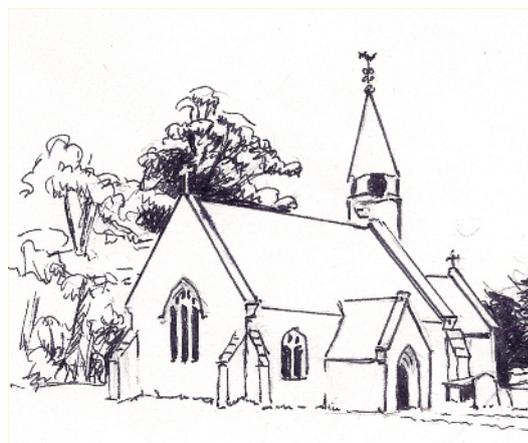


Cotswold Edge

February 2019

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

Curate on Placement: 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

Churchwardens	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: St. Mary's House, Tormarton	Diana Elliott or email: diana.elliott@hotmail.co.uk	01454 218364
--	---	--------------

Websites:

Benefice website

www.marshfieldchurch.org

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

Tormarton www.tormarton.org

West Littleton www.westlittleton.com

Bristol Diocese

www.bristol.anglican.org/

Church of England

www.churchofengland.org

Information on Christian Faith

www.rejesus.co.uk/

Letter from the Ministry Team

Just over 4 years ago I decided it was time to “downsize” - to move from the house that had been a family home for over 40 years. To do so meant undertaking a major “spring clean”. This involved clearing the house – and three large outbuildings – of all the items I had held onto “in case they came in useful”. However, I needed the help of two good friends who graciously but firmly made me decide on essential items to keep and those that I needed to dispose of.

In the Church’s calendar February marks the start of the countdown to another kind of “spring clean” – the season of Lent. The next 4 weeks offer us the chance to begin to reflect on what it is that needs to change in our lives if we are to be better disciples - more faithful followers of Jesus.

Maybe, like me, you need some help in deciding what needs to change and how to make these changes a reality?

In his letters to the early churches Paul often spoke of the need for change. Although he was addressing the particular issues involved in each case, it seems that there are some common threads running through his writings:-

- The need not only to “give up” but, as important, to “take up”
- The need for change, not just in individual lives, but also in the shared life of the church community
- A recognition that we cannot make these changes unaided. Only the power the Holy Spirit can bring them about

The same messages come to us in the words of a hymn:-

*“ Holy Spirit, living breath of God, breathe new life into my willing soul.
Bring the presence of the risen Lord to renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause your word to come alive in me, give me faith for what I cannot see;
Give me passion for your purity; Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.*

*Holy Spirit, come abide within, may your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin, in each thought and word and attitude
Kindness to the greatest and the least, gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my strivings into works of grace ; Breath of God, show Christ in all I do”
(A&M 249 , copyright 2005, Kingswaysongs)*

Paul Sawyer, on behalf of the Ministry Team

News for the Benefice

From the Benefice Registers:

To date, there have been no Weddings, Baptisms or Funerals in the Benefice in January.

Could you offer hope to someone who's been in prison?: Bob Wheeler writes: "MentorMe is a Bristol based project that exists to enable local churches to support people with criminal convictions. It trains Christians from all backgrounds, life experiences and denominations to become mentors to people with criminal convictions who have served time in prison and now need a "mentor" to help make a fresh start. If you are prepared to give some time to listen, be patient, and have your faith to put to work there are people who have been in prison who need someone like you to support them to reach their goals, give them hope, and help them to become all that they were made to be. Please talk to me at Marshfield Vicarage if you'd like more information or find out more at www.sixty-one.org."

Bishop Viv's Christmas message: Although the Christmas season is past, her words speak to the ongoing situation our own nation - and other nations- are facing at the start of 2019.

"I have recently arrived as Bishop of Bristol, having worked in a range of places in the UK and beyond, and know how easy it is for a country to be pulled apart, with profound and sometimes deadly impact.

I have lived in a part of our country where two villages refused to work together because one didn't tell the other that the Vikings were coming. I have lived in another part of our country where the city and the county wouldn't collaborate because they were on different sides in the English Civil War.

Our country has been pulled apart by the debate about Brexit. The campaigns and votes have laid bare the rifts not just within political parties but between London and the wider nation, between the nations which form our United Kingdom, between those who are growing richer and those who day by day are getting poorer.

My first post in the Church of England was in Liverpool a city being torn apart by the impact of the troubles in Northern Ireland. There was deep division, with the ongoing threat of violence. But painfully slowly the hard work of mending the tears in that city was beginning as Christians dared to meet across the boundaries of denomination, and befriend those who had deeply different beliefs. Painstaking work brought Christians of different churches together to serve the city, making common cause to work for hope, and peace, and prosperity.

Our whole country now needs a new vision of hope, it needs determined work alongside those who are poor, it needs the hard graft of reconciliation. It will take courage to reach out to each other with the offer of peace and hope. The courage of Mary when God reached out to her. The courage of Joseph as he reached out to Mary. The courage of shepherds and magi who left the familiar and journeyed to see Jesus, the one who brings peace to the world."

Deanery Synod - the next meeting will be on **Thursday 7th March, 7.00pm** at **St. Peter's Church, Chippenham**. All are welcome to attend to find out more about our Deanery and how we can learn from each other in local churches.

Diary, News and Events for February **Marshfield**

Mothers' Union: The local branch meets on **Tuesday 19th February** at **Marshfield Church Hall** (**Please Note:** Time to be advised).

Skittles for Men: on **Wednesday, 20th February, 8.00 pm** in **Marshfield Church Hall**.

Candlemass: - There will be a Candlemass service, followed by a tea party, at **4.00 pm** on **Sunday, 3rd February** at **St Mary's, Marshfield** for all children baptised in the Benefice in recent years and for their parents, godparents, family and friends. Cake donations welcome: please contact Lynne White (891765) if you can make some white-iced cupcakes.

CMS Mission Partners: The Rocks family will be visiting us on **Sunday 24th February, 10.30 am** at **St. Mary's, Marshfield**. Our special collection will be for CMS (Church Mission Society), their sending organisation.

The Electoral Roll: for all churches within our Benefice need to be revised (this is necessary every six years). St. Mary's, Marshfield will be the first to be revised ahead of the APCM in March. Copies of the Electoral Roll application forms are available at the back of the church, or from Eric Pullin. Please complete and return forms for Marshfield to Eric or Revd Sally by **Friday, 1st March**.

“Sing Away The Winter Blues”: Join Frances Gammie and friends on Tuesday afternoons, 2.00-3.15 pm in Marshfield Chapel, for an informal session - no singing experience needed. Contact Sally Kerr (892126) for more details.

Dates for March: Please note the following dates:-

- Full Choral Evensong - on Sunday 3rd March, 6.00 pm at St Mary's, Marshfield
- Lent Lunches - are returning on Saturday, 16th March at St. Mary's, Marshfield
- The Annual Parochial Church Meeting - for St Mary's, Marshfield will be held after the morning service on Sunday 17th March at 11.45 am.

West Littleton

Madrigals: The annual Madrigal Concert by the Bristol University Madrigal Ensemble will be held at St James's Church, West Littleton on **Friday 22nd March** at **7.30 pm**. Tickets not required - there will be a retiring collection after the concert. Supper following the concert will be at Cadwell Hill Barn (£12.50 at the door). For further information please contact David Adams (891100).

Cold Ashton

Cold Ashton Bible Study: The next meeting will be on **Thursday 21st February** at **10.30am**. For details of the venue contact Jean Purnell (891274)

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

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

- 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 8.00pm at 86 High St (contact Richard & Sue Shreeve, 891169)
- 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 10.00 am at Willow House, W Littleton Rd (contact Aurea & Christopher Hart, 891453).

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

“Faith Matters”: An informal Discussion Group open to all. The next meeting will be on Monday 4th March (no meeting in February) at 7.30pm, Tormarton Court For more information please contact Rev. Sally Wheeler (892180) or Bruce Finnermore.

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 yrs meets on Sunday 3rd February, 5.30-6.30 pm in the Church Hall. **Thrive** - for 12-14 yrs meets on Sunday 3rd February, 7.30-8.30 pm in the Church Hall. **Movement** will be at St. Paul's Church, Chippenham on Sunday 3rd February from 7.00-9.00 pm. This lively worship experience is particularly for 14 yrs and older. A lift is available, please contact Melanie Hardy (891962).

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 February

Sun 3rd	9.30 am	Prayer at Chapel
	10.30 am	Tim Lewis* (Mark 1:14-20)
	6.00 pm	Aurea Hart (Luke 4:1 - 13)
Sun 10th	10.30 am	Joint service at St Mary's
	6.00 pm	David Spence (John 1:35-50)
Tues 12th	10.00 am	Village Communion at Marshfield Chapel
Sun 17th	10.30 am	Cafe Church (The Samaritans Purse)
	6.00 pm	Andrew Gammie* (Mark 1:29 - 39)
Sat 23rd	10.30 am	Coffee Morning at Chapel
Sun 24th	10.30 am	John McNicol (Mark 2: 23 - 28)
	6.00 pm	Rich & Hilary Newman (Mark 3:1-6)

(* Communion services- the offerings will go to the Pappa Fund)

Benefice Prayer Diary
Marshfield with Cold Ashton and Tormarton with West Littleton
FEBRUARY 2019

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.

Week 1: 1st-9th February During the week, please pray:-

- for other Christians who live in our community but are not part of our parish churches
- for the people of the parish of Marshfield, its PCC and churchwardens
- for all families who are challenged by outward circumstances or vulnerable relationships within
- for the unity of God's people worldwide, and that we may show respect and understanding in our relationships with those of other faiths

Week 2: 10th-16th February During the week, please pray:-

- for the people of the parish of Tormarton, its PCC and churchwarden
- that all the gifts God gives us - time, talents and money - are put to good use as we work to build His kingdom here
- for all those who feel "trapped" - by illness, addictions, poverty, broken relationships or in other ways - that they may find the freedom that God longs to give them
- " Father God, when we pray, help us to appreciate the power of silence, of simply being with you, of listening to your still small voice" (*from " Families Worldwide" the Mothers' Union prayer diary*).

Week 3: 17th-23rd February During the week, please pray :-

- for the people of the parish of West Littleton, its PCC and churchwarden
- for those who seek to support families both within our churches and in our communities
- for the "fresh expressions of church" in the benefice - Breakfast Church & Edward Bear Toddler Church in Marshfield and Tea Time Celebration in Cold Ashton

Week 4: 24th-28th February During the week, please pray:-

- for the people of the parish of Cold Ashton, its PCC and churchwarden
- for the Benefice Ministry Team members - Rev Sally Wheeler, Rev Lynne Godfrey, Andrew Gammie, Aurea Hart, Charles Keene and Mike Strathdee
- for our diocesan Bishop, Vivienne Faull, our suffragan Bishop Lee Rayfield, and for the staff that support them in leading this diocese
- for the clergy and people of our link Diocese of Mukono, Uganda

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 February 2019

All services are from Common Worship unless otherwise stated.

Sunday 3rd February (5th Sunday before Lent - Candlemass)

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

Sunday 10th February (4th Sunday before Lent)

9.00 am	Holy Communion BCP	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler
10.30 am	Morning Worship*	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler
10.30 am	Mattins	St James, West Littleton	C Keen
6.00 pm	Evensong BCP	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev L Godfrey

Tuesday 12th February

10.00 am	Village Communion	Marshfield Chapel
----------	-------------------	-------------------

Sunday 17th February (3rd Sunday before Lent)

8.30 am	Breakfast Church	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev L Godfrey
9.00 am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton	Rev S Wheeler
10.30 am	Family Service	St Mary's, Marshfield	M Strathdee
10.30 am	Family Service	St Mary Magdalene, Tormarton	Rev S Wheeler
6.00 pm	Holy Communion BCP	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler

Sunday 24th February (2nd Sunday before Lent)

9.00 am	Holy Communion BCP	St James, West Littleton	Rev S Wheeler
10.30 am	Holy Communion*	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler
5.00 pm	Teatime Church	Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton	Rev S Wheeler
6.00 pm	Evensong BCP	St Mary's, Marshfield	Congregation

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

A Prayer for Lent

Lord, the season of Lent can be a difficult time.

We do not always want to be disciplined.

We often prefer to go our own way,
but we know you are always there to comfort us.

Encourage us to read and listen to your every word.

Help us during this season to trust in your everlasting love, Amen.

Jan Seaman

*(taken from "The Prayers We Breathe"
a Mothers' Union book of prayers)*