

Welcome

A very warm welcome to you, whether you are new to St Matthew's and All Saints' or worship with us every week. We hope you will feel at home in our churches. Please introduce yourself to someone, and stay for coffee, which is served after most services. Please see the back page for useful information for visitors.

If you are a newcomer or visitor, do please consider filling in and returning a welcome card, so that we can be in touch with information about groups and activities of interest and how we can serve you.

THIS SUNDAY

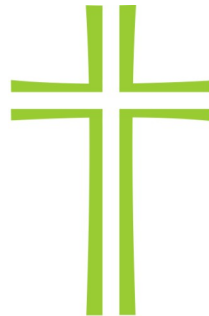
17th April - Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's
9:30am Morning Worship & APCM at All Saints'
11:00am Holy Communion at St Matthew's
6:15pm Evening Prayer (BCP) at St Matthew's
Youth Fellowship at St Matthew's Church Hall
6:00-7:15pm for those in school years 7-9
7:00-8:45pm for those in school years 10-13

NEXT SUNDAY

24th April - Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) at All Saints'
9:30am Holy Communion at All Saints'
11:00am Morning Worship & APCM at St Matthew's
6:15pm Holy Communion at St Matthew's
Youth Fellowship at St Matthew's Church Hall
6:00-7:15pm for those in school years 7-9
7:00-8:45pm for those in school years 10-13



**HARWELL
CHILTON
CHURCHES**

CONTACTS

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Vicky Johnston
Administrator & PA to the Rector
Tel: 834256
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churches.org.uk
Mon/Tue/Thur/Fri 9.30-2.30

If you would like to
talk with the Rector
about any matter, please
contact Jonathan directly,
or via the Church Office

St Matthew's Harwell
with All Saints' Chilton

CHRISTIAN AID

Christian Aid Week will be from 15th May to 21st May. The event starts in Chilton with the Plant Sale in Chilton Village Hall on Saturday 14th May, organised by All Saints' Women's Group.

We have a number of volunteers who deliver donation envelopes to houses in Chilton and collect them a few days later. Some of our deliverers have moved away from the village so we need some more volunteers.

For more information please contact Hazel King

BALSAM PROJECT

There is a charity fundraiser VIP night happening on Wednesday 20th April at Didcot Civic Hall from 7-11pm to raise funds for the Balsam Family Project. Tickets are £10 each, formal dress code.

APCM PAPERS

You can find all of the papers relating to the Annual Meetings for both churches on our website. HCChurches.org/apcmpapers There are paper copies of reports available in both our churches. Please ask if you're unable to find them.

ALPHA COURSE

We are running an Alpha course in the Harwell RBL Poppy Rooms which started this Thursday.

If you would like to attend, its not too late! Please contact Vicky for more information on 834256 or email office@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.

Please pray for those attending the course, that it would be useful, and for those preparing meals and leading the discussions.

SITUATIONS VACANT

"There should be no such thing as an unemployed Christian"!

ROCK on! The new after-school club at Harwell Primary school is starting next Monday (25th April). ROCK Club (Ps 62:2) is a really exciting opportunity to serve the school and bring the same mix of fun & faith of Holiday Club to the children every week. And as we intend to visit the children at home then we'll be building good relationships with families and the community too. We really need a strong, committed team to make this happen. There are jobs both "great" (home visiting, teaching, games) and "small" (refreshments, score-keeping, admin) that need doing. You know what you need to do!



Holiday Club:

Let us Ride to Camelot: Planning for Holiday Club 2016 is well under-way. There's a reason it's so popular: because it's so good. [Even if it's free, children would protest if it was boring!] It's sad to think that there are people in our congregation who are missing out on something so exciting. Do you know someone with a hobby, skill or sport who could share it with a small group of children in the afternoons? What about cleaning & tidying? What about making crafts? Serving drinks or making cakes? Explaining how to use a Bible or what it means? Don't let these people miss out on putting their time & skills to such worthwhile use - pass their name onto Peter Shields or Jane Woolley.



CFW Numbers:

The Easter break means attendance stats have been missing for a couple of weeks. (We'll create a place on the website where historical figures can be viewed).

Here are the stats for the week just gone -

Kids Church: 13; Pathfinders: 10; YF: 20

Fledgelings: 34 children + 24 adults

And 14 people volunteered 33+ hours to deliver it all.

In addition another 15 or more people gave another 22 hours of time planning and preparing for future events.

Easter Fiesta:

Our experimental Easter Service was a joyful (and sometimes manic!) celebration of the Cross &

Resurrection. There

were 62 people in attendance - 32 adults and 30

children. And 6 of the 19 families who came aren't

members of our churches. The conclusion of the review group was - let's do it again soon!

**Swimathon:**

Thank you to everyone who sponsored YF for their Swimathon in February. A total of £301.60 was

generously raised. Monies now need to be submitted to the event organisers so if you haven't yet passed on your sponsorship please do so ASAP. (Speak to Peter if you have forgotten the amount you pledged. It might also be a good idea to speak to Peter if you HAVE passed on your sponsorship as he's received some cash amounts but has no idea who from!!)

**All Saints' Children's Group:**

It's exciting to have seen the growth in the number of young families regularly attending All Saints' (just short of 50% of the congregation last week!). As a result, on Sunday 15th May the youngest members of the congregation will have a group of their own to attend. If you'd consider being a part of the team then please speak to Helen Brook or Melanie Shields.

The eagle-eyed will have noticed that the yellow 'Gift Aid' envelopes have disappeared from the pews in St Matthew's Church. The reason is not just to keep things tidier, but because with our current pattern of income and a recent change to the rules, *we no longer need to use the envelopes in order to be able to claim Gift Aid on the majority of donations.* The exceptions to this are when the donation is by cheque or by means of one or more £50 notes; in these cases taxpayers are requested to use a yellow envelope, available near the entrance of both churches, in order to ensure that Gift Aid is claimed and the value of the gift increased by 25%. As always, donations or pledges can be made by means of the offertory collection during services, via the wall safes in our churches, via the Treasurers, Stuart Gibson for Chilton and Peter Barclay-Watt for Harwell (or via the Book-keeper for St Matthew's, Brenda Pyke), or online. See <http://HCChurches.org/finances>

VISITORS' INFO

Children are especially welcome at our services. There are groups for primary aged children in Harwell, and a family area in Chilton with activities for younger children.

At our services of Holy Communion all who love the Lord are welcome to share with us. If you require a gluten-free wafer please indicate this to the sidespeople before the service.

Both churches have a hearing loop, and large print service and weekly noticesheets are available. Toilets are at the back of the church in Harwell and accessed from outside at Chilton.

NOTICESHEET ITEMS

Please submit noticesheet items to Vicky by Wednesday of the preceding week, either via the website, by email, by phone, or by leaving a note in the vestry. The deadline for Broadsheet items is the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

News items also appear on our website. You need to be logged-in to see some of them.

St Matthew's Registered Charity Number 1158861



P R A Y E R F O C U S

'...in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God' Philippians 4:6

Please pray for...

- A peaceful solution to the troubles in Iraq, Syria, Ukraine and Gaza
- All those seeking refuge from war-torn countries
- Those who live in Manor Close, Chilton and in Orchard Way, Harwell
- Work of the Mission Aviation Fund, particularly for the people of South Sudan where there are over 2 million displaced people.
- The guests and team members involved in the Alpha Course
- The new Bishop of Oxford, Bishop Stephen who will be starting in the autumn.

NEW BISHOP OF OXFORD

The new Bishop of Oxford has been announced this week. Bishop Steven, who is 58, is currently Bishop of Sheffield, a role he has held since 2009. He serves on the Archbishop's Council and Chairs the Ministry Council of the Church of England. He has been a member of the House of Lords since 2013. Bishop Steven has personal connections with Oxford: he is a graduate of Worcester College, Oxford, and met and married his wife Ann in the city. The family lived in Oxford from 2004 until 2009 when Bishop Steven was leading 'Fresh Expressions', an initiative aimed at encouraging new forms of church for the 21st century.

Collect for 3rd Sunday of Easter

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.