

For your prayers:

- Freda Savin; Alan Hambidge, Ralph Cook, Marian Baxter and Marion Butler
- The family and friends of Pat Dunn, Freda Melbourne, Joyce Wilson, Beryl Dyer and Roy Castelli as they grieve for the loss of their loved ones.
- Chris, Issy and Luke as they are confirmed
- Rob and Charlotte who were married in St Mary's yesterday (5th May)
- The Bus of Hope visit on Thursday 10th

This Week:

Tue 8	Bible Study Group (*Km)	10am
Wed 9	Morning Prayer (*K)	9am
	Toast for Tots (*Km)	9.30am
Thu 10	Ascension Day Service (*H)	2pm
	Bus of Hope (*K)	6.30pm
Fri 11	Morning Prayer (*H)	9am
	Prayer Group (*Km)	9.30am
Sat 12	Prayer Walk (*K)	12 noon
Sun 13	Holy Communion (*K)	8am
	Morning Worship	
	with Junior Church (*K)	9.15am
	Holy Communion (*H)	10.30am

K= St Mary's Kingsclere; H = St Peter's Headley

AH = St Paul's, Ashford Hill; Km = Kingsmill Rm;

RHC = Rose Hodson Court; KPS = Kingsclere School

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The Parishes of Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley

Sunday 6th May 2018

Easter 6

A warm welcome to all worshipping with us today.

Please take this sheet home for your prayers and information.

Today's Services

9.15am Holy Communion with Confirmations and Junior Church (Kingsclere)

Collect of the Day

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

Gospel Reading - John 3.1-17

There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no-one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him."

In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no-one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

"How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!"

Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no-one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked.

"You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No-one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven – the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,

that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Copyright acknowledgement (where not already indicated above):

John 3.1-17 © 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Pub. Hodder & Stoughton
Post Communion (6th of Easter) © 1985 Anglican Church of Canada: The Book of Alternative Services
Collect (6th of Easter, Short) © The Archbishops' Council 2005

Notices

We are very pleased to welcome Bishop David to St Mary's today as Chris, Issy and Luke are confirmed. The candidates and their families would like to invite everyone to a celebratory coffee and cake after the service in the function room at the Crown pub (opposite the church).

The Diocese of Winchester is privileged to have Companion Links with the Anglican provinces of Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Uganda and Myanmar. Learning alongside our sisters and brothers in Christ in different cultures and contexts we find mutual encouragement and challenge to live the mission of Jesus and make a difference in God's world. Half of the total donations received at today's service will be used to strengthen our engagement in world mission through our Companion Links.

The other half of the collection will go to “Hope Now”, as chosen by the confirmation candidates. Hope Now is a Christian Charity that work in the Ukraine, Moldova and Sri Lanka whose aim is to “bring hope, by sharing the love of Jesus and making Him known by ministering to those in spiritual, physical and emotional need”. You may remember the fundraising “Zozulenka” concerts for Hope Now which we have enjoyed at St Mary's in the past.

Congratulations to Vanessa for organising an amazing concert on Saturday (28th) featuring the Reading Male Voice Choir with additional solo performances by Annie Wheeler, Stephanie Hinson, Eira Jones and Kate Izzard. It was a fantastic evening celebrating music of the highest standard and two young very talented singers, a flautist and a contrabassoonist. If you weren't there you missed a real treat.

The Bus of Hope will make it's second visit to Kingsclere this week on Thursday (10th May) between 6.45 and 8.30pm. Please do keep the bus and the volunteers from St Mary's who are helping on board in your prayers, and encourage young people to come along.

Thy Kingdom Come is a national call to prayer for Christians everywhere to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. It takes place between Ascension Day (10th May) and Pentecost (20th May). Here in the benefice we will be holding events daily to enable us to pray in different ways, including Prayer and Praise, Early Morning Prayer, a Prayer Walk, Evening Prayer and Prayer Stations. Details of these and other events are available on a separate leaflet or on the church calendar online. On 20th May at 7.30pm a celebration service will be held in Winchester Cathedral at the end of the Novena. Tickets for the event are free, but must be booked, so if you would like to go along please speak to Ben or Emma.

PLEASE NOTE: The Prayer Stations which will be set up in St Mary's on 19th May as part of Thy Kingdom Come will now be open between 2 and 4pm (not from 12 noon as advertised). This is to make sure that those who might want to watch the Royal Wedding on TV can do so before coming along!

The Prayer Diaries for May are available in each church this week and on the website. If you would like an electronic copy please speak to Bryony.

On the 12th May at 10.30am in Winchester Cathedral there will be a “Saying Goodbye” service. This is for anyone who has either personally lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth or in early years, or who has been affected by a family members or friends loss. Whether the loss was recent or 80 years ago, everyone is welcome to attend. The services have been extended to welcome anyone who is grieving the fact that they haven't had children. Babies and children are also invited to come with their family, as the Saying Goodbye service is truly a family event for all.

The ladies retreat details have been confirmed, and all those who have indicated they would like to go should have received an email with details - including details of deposit payment. If anyone else would like to join us for a day and night away (21/22nd July) at St Columbas House, Woking full of fellowship, time for prayer and some time to think (including all meals etc) then please do let Emma know as soon as possible. The cost for the retreat is £100 per person but if you are interested in attending and find the cost prohibitive please speak to Ben.

Are you creative? Would you like to put your skills to use in church? We currently have two 2-week gaps in the flower rota for 2018 (27 May/3 June and 16th/23rd September) where none of our usual fantastic flower arrangers are available. It would involve arranging flowers in the stand by the pulpit, and then checking on them the second week to refresh if necessary. There is a fund available so costs can be covered, or perhaps you would like to use home-grown flowers? If you are able to help please speak to Emma Rivers - either to cover one or both of these dates, or to join the team of arrangers for the future.