servant, because he didn't try. And why not? Fear.

Fear can masquerade as failure, as embarrassment, as caution, we can play at being wise to divert from fear, and we often hide behind money, financial concerns or whatever, as reasons not to try.

What are your 'excuses' for not trying?

The talent (investment) we're given is to declare God's command such as we see in Matthew 10: 8 – to live out Kingdom values – and the Great Commission. What stops you from trying to live out this command?

At Pentecost tongues of fire rested on all who gathered. They were filled with the fire of the Spirit, and began to declare the word of God boldly. They couldn't contain it.

Lord, take away my fear. Fill me with the power of your Holy Spirit. What do you want me to try? To try again?

Prayer Spaces in Schools

We're really excited to be running Prayer Spaces in Schools again this March. It's a fantastic opportunity to help children engage with God through creative prayer.

If you're interested and are available for a morning or afternoon on the week of the 9th March, please contact Lorna

PRAYER and PASTORAL REQUESTS

If you have any prayer requests for the prayer chain, please email or ring the Church Office on 01420 560622, Alan Thain (01420 85185), or Howard Wright on 01420 563344.

If it would be helpful for a member of the pastoral visiting team to call on you, please contact Howard, Debbie Norgate (01420 84534) or Gilly Cobb (01420 544404).



Ministers: All of Us Together

Vicar: Howard Wright (on study leave until 4th May)

Contact our Church Wardens

Dr Chris King-Smith: c.kingsmith@btinternet.com

Mrs Lynn Vine: lynn.vine@live.co.uk

Youth & Children's Worker: Lorna Littlewood

Tel: 07914 519998

Email: lorna.cogs@gmail.com

Family Worker: Jane Hughes

Tel: 07711 407831

Email: Jane_COGS@btinternet.com

Church Office: Matt Senior Tel: 01420 560622

Email: cogsoffice@googlemail.com

Send Sunday Sheet items to the church office <u>before end of day on Wednesday</u>



Everyone is welcome to join us for a chat and tea/coffee **between** morning services or **before** the 7pm service

For communion, gluten-free wafers are available and there is a chalice with non-alcoholic wine. Please ask when you come forward if you would like to take these.

MISSION OF THE MONTH - February

BESOM

"The focus on the Besom is and always has been on those who have something to give, but are looking for a way to do so. Besom encourages involved giving out of a sense of love, as opposed to duty, and offers people the opportunity to think creatively about how they would like to give. "



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