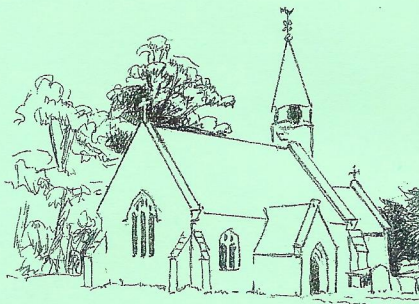
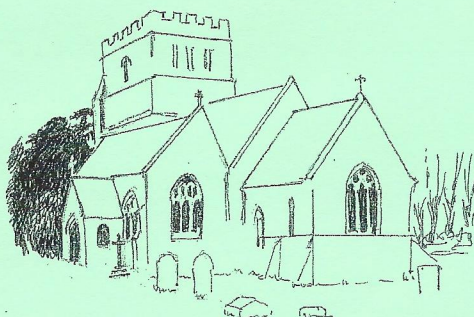


Cotswold Edge

December 2018

The Church Newsletter for
Marshfield, Cold Ashton,
Tormarton and West Littleton



Benefice Contacts

For information about Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals etc. please contact
the Vicar, The Rev Sally Wheeler

The Vicarage, Church Lane, Marshfield, SN14 8NT

Tel: 01225 892180 Email: marshfield.benefice@gmail.com

Assistant Curate: Rev. Lynne Godfrey 01249 446734

Lay Ministers	Aurea Hart (LLM)	01225 891453
	Mike Strathdee (LLM)	01225 891001
	Andrew Gammie	01225 892392
	Charles Keen (LLM)	01225 892446
Benefice Safeguarding Officers	Aurea Hart	01225 891453
	Sally Kerr	01225 892126
St Mary's Church, Marshfield		
Churchwardens	Eric Pullin	01225 891351
	Paul White	01225 891765
PCC Secretary	Melanie Hardy	01225 891962
PCC Treasurer	Pam Mills	01225 892261
Deputy Treasurer	Mary & Robin Hammond	
Gift Aid/Giving Officer	Peter Brunyate	01225 891508
Church Bookings	Richard Shreeve	01225 891169
Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton		
Churchwarden	Monica Green	01225 891669
PCC Secretary	Lucy Wylde	01225 892388
PCC Treasurer	Jean Purnell	01225 891274
St Mary Magdalene Church, Tormarton		
Churchwarden	Bruce Fynamore	01454 218236
PCC Secretary	Janet Wells	01454 218549
PCC Treasurer	Jennifer Woolley	01454 323653
St James' Church, West Littleton		
Churchwarden	David Adams	01225 891100
PCC Treasurer	Michael Horgan	01225 891486
Marshfield Chapel		
Cotswold Edge:	David Spence	01225 891115
	Paul Sawyer	01225 891436
	<i>(deadline for items for Cotswold Edge – 17th of each month)</i>	
Tormarton Newsletter:	Diana Elliott	01454 218364
St. Mary's House, Tormarton	or email: diana.elliott@hotmail.co.uk	

Websites:

Benefice websites

To book Marshfield Church premises check bookings on website then contact Richard Shreeve.

Tormarton www.tormarton.org

www.marshfieldchurch.org

West Littleton www.westlittleton.com

Bristol Diocese

Church of England

Information on Christian Faith

www.bristol.anglican.org/

www.churchofengland.org

www.rejesus.co.uk/

Letter from the Ministry Team

Andrew Gammie writes: "Have you ever wondered about something? Or what I really mean is 'wondered at' something. Are the two different? Should they be?"

A search for 'wonder' on the New Scientist magazine website returns over 4,000 references. The popularity of the Discovery Channel, Pinterest or David Attenborough's programmes suggest that amazing discoveries have not lost their appeal. I find in both my scientific work and my Christian faith, the sense of wonder is a powerful motivating force - many say we are made for wonder. Children seem to be rather better at it than adults, or maybe they just show it more readily.

We enter the season of wonder. Songs talk of the 'star of wonder', 'amazing love' or 'I wonder as I wander'. Both in Advent (looking forward to Jesus coming again) and then Christmas (his first appearing) there are things to jolt us out of the ordinary and into thoughtful amazement. Could the Infinite become finite? Can a Maker become made? How does an Almighty Power still allow us to be free to choose? Or maybe the season can too easily become routine, lose its seasoning. Is it possible for preoccupation with the urgent and immediate to overcome the wonderful?

Perhaps we can resolve this year to seek out the wonder-filled, to treat each day as a chance to discover more of what the season means, to be open to wonder at the scale of God's love for us and the extravagance of Jesus' self-giving. It's not just for shepherds and wise men to wonder, but for disciples, crowds and witnesses too, and even now for any who stop to consider that God steps in to where we are - wonderfully has done, is doing and will do so again."

News for the Benefice

From the Benefice Registers:

Weddings

Luke Wyatt and Scarlett Jones, 10th November at Holy Trinity Church, Cold Ashton

Baptisms

James Dawson-Smith, 4th November at St. Mary's, Marshfield

Daniel Humphries, 18th November at St. Mary's, Marshfield

Funerals

Joan Trigwell, 13th November at St. Mary's, Marshfield

Remembrance in Marshfield: Thank you to all who took part in The "Journey to Armistice" for the 100th Anniversary. It was a moving tribute to those who went off to war from Marshfield, using dramatised readings, followed by a wonderful performance of Faure's Requiem, along with excellent displays and refreshments.

On Sunday 11th November the Peal Board was dedicated to be put up in the Ringing Chamber.

The offerings in support of the Royal British Legion at "Journey to Armistice" and the Remembrance Sunday service totalled £1510.

Rev Lynne Godfrey writes:

“It's official! I'm now licensed as Curate to the Marshfield Benefice and excited to be here! Although I've been part of the ministry team for almost a year, it was uncertain as to whether this is where I'd stay, and I'm pleased I now feel a real sense of belonging. I have a new spiritual home and can go forward with confidence knowing this is where God has called me. It's been a privilege to minister to you and amongst you, getting to know people across the Benefice and I look forward to meeting and getting to know even more of you as I continue to settle into my ministry. Your welcome and encouragement has been a blessing to me as I start a fresh chapter, so thank you. As I write, Advent fast approaches, a time when the Church also starts afresh as one year comes to an end and another begins. Advent, a season when we pause to reflect, prepare and look forward to celebrating the coming of the Christ-light in that tiny baby, into the world. A time to be joyful for the hope we can have in Jesus, sent to us out of the Father's great love for us.”

Advent Tree of Hope and Remembrance: In the build-up to Christmas it can be difficult as we miss those who are no longer with us. This year again there will be an Advent Tree in St Mary's, Marshfield on which the names of loved ones can be placed as a simple act of remembering them. It is also a 'Tree of Hope' so prayers for specific situations can be attached, as can 'thank you's' for answered prayers. Tags will be in the church by the tree for anyone to use.

Benefice Christmas Gift Services: These take place as follows:-

- Cold Ashton - 9.00 am, Advent Sunday, 2nd December
- Marshfield - 10.30 am, Advent Sunday, 2nd December
- Tormarton – 10.30 am, Advent Sunday, 2nd December
- West Littleton – 10.30 am, Advent 2, 9th December

when we support the Sisters of the Church to provide over 500 bags of festive food and gifts.

Please bring any of the following gifts for local families in need:-

For Ladies: gloves, scarves, hand cream and individual toiletries

For Men: gloves, scarves, hats, socks and toiletry sets

For Children: £10 Argos Vouchers or money for the Sisters to buy a voucher for families to be able to choose a gift for their children.

Food Donations: The Sisters particularly welcome tinned ham, meat or salmon, boxes of chocolates and festive biscuits, Christmas puddings, mince pies and jars of coffee. Please note, all items should be in date! Thank you

Carol Services around the Benefice:

- Cold Ashton - Candlelit Carol Service, 6.00 pm, 9th December
- Tormarton - Carols with Christingle, 5.00 pm, 16th December
- West Littleton - Carols by Candlelight, 6.00 pm, 23rd December

Diary, News and Events for December Marshfield

Skittles for Men: takes place on Wednesday, 12th December, 8.00 pm in Marshfield Church Hall

School Carol Service: This takes place on Monday 17th December , 6.00 pm in St. Mary's Church and all are welcome.

Mothers' Union Carol Service: takes place on Tuesday, 18th December, 2.30 pm, at Marshfield Church Hall.

Marshfield's Great Big Nativity! 10.30 am, Sunday 18th December: Bring your family, grandchildren and neighbours to dress up and join in our 'Nativity from scratch' at St Mary's, to help tell the wonderful good news of Jesus' birth. It is suitable for ALL ages!

Christingle Choir: Come and join St Mary's Christingle Choir. All primary-aged children are welcome to come and sing with us – parents are welcome to stay to rehearsals or drop children off. Rehearsals will be held at **St Mary's** on **Tuesday evenings, 6-7.15 pm** on **4th, 11th and 18th December**. The choir will lead the carols and perform their songs during the **Christingle Service** on **Monday, 24th December** at **5.00 pm**.

Christingle Orchestra: Secondary school age young people or older are welcome to join the Christingle orchestra to play during the Christingle service. Rehearsals are **Tuesday 18th December 6 - 8.15 pm** and **Monday 24th December 3.00 pm**. in the church. To sign up, contact Frances Gammie (892392 or Email: fgammie@gmail.com).

Advent and Christmas at St.Mary's Church:

- 2nd December **Gift Service** with contributions for Sisters of the Church, 10.30 am, (see elsewhere for details)
- 2nd December **Full Choral Evensong** for Advent Sunday, 6.00 pm - the new Advent Altar frontal will be on display and dedicated at this service.
- 16th December **Candlelit Carol Service** 7.30 pm (with seasonal refreshments)
- 23rd December **Great Big Nativity**, 10.30 am (see elsewhere for details)
- 24th December **Christingle-making** 10.30 am - the more the merrier!
- 24th December **Christingle Service**, 5.00 pm
- 24th December **Candlelit Midnight Communion**, 11.30 pm
- 25th December **Christmas Celebration Service**, 10.30 am

Christmas in the Village:

- Carols in "The Catherine Wheel", 7.30 pm, 19th December
- Carols in the Market Place, 10.30 am, Boxing Day

Growing in Faith and Prayer - Home, Youth and Prayer Groups

Home Groups: In December they will meet as follows:-

- 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 86 High Street (contact Richard & Sue Shreeve, 891169)
- The Thursday morning group will **NOT** be meeting in December.

Alpha Plus: - following on from the recent Alpha course. For details of dates & venues for December, contact Mike & Celia Strathdee (891001).

“Faith Matters”: meets next in January 2019. For details contact Rev S Wheeler.

Edward Bear Toddler Time: This meets on **each Friday**, 10.30 -11.30 am at Marshfield Chapel. All pre-school children with their parents /carers are welcome.

Youth Groups: Bunch - for 8-11 yr olds meets on Sunday, 2nd December, 5.30-6.30 pm in Marshfield Church Hall.

Thrive - for 12-14 yr olds meets on Sunday, 2nd December, 7.30-8.30 pm in the Church Hall.

Prayer Groups: These meet as follows:-

- Village Prayers - weekly on Tuesday, 10.00 am at Marshfield Chapel - except on the 2nd Tuesday when we join in the Village Communion.
- Local House of Prayer - meets weekly. If you would like more details, please contact Sue Shreeve (891169) or Mike & Celia Strathdee (891001).

Chapel Programme for December

Sun 2nd	9.30 am	Prayer at Chapel
	10.30 am	Gift Service at St Mary's
	6.00 pm	David Spence
Sun 9th	10.30 am	Trevor Brain*
	6.00 pm	Andrew Gammie
Tues 11th	10.00 am	Village Communion at Marshfield Almshouses
Sun 16th	10.30 am	Peter Foster
	7.30 pm	Candlelit Carols at St Mary's
Sun 23rd	10.30 am	Great Big Nativity at St Mary's
	6.00 pm	Candlelit Carols at Chapel
Mon 24th	5.00 pm	Christingle Service at St Mary's
Tues 25th	10.30 am	Christmas Day Service at St Mary's
Sat 29th	10.30 am	Coffee Morning at Chapel
Sun 30th	10.30 am	Come and Share
	6.00 pm	NO EVENING SERVICE

(* Communion service- the offerings will go to the Children's Society)

Benefice Prayer Diary
Marshfield with Cold Ashton and Tormarton with West Littleton
DECEMBER 2018

A Benefice Prayer

Lord, let us not labour for you in vain. Teach us to pray, deepen our fellowship, enable our ministry, strengthen our benefice, and nurture our children. That, united in Christ, we might indeed become a holy temple in which you dwell by your Spirit. Amen

Week 1: 1st-8th December During the week, please pray:-

- for the people of the parish of Marshfield, its PCC and churchwardens
- for other Christians who live in our communities but are not part of our parish churches
- In Advent - a season of hope and anticipation - for all those who are without hope that the light of Christ may shine in their darkness and overcome it

Week 2: 9th-15th December During the week, please pray:-

- for the parish of Tormarton, its PCC and churchwarden
- for bereaved families who will be missing a family member this Christmas - for peace and for comfort
- remembering those who live alone, as they approach Christmas. May they have a firm assurance that Jesus is Immanuel "God with us" (*Matthew 1:23*).

Week 3: 16th-22nd December During the week, please pray :-

- for the people of the parish of West Littleton, its PCC and churchwardens
- for the Benefice Ministry Team members - Rev Sally Wheeler, Rev Lynne Godfrey, Andrew Gammie, Aurea Hart, Charles Keene and Mike Strathdee
- that, in the midst of busyness, God will help us to keep the holiness of the season - "Let's approach Christmas with an expectant hush, rather than a last-minute rush" (*source unknown*)

Week 4: 23rd-29th December During the week, please pray:-

- for our diocesan Bishop, Vivienne Faull, our suffragan Bishop Lee Rayfield, and for the staff that support them in leading this diocese
- that "we may learn to love even our own enemies" (*from the Collect for St Stephen's Day, 26th December*)

Week 5: 30th-31st December During the week, please pray:-

-that the hopes expressed in the Millenium Resolution at the start of the century for a world in which there is "*Respect for the earth, peace for its people, love in our lives, delight in the good, forgiveness for past wrongs, and from now on a fresh start*" may become more of a reality in 2019

Please Note: If you would like a prayer to be included in the prayers at our Tuesday prayer group or in this Prayer Diary, please contact Paul Sawyer, 16 Fairfield Close, Marshfield (891436)

Services for December 2018

All services are from Common Worship unless otherwise stated.

Sunday 2nd December (Advent Sunday)

9.00 am	Holy Communion BCP & Gift Service	Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton	Rev L Godfrey
10.30 am	Morning Worship* & Gift Service	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler
10.30 am	Holy Communion & Gift Service	St Mary Magdalene, Tormarton	Rev L Godfrey
6.00 pm	Choral Evensong BCP	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler

Sunday 9th December (2nd Sunday of Advent)

9.00 am	Holy Communion BCP	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler
10.30 am	Morning Worship*	St Mary's, Marshfield	M Strathdee
10.30 am	Mattins & Gift Service	St James, West Littleton	Rev S Wheeler
6.00 pm	Carol Service	Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton	Rev S Wheeler
6.00 pm	Evensong BCP	St Mary's, Marshfield	Congregation

Tuesday 11th December

10.00 am	Village Communion	Marshfield Almshouses	
----------	-------------------	-----------------------	--

Sunday 16th December(3rd Sunday of Advent)

10.30 am	Family Communion	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev L Godfrey
5.00 pm	Carol Service	St Mary Magdalene, Tormarton	Rev S Wheeler
7.30 pm	Carol Service	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler

Sunday 23rd December (4th Sunday of Advent)

9.00 am	Holy Communion BCP	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler
10.30 am	Great Big Nativity	St Mary's, Marshfield	
6.00 pm	Carol Service	St James, West Littleton	Rev S Wheeler

Monday 24th December (CHRISTMAS EVE)

5.00 pm	Christingle	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler
11.30 pm	Midnight Communion	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler

Tuesday 25th December (CHRISTMAS DAY)

9.00 am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton	Rev S Wheeler
10.00 am	Holy Communion	St James, West Littleton	Rev L Godfrey
10.30 am	All Age Worship	St Mary's, Marshfield	A Gammie
10.30 am	Holy Communion	St Mary Magdalene, Tormarton	Rev S Wheeler

Sunday 30th December (1st Sunday of Christmas)

10.30 am	Benefice Holy Communion	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler
----------	----------------------------	-----------------------	---------------

**Kids Club at St Mary's, Marshfield*