

# Entering into the season of Lent

## Shrove Tuesday (25/02)

**3:30 – 4:30pm**

**Ready, Steady... Pancakes!** The old English custom was to get ready for the austerity of Lent by using up all the rich food in the house, including ingredients such as eggs and milk. A very simple recipe to use up eggs and milk was to combine them with flour and make pancakes. We've planned a fun afternoon of pancakes, games, races to get ready for Lent, perfect for pre- and primary school ages.

## Ash Wednesday (26/02)

**9:30 am and 7:00 pm**

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. It gets its name from the practice of 'ashing': marking the forehead of each worshipper with the sign of the cross in ash, as a remembrance of our mortality. St Mary's offers two services of holy communion with ashing on this solemn day.

## Making Changes

Lent is a time to examine our habits, to see what hinders us from living faithful lives with God and from loving our neighbours. We've prepared materials to help you examine different areas of your life, so that you make changes over the 40 days of Lent. These material – including a Lenten Devotional designed especially for use with families – are all available on the Prayer Table in church.

## Lent Appeal

March 22

Put your pocket change in a jar and help collect funds to support **Water Aid**, a UK charity working to ensure everyone every-where has clean water to drink, cook and clean. You can pick up a collection jar in church and bring back your jars of change on March 22.

## Lent Pilgrimage

March 6

Join the Church Explorers for an excursion to St Peter & St Paul, Godalming. There will be an introductory talk by a member of the Godalming Society, an organ recital at 1pm and a pub lunch. The Explorers will set off at 10.30am. All welcome. Contact Ruth Goddard to confirm arrangements: [ruthg17@gmx.co.uk](mailto:ruthg17@gmx.co.uk)

## Lent Course

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

We will be following a new study guide by Michael Baughton's called *A Passion for Christ*. This 5-part course will run on Monday evenings from 7:30 - 8:45pm at St Mary's Church. The course is hosted by the Joint Churches of Chiddingfold and all materials are provided!

## Community Supper

April 6

You are invited to a free 2-course supper at 7pm in the Village Hall hosted by the Joint Churches of Chiddingfold. Enjoy a relaxed evening meal and a glass of wine or a soft drink. Chiddingfold Baptist Church has invited Andy Kittow from *Elam Ministries* to be the after-dinner speaker.

# St. Mary's Church Chiddingfold



## Lent 2020

The seasons of Lent and Easter show God transforming death into life, mortality into immortality, mourning into joy. This is the saving work of Jesus upon earth – from the vigil he kept in the wilderness at the beginning of his ministry – all the way to his rising to life three days after his crucifixion.

The Christian life begins with a symbolic death, immersion in the waters of baptism, and finds its end and meaning in the life of Jesus' resurrection. So our season of worship moves from the remembrance that we are dust on Ash Wednesday to the joy of our reconciliation with God and celebration of eternal life at Easter.

Here at St Mary's we are offering a wide range of opportunities for prayer, reflection and service, so that you can engage with the story of Christ's passion and resurrection in many and various ways. Our hope is that you may grow in holiness and deepen your faith as we journey together.

# Holy Week & Easter 2020

## Palm Sunday (05/04)

**8 am** Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer.

**10 am** Palm Sunday Procession and Parish Communion with 'All Stars' children's groups.

We gather in front of the church room to hear the Gospel of the Palms, raise them to be blessed and then process into the Church for a dramatic reading of the Passion which takes the place of the sermon.

**6:30 pm** Evensong



## Holy Wednesday (08/04)

**7:30 pm** Tenebrae: a candle lit service of music and readings.

Tenebrae (the Latin word for 'darkness' or 'shadows') is the name given to this ancient Holy Week service for the senses. Its most conspicuous feature is the gradual extinguishing of candles in the church until only a single candle - a symbol of our Lord - remains.

## Maundy Thursday (09/04)

**2-4 pm** The Story of Easter: Guided activities exploring Jesus' last days designed for children under 10 and their carers.

**6.30 pm** Bring & Share Supper (church room).

**8 pm** A special celebration of the communion to commemorate the Last Supper.

This dramatic service commemorates Jesus' institution of the Eucharist, his command to 'love one another as I have loved you' and his washing the disciples' feet. It concludes with the reading of Jesus' arrest and imprisonment the night before his trial and the symbolic stripping of the altar. A silent watch of prayer then takes place in the side chapel.

## Good Friday (10/04)

**10:30 am** Walk of Witness beginning at St Teresa's and ending at St. Mary's.

**11:30 am** Hot cross buns (church room).

**12 am** Meditations on the Cross.

A service of reflections and plainsong to help us contemplate the Passion of Christ by stopping and praying about his journey to the cross at the key points on the way set in the church and the churchyard. This service grew out of the practice of walking the *Via Dolorosa* in Jerusalem, believed to be the actual path Jesus walked to Mount Calvary on the day of his crucifixion.

## Holy Saturday (11/04)

**7:30 pm** The Watch: Easter Vigil with renewal of baptism vows.

On this most holy night we begin the service outside in darkness. St Mary's teenagers kindle a new fire and together we mark the new Easter candle and light it. That light is brought into the church to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. Having completed our observance of lent, we renew the promises made at our baptism by affirming our allegiance to Christ. Teenagers stay on after the service for s'mores by the fire.

## Easter Day (12/04)

**8 am** Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer.

**10 am** Parish Communion. This is a Festival Day service so in place of 'All Stars' children's groups there are age appropriate activities in the far side of the church during the service.

On Easter Day we rejoice that Christ has risen with beautiful music and great hymns. And what Easter celebration would be complete without an Easter Egg Hunt in the church yard?

