

PCC & Ministry News: The PCC last met on 21st February 2018.

Buildings & facilities – Our current focus is on minor projects. We've had annual visits from Ecclesiastical (insurers); E-bound AVX (alarm & CCTV); we've replaced the Henry vacuum cleaner; possibilities for new porch lights are under discussion and we have several new bookings for the Living Stones Room.

Re-configuring the back of the church – Many thanks to all those who responded to the request for feedback. The PCC are now considering the best way forward and we will let you have a further update as soon as we are able.

Finance – The 2017 accounts have been prepared and examined and are on display in church. Now that the stonework project is complete, we are in the process of claiming grant money from the Amey Community Fund

Annual Meetings – all notices, lists and forms (including the electoral roll) will be on display at the back of church (behind the font) from Sunday 4th March. Please take a look. This year we have vacancies on the PCC and for Deanery Synod and churchwarden as well as all our other volunteer roles. The meetings take place on 8th April from 12.15pm and will be followed by a bring & share lunch.

May we contact you? There is new data protection legislation (**GDPR**) from May 2018. We will need to have your written consent to store your details and to contact you. Consent forms will be available in April and circulated with the April newsletter. Please take time to read the information and fill in a form. Without written consent we will no longer be able to contact you

Ministry – the idea of a youth club is being explored; confirmation classes have started; preparation for Holidays at Home and a Children's Holiday Club in August is underway. Women's World Day of Prayer is in St Mary's on Friday 2nd March and we have a Fairtrade stall on the Sundays either side of the service.

Events – there are two concerts this year Hinchingsbrooke Rising Stars on March 17th and Stageworks on May 11th. Over the summer there will be the Safari Supper and Garden Party. In November a Barn Dance.

Friends in Deed – AGM is on Tuesday 20th March 7.30pm at Buckden Towers and the Guest Speaker is our own Roger Cresswell on his work as chaplain to the cadets. All welcome

Our chosen Charity for March-April is Little Princess Trust

<http://www.littleprincesses.org.uk/> The Little Princess Trust provides real hair wigs free of charge to children and young adults up to the age of 24, who have sadly lost their own hair due to cancer treatment and other illnesses

Sunday 25th March 6pm - Benefice Open Ministry Meeting

An opportunity for all to come along and have your say in an informal setting. On the 4th Sunday of every month. Following by Night Prayer at 7pm.

St Mary's, The Parish Church of Buckden Newsletter : March 2018

Dear Friends,

As I write this, it is freezing cold and is trying to snow. But the days are getting longer and I love the prospect, the hope, that spring is just around the corner. That speaks to me of Christian hope. We know that spring will come – it is just a matter of trusting and waiting for it. Similarly, we are promised many times in the Bible that God is always with us and that Jesus will return. Again, a matter of when not whether, and meantime trusting in God's presence and seeking to faithfully honour and serve him and others.

Staying with the topic of serving, we have just enjoyed a memorable Thinking Day Service. The Brownies and Rainbows reminded us that in the same way that a drop in the ocean creates ripples, so everything we do makes a difference – and that difference can be far bigger than we expect. So, as we head through Lent toward Easter, can we consider what type of difference do we individuals and a church wish to make in our community?

Yours in Christ,

Jes

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray:-

For the seven people, of various ages, and from both congregations who are actively considering confirmation.

For the many people in our community who are unwell or who are grieving, that they may know God's blessing and healing.

For our government as the Brexit negotiations enter their next phase.



2018 LENT COURSE – based on The King's Speech.

There are two options this year for those wishing to take part in this course:-

Monday lunchtimes - BDCT study lunches (with soup lunch) 12.30pm at the Methodist Hall. Mondays until 19th March.

Thursday evenings - 8.30pm study sessions at 7 Vineyard Way Thursdays until 22nd March

Contact Rev Jes for more info

DIARY Services and events in March 2018

all events & services take place in St Mary's unless otherwise indicated.

Every Week

Mondays	2.15pm	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
Tuesdays	1.30pm	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
Wednesdays	9.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Cup of tea & chat
	10.30am	Going Deeper - a look at Sunday's readings
Thursdays	1.00pm	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
Fridays	9.15am	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
Saturdays	10.30am	Coffee & Cakes til noon

Fri 2	10:30am	Women's World Day of Prayer
Sat 3	4:00pm	Wedding - Carter
Sun 4	11:00am	Family Communion
	2:30pm	Baptism – Myles Rea
	6:00pm	BCP Holy Communion
Sun 11	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	Morning Service on MOTHERING SUNDAY
Weds 14	2.30pm	Friend in Deed Drop-in Cafe
	7.30pm	PCC Meeting (LSR)
	7.30pm	M & Ms (cinema night at the vicarage)
Fri 16	6.45pm	Angel Voices (LSR)
Sat 17	7.:30pm	Concert – Hinchingsbrooke Rising Stars
Sun 18	11:00am	Family Communion
	2:30pm	Baptism – Jacob Hainsby
	6:00pm	Evensong
Tue 20	7.30pm	BDCT AGM (Buckden Towers)
Fri 23	6.45pm	Angel Voices (LSR)
Sun 25	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	All-age Family Communion on PALM SUNDAY
	6:00pm	Open ministry meeting – all welcome
	7:00pm	Night Prayer
Mon 26	1:30pm	Monthly Bible Study (LSR)
Thur 29	8:00pm	Maundy Thursday Communion
Fri 30	11:00am	Good Friday BDCT Service (starts at St Hugh's)
	2:00pm	The Last Hour

The Closing Date for the April Newsletter is Sunday 18th March
Items by hand to Phil Mowat or to secretary@stmarysbuckden.org.uk .

St Mary's Church Buckden: contact information

The Vicarage, Church St, Buckden, St Neots, PE19 5TL

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Facebook: St Mary's Buckden

Twitter: @A1ChurchBuckden

Bookings enquiries@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Pastoral Care: Marilyn Rolin 07719 087215 pastoralcare@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS – all welcome

Thursday 1st March – Mad March Munchies 1pm at Spicelands (£10)

look out for details & sign-up in church

Friday 2nd March 10.30am at St Mary's BDCT Women's World Day of Prayer "All God's Creation is Very Good!"

Come & take part in this short service from the women of Suriname. The focus is caring for our world & its resources

Saturday 3rd March 11am

Annual Auction at Buckden Village Hall

Donations 9.00 – 9.45am only please.
(NO clothes, books, televisions or out of date computer equipment).

Viewing 10.00 – 11.00am.

Auction begins promptly at 11am.

Contact Patsy on 810041.

Friends in Deed: DROP-IN CAFE

Wednesday 14th March

2.30pm – 4pm Tea/coffee/cakes & chat

M&Ms ladies' group

Wednesday 14th March 7.30pm

cinema night - at the vicarage

Saturday 17th March 10am - noon

Churchyard Tidy for Easter

Free cup of tea/coffee.

Bring your own tools. KG

Saturday 17th March 7.30pm

Concert – Hinchingsbrooke Rising Stars

Tickets £10 (£8 concessions) from
Que Sera / Nisa / 812777 /07979030144
Complementary glass of wine/juice

Buckden & District Churches Together GOOD FRIDAY Service &

Children's Event - Friday 30th March

Children's event starts 10.45am in the Methodist Church. Service starts 11am at St Hugh's Church and will process to St Mary's, then on to the Methodist Church. Both events finish together with refreshments in the Methodist Hall

Annual Parochial Church Meeting & Election of Churchwardens

Sunday 8th April 2018 at 12.15am following by BRING & SHARE LUNCH.

All are welcome to attend the meetings and the lunch. Those on the church or civic electoral roll may vote in the election of churchwardens. Those on the church electoral roll may vote in the PCC elections. If you wish to get more involved at St Mary's, there are lists for the various volunteer roles and forms for electoral roll applications and PCC, churchwarden and Deanery Synod nominations at the back of church.