

Benefice of Goring & Streatley with South Stoke



Sunday 17th February 2019

3rd before Lent

8am	BCP Holy Communion at St Thomas'
9:30am	Good News at St Thomas'
11:15am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
11:15am	Mattins at St Andrew's
2pm	Baptism at St Thomas'
4pm	Organ recital at St Mary's followed by tea

Welcome to Church this morning

Psalm 1 and Jeremiah 17 v7-10:

*"Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.*

*They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream..."*

As we journey with St Luke this year we come to look at Jesus' teaching known as the Beatitudes. In Luke chapter 6 verses 17-26 they have a different setting and emphasis than in Matthew chapter 5.1-10. This teaching reminds us even more of our need for God's love.

Daily Prayer

Morning and evening prayer are being said in the churches of our benefice. To start with the pattern will be:

Mondays & Fridays: mornings at 8am and evenings at 4:30pm at St Thomas'

Tuesdays & Thursdays: mornings at 9am and evenings at 4:30pm at St Mary's

Wednesdays: evenings at 4:30pm at St Andrew's

Saturdays: mornings at 9am at St Thomas' (unless there is a prayer meeting).

All are most welcome to come along.

This gives a chance to come together, to let God speak to us, and to trust Him with our prayers for this world. We pray each day for some of our electoral roll members and for different parts of our community.

If there are parts of our church and community life which you think we should be praying for over the course of a month at our daily prayer services please add them to the list that we are starting at the back of our churches.

Many thanks

Ben

Organ recital at St Mary's

A final reminder that there will be an organ recital this Sunday (17th February) at 4pm when Michael Overbury will be playing a wide ranging programme of music including works by Hildegard von Bingen, Bach, Handel and Mozart.

Following the concert tea will be served.

Tickets (£8 or £7 for concessions) are available on the door.

Alpha course 2019

For the last two years, we have run the Alpha Course, where each session looks at different questions around faith, followed by small group discussions at which no questions are off limits and much lively discussion takes place.



The course will start on Thursday 28th February, 2019 for 7 weeks and will take place in the Canterbury Room at St Thomas' from 7.30pm. It will start with a meal, so you don't need to eat first and could come straight from work. After this there will be the talk/video, followed by discussions, finishing at about 9.30pm.

Please do get in touch to sign up or just turn up on the night.... if you have any questions: alpha@thomandmary.org.uk.

Benefice Lent groups

Our popular **Ecumenical Lent Groups** will begin in the week of Monday 11th March and run for 5 weeks, followed by a combined Celebration after Easter on May 2nd. The Course is, **"The Uphill Road to Calvary in the company of St Luke"** and it has been written for us by Rev'd Leighton Thomas.

The **signing up lists** which give a choice of days and times are in all the Churches. Please do join us ...everyone is welcome.

March 'Come and Sing' Evensong

In March Evensong on the 3rd at 4pm will be a 'Come and Sing' service where we invite extra singers to augment the choir. If you wish to sing in the choir, you need to arrive at 1.45pm ready to start our practice at 2pm. There are additional (optional) practices for those singing with the choir from 7pm to 7.45pm on Friday 15th February, Friday 22nd February and Friday 1st March.

We will be mixing the new with the old at this particular Evensong. Our main anthem will be by local composer, Michael Howell, a beautiful new piece composed for the occasion of the licensing of Ben Phillips, our new vicar, at the start of February. We'll also be singing *Come Holy Ghost* by Gibbons; Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in Eb (no. 2) by Wood and Reading responses.

Contact Elizabeth Parkinson (email parkinsonfamily1@btinternet.com phone 872020) for more information.

Diary for the week:

Wednesday 20th February

10:30am Midweek Holy Communion at St Thomas'

10:30am South Stoke Coffee Morning

Thursday 21st February

10:30am Pick-a-Flick & Lunch in the Canterbury Room -
'The Greatest Showman'

Sunday 24th February (2nd before Lent)

8am BCP Holy Communion at St Mary's

9:30am Holy Communion at St Thomas'

11:15am Mattins at St Mary's

11:15am Holy Communion at St Andrew's