

Notices

Intercessors and Chalice Administrators

We are somewhat short on people to fulfil these vital roles at services. It would be marvellous if a few more people felt able to do one of these and thus spread the load a bit. Help and advice on both these roles is available from Revd Pam and Christopher. Please let one of us know if you'd like to consider it.

The Women's World Day of Prayer Service is this Friday, 2nd March, here at St Mary's, Motcombe at 7.00pm, in conjunction with the Methodist Church. The theme is *All God's Creation is Very Good!* - a very topical theme: caring for God's creation is hugely important and highly relevant to people of all ages and beliefs.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2018 will be held following the 9.30am service on 22nd April. Nominations for new PCC members and Deanery Synod Representatives are required prior to the meeting, and our Church Wardens must be voted in each year. Nomination forms for all these positions are available at the back of the church.

Quiz Night - Saturday 17th March at 7.00pm. Our first fundraiser of the year. Get your thinking caps on and come along for a fun evening of food, fellowship and puzzlement. Tickets £12, to include main meal and dessert, available from church or the Village Shop. Bring your own snacks and drinks.

Lent Lunches St Mary's Church and the Methodist Church are serving a Lent lunch of soup, crusty bread and cheese on the 16th March, in Shaftesbury town Hall. Contributions of home made soup and help on the day would be much appreciated. There is a list at the back of the church. 4 varieties of soup only - this is for ease of heating and serving purposes. I am happy to collect the soup - Please can the soup be put into milk bottles (this is much easier for transporting). Many, many thanks, Sylvia 850800

Team Service On Sunday 8th April (2nd Sunday of Easter) there will be a 10.00am Team Service at St Mary's, Motcombe due to the availability of clergy over the Easter period.

Notices for next week's pew sheet by Wednesday to Philip Roberts: wpr01@wpr01.co.uk

GIFT AID envelopes are available on the pews and from the table near the door. If you are a UK Income or Capital Gains Tax payer, please help us to make the most of your offering by filling in the details on the envelopes. This will enable us to reclaim the tax on your donation.

St Mary's Church, Motcombe

Newcomers and visitors are welcome. Please stay for refreshments and a chat after the service.

Sunday 25th February
Second Sunday of Lent

Services today

9.30am Parish Communion Rev Mary Ridgewell

Events this week

Morning prayer is said at 8.30am Monday - Wednesday and Saturday. Holy Communion is said every Thursday at 10.00am - all are welcome.

Thursday 10.00am Holy Communion
7.30pm Bell-ringing Practice
Friday 7.00pm Women's World Day of Prayer Service

Next Sunday, 4th March
Third Sunday of Lent

11.15am Parish Communion (BCP) Rev Tony Monds

Please take this pew sheet home to keep you informed of events this week and commend them all to your prayers.

For more information on church activities, or if you would like to get in touch regarding any other matter, please contact

Team Vicar: Revd Pam Rink: 01747 590712 pam@shaftesburycofe.org.uk
Churchwardens: Gill Waine 01747 851007 NickWaine@outlook.com
Liz Pocock 01747 852647 jepocock@uwclub.net
Team Administrator: Katy Ashman, 01747 853060 office@shaftesburycofe.org.uk
St Mary's Church, Motcombe Website: www.shaftesburycofe.org.uk

Collect

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading Genesis 17.1-7, 15, 16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.

Second Reading Romans 4.13-25

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew

strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Gospel Reading Mark 8.31-38

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please pray for:

- † those who live in The Paddock and Grays Close.
- † healing and wholeness in body, mind and spirit for those who are suffering, especially our own Revd. Pam Rink, and Katie Johnston and her family.
- † PCC members and officers, those considering joining the PCC this year and those who will retire from the council.

Let us give thanks for:

- † those who serve refreshments after Sunday worship
- † the clergy team and the many retired clergy who have been taking our services