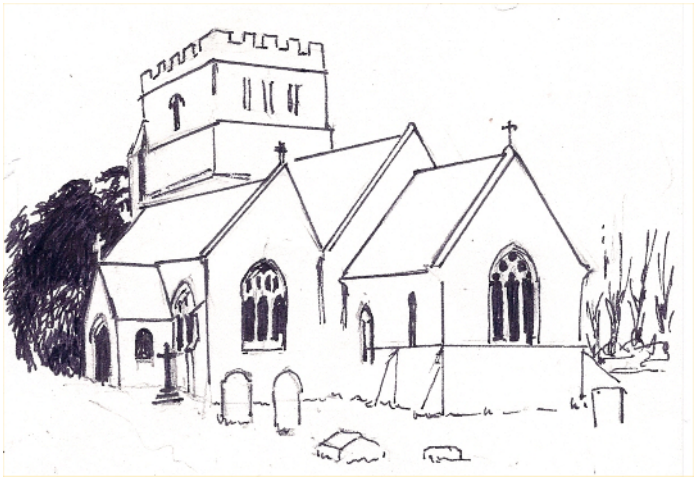
Cotswold Edge

March 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: 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
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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 Treasurer/Secretary	Jean Purnell	01225 891274
St Mary Magdalene Church, Tormarton		
Churchwarden	Bruce Finnamore	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	David Spence	01225 891115
Cotswold Edge:	Paul Sawyer	01225 891436
	(deadline for items for Cotswold Edge – 17th of each month)	
Tormarton Newsletter:	Diana Elliott	01454 218364
St. Mary's House, Tormarton	or email: diana.elliott@hotmail.co.uk	

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

I wonder if reading the Bible excites you - or is it just a book on your shelf gathering dust. We are so fortunate to have many different versions of the Bible available for us to read, whether we want to use it for academic study or as something which seems more accessible and relevant to our modern-day culture - like The Message.

Several of us have been following the Bible Society Bible Course and have found it a real eye opener. Even though many of us have been regular Bible readers we still found that we were able to see more clearly what the Bible has to offer us in our lives today and how the whole Bible works together. The Bible is a library of books divided into two - the Old and New Testaments. Together they form one story with one theme that centres on Jesus Christ - that theme is like a coloured thread of God's love for his creation running through the whole Bible and tells of his interaction with his people.

As we come into the season of Lent which starts on Ash Wednesday, 3rd March I would like to encourage you to use these six weeks of preparation for Holy Week and Easter as an opportunity to spend a little bit more time with your Bible. There are many Bible apps which can be downloaded on to your phone giving you daily readings. Or you may find it easier to commit to meeting in a group once a week to share and discuss your thoughts and findings with others. There will be several groups running through Lent which will welcome new members. And the Bible Course will be run again at some point. Just look out for details in the Church, Cotswold Edge or Sunday Post.

A prayer for us all this Lent:

Almighty God,
you have taught us that your word is a lamp for our feet and a light for our path.
Help us, and all who prayerfully read your word,
to deepen our fellowship with you
and with each other through your love. Amen

(from The Bible Reading Fellowship Prayer)

Aurea Hart

News for the Benefice

From the Benefice Registers

To date, there have been no Weddings, Baptisms or Funerals in February.

Are You Called to be a Licensed Lay Minister?

Licensed Lay Ministry (Reader ministry) is nationally recognised as a highly significant ministry for the Church of England today, and is a vital part of Bristol Diocese's strategy for ministry and mission in the 21st century. It is for this reason that we invest significant time, effort and commitment to developing this ministry, and encouraging vocations to this specific call. Licensed Lay Ministers are significant, valuable members of ministry teams. Some are in full time work, some retired, some in positions of leadership within industry, some full-time parents or carers… All are trained and equipped; canonically authorised and episcopally

licensed, and freely give their ministry as people who know themselves called by God to this vocation. COULD THIS BE YOUR STORY?

"Am I Called to be a Licensed Lay Minister?" is being held on Monday, 6th June 2019 at 7.00 pm at the Diocesan Office, Hillside House. Please speak to Sally or Lynne if you feel this is something you might be being called to do.

Lent in the Benefice

(1) Ash Wednesday, 6th March - to mark the start of Lent, there will be a Benefice Service with Ashing, 8.00pm at St Mary's Church Marshfield.

(2) Lent Courses - The Home Groups will both be running a Lent course, (*material to be confirmed*). In addition, Rev Sally will run a 5 week Lent course at Marshfield Vicarage, at 7.30 pm on the following Thursday evenings: 14th March, 21st March, 28th March, 4th April and 11th April - open to anyone.

(3) **"Count Your Blessings"** - is the Christian Aid Lent calendar. It provides a daily reflection and opportunities to pray, give and act so that God's kingdom may come. Copies will be available in each church and you can also contact **caid.org.uk/lent**.

(4) Lent Lunches - the first of 5 Lent Lunches will be on Saturday 16th March at 12.30pm, with the venue alternating between Church and Chapel. Each one offers you delicious soup, bread and cheese. Donations will go to TEAR FUND's work to relieve poverty. The venues for the 5 Saturdays are as follows: St Mary's Church 16th March, 30th March and 13th April. The Chapel 23rd March and 6th April.

Are you interested in being Confirmed this year?

Confirmation is when we make for ourselves, promises made for us at our Baptism (if we were baptised or christened as children!). If you would like to 'confirm' your Christian faith there is a Chippenham Deanery Confirmation Service at 7.30pm on 2nd May in Lacock, or later in the year, on Sunday 24th November at 4.00pm in St Andrew's Chippenham. Please talk to Sally, Lynne, or one of the Ministry Team if you are interested in finding out more.

Chippenham Deanery Synod:
Our synod next meets on 7th March at 7.30pm in St Peter's Church, Frogwell, Chippenham. All are welcome to this open meeting where we share experiences and ideas with other churches in our area. Chris Priddy from Diocesan House will be facilitating a discussion on connecting with others as part of the evening and we will also hear about the work of the LIGHT worshipping community for those with learning difficulties and their families and carers.

Diary, News and Events for March

Marshfield

Mothers' Union: the local branch meets on **Tuesday 19th March** at **Marshfield Church Hall.**

Skittles for Men: the next session takes place on **Wednesday 20th March, 8.00pm** in **Marshfield Church Hall.**

Lent Lunches: start on Saturday, 16th March, 12.30pm at St Mary's Marshfield. For details see "News for the Benefice" (p4)

Lent Courses: for details see "News for the Benefice" (p4) and "Growing in Faith and Prayer" (p6).

Annual Parochial Church Meeting: -for St Mary's, Marshfield will take place after the Morning Service on **Sunday,17th March** at **11.45 am**.

Full Choral Evensong: will be celebrated at **6.00pm** on **Sunday 3rd March**.

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 PCC: meets on **Monday 18th March, 8.00pm** at the Parish Hall.

Cold Ashton Bible Study Group: meets in March (details to be advised)

Cold Ashton Church@5pm: a short time of all-age worship on **Sunday March 24th**, with craft followed by tea and cakes. The theme for March is: "Messy Choices".

Tormarton

Faith Matters: informal discussion group meets on **Monday 4th March 7.30pm** in Tormarton Court - The Ten Commandments countdown: No 2!

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

Home Groups: during Lent they will meet **weekly** as follows:-

- Tuesdays from 12th March, 8.00 pm at 86 High St (contact Richard & Sue Shreeve, 891169)
- Thursdays from 7th March (**except 14th**), 10.30 am at Willow House, W Littleton Rd (contact Aurea & Christopher Hart, 891453).
- Thursdays from 14th March, 7.30 pm at Marshfield Vicarage (contact Rev Sally Wheeler (892180)

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

"Tormarton Faith Matters": An informal Discussion Group open to all. The next meeting will be on Monday 4th March at 7.30 pm, at Tormarton Court. For more information please contact Rev. Sally Wheeler (892180) or Bruce Finnamore.

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 March, 5.30-6.30 pm in the Church Hall. **Thrive** - for 12-14 yrs meets on Sunday 3rd March, 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 March

Sun 3rd	9.30 am	Prayer at Chapel
	10.30 am	Michael Paton* (Mark 4:35 - 41)
	6.00 pm	Robert Simpkins (Mark 5:25 - 34)
Sun 10th	10.30 am	Joint service at St Mary's
	6.00 pm	Rich Newman (Mark 6:45 - 56)
Tues 12th	10.00 am	Village Communion at St Mary's, Marshfield
Sun 17th	10.30 am	David Spence (Mark 7:14 - 23)
	6.00 pm	Peter Foster* (Mark 7:31 - 37)
Sun 24th	10.30 am	John Schofield (Mark 7:24 - 30)
	6.00 pm	James Alsop (Mark 9:33 - 37)
Sat 30th	10.30 am	Coffee Morning at Chapel
Sun 31st	10.30 am	Mothering Sunday service at St Mary's
	6.00 pm	John McNicol (Own Choice)

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

Benefice Prayer Diary
Marshfield with Cold Ashton and Tormarton with West Littleton
MARCH 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. Amen

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

- for other Christians who live in our community but are not part of our parish churches
- giving thanks for the fun of Shrove Tuesday pancake-making, and then ask God to prepare hearts and minds for the more serious work of Lent
- for the people of the parish of Marshfield, its PCC and churchwardens

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

- for the people of the parish of Tormarton, its PCC and churchwarden
- for the United Nations Organisation and all those seeking to bring peace and reconciliation where there is conflict
- for all those who earn their living within the Benefice. Pray also for those seeking work, changing jobs or starting work for the first time
- for those who today are going through a spiritual wilderness ("*At once the Spirit sent Jesus out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan*" - *Mark 1:12-13*).

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

- for the people of the parish of West Littleton, its PCC and churchwarden
- take time to reflect on current tensions between particular countries. Pray that God will mediate between nations and his Spirit will encourage those who seek a just settlement of the many international disputes
- for the Benefice Ministry Team members - Rev Sally Wheeler, Rev Lynne Godfrey, Andrew Gammie, Aurea Hart, Charles Keen and Mike Strathdee - and their ministry to us

Week 4: ***24th-31st March*** During the week, please pray:-

- for the people of the parish of Cold Ashton, its PCC and churchwarden
- giving thanks for all those authors whose writings inspire us to grow in understanding and faith
- 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 March 2019

All services are from Common Worship unless otherwise stated.

Sunday 3rd March (Sunday next before Lent)

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

Wednesday 6th March (Ash Wednesday)

10.30 am	Service & Ashing	Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton	Rev S Wheeler
8.00 pm	Service and Ashing	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler

Sunday 10th March (1st Sunday of Lent)

9.00 am	Holy Communion BCP	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev L Godfrey
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	A Gammie

Tuesday 12th February

10.00 am	Village Communion	St Mary's, Marshfield

Sunday 17th March (2nd Sunday of 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	A Hart
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 March (3rd Sunday of 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

Sunday 31st March (4th Sunday of Lent - **Mothering Sunday**)

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

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