

# Walton-on-Thames St Mary's and St John's

## Prayer, Services and Events: March 2019

Time for...



Preparing for  
the Cross

Nurturing  
the Soul

With the warmer weather, I have been looking at my garden and seeing that there are several things that need doing: tidy up, cut some plants back, put compost down to feed the plants and soon I will be sowing new seeds. 'There is a time for everything, and a season for everything under the sun'. So says the writer of Ecclesiastes. Yes, this is in the Bible! 'A time to be silent and a time to speak; a time to weep and a time to laugh...' What is Lent a time for? The six weeks up to

Easter is a good time to tend our soul, much like we do a garden in the spring. Our spiritual health is as important as our physical health.

John Ortberg tells a story of a town high in the Alps that straddled the banks of a beautiful stream. The stream was fed by springs that were old as the earth and deep as the sea. The water was clear like crystal. Children laughed and played beside it; swans and geese swam on it. You could see the rocks and the sand and the rainbow trout that swarmed at the bottom of the stream.

High in the hills, far beyond anyone's sight, lived an old man who served as Keeper of the Springs. He had been hired so long ago that now no one could remember a time when he wasn't there. He would travel from one spring to another in the hills, removing branches or fallen leaves or debris that might pollute the water. But his work was unseen.

One year the town council decided they had better things to do with their money. No one supervised the old man anyway. They had roads to repair

and taxes to collect and services to offer and giving money to an unseen stream-cleaner had become a luxury they could no longer afford. So, the old man left his post. High in the mountains, the springs went untended; twigs and branches and worse muddied the liquid flow. Mud and silt compacted the creek bed; farm wastes turned parts of the stream into stagnant bogs. For a time, no one in the village noticed.

But after a while, the water was not the same. It began to look brackish. The swans flew away to live elsewhere. The water no longer had a crisp scent that drew children to play by it. Some people in the town began to grow ill. All noticed the loss of sparkling beauty that used to flow between the banks of the streams that fed the town. The life of the village depended on the stream, and the life of the stream depended on the keeper. The city council reconvened, the money was found, the old man was rehired.

After yet another time, the springs were cleaned, the stream was pure, children played again on its banks, illness was replaced by health, the swans came home, and the village came back to life. The life of a village depended on the health of the stream.

The stream is your soul. And you are the keeper.

We are also interested in the health and growth of our church. Do please read the Reports from the Working groups and all areas of church life and we look forward to seeing you at the Annual Church meeting on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at St John's to hear more about where the Lord is leading us in the year ahead.

Yours, ***Jonny and Cathy***

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**Cryptic Quiz – English Counties**

This time, David Stannard offers us a re-run of a previous quiz, albeit with some new counties and some changed (easier?) clues. Have a go!

1. Alice's disappearing cat (8)
- 2 "The Garden of England" (4)
3. Famed for "Old Spots" and cheese rolling (15)
4. Most recent (1991) member of the County Cricket Championship (6)
5. Actress Susan played the lead in a TV serialisation of Galsworthy's classic (9)
6. Noted for its powerful punch (7)
7. "By the Sea" in song and divided East and West (6)
8. The Earl Marshall Duke, perhaps surprisingly, has his stately home in 7 (7)

9. Home of A. E. Houseman's "Lad" (10)
10. Victoria \_\_\_\_\_, BBC2 Weekday TV presenter (10)
11. Home of pop star and actor David? (5)
12. Actress Sarah began her TV career pulling pints and later helped to keep law and order (10)
13. In folk song – home of the Friday night poacher (12)
14. John Bunyan wrote his famous work while imprisoned in this county (12)
15. Tre, Pol and Pen (8)
16. W. \_\_\_\_\_ Maughan (1871-1965), novelist, playwright and short story writer (8)
17. Matthew Arnold described the county town as the "City of dreaming spires" (11)
18. The "Royal" County (9)
19. Home of Edward Elgar – although his music was not in the least "saucy"! (12)
20. Rogers and Hammerstein described this familiar county as having a distinctive hairstyle! (6)

***Answers next month!***

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## **Key Information**

### **Clergy:**

Vicars: Rev Cathy & Rev Jonny Blair (off duty Friday) 01932 917736  
 Curate: Rev Caroline Merrick (available Tue, Thu & Fri) 07419 827739  
 Curate: Rev Alex Oehring (off duty Saturday) 07920 098867

**Church Wardens:** Dawn May & Sally Eckes

**Youth Minister:** Mandy Watts (off duty Thursday)

**Under 5s and Families Minister:** Amy Maddocks (day off Monday)

**Licensed Lay Ministers:** John Muggleton, Tessa & John Badcock

**Pastoral Assistants:** Wendy Fitch, Alan White, Roger Hunt, Linda Muggleton, Margaret Valentine

For enquiries of a pastoral nature, please contact via the Vicars.

**A full list of Parish Officers and organisations is on our website.**

Information about Weddings and Baptisms can also be found on our website [www.waltonparish.org.uk](http://www.waltonparish.org.uk)

**Parish Office (open Monday - Friday 10:00-12:30)**

**St Mary's** Church Hall, Church Street, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 2QS  
 Telephone 01932 224238 Email [office@waltonparish.org.uk](mailto:office@waltonparish.org.uk)

**St John's Church**, 1 The Furrows, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 3JQ



# Servant Course

March 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>

2 places left

## What the Servant Course is NOT...

It is not a way of roping you into church 'stuff', you WILL NOT walk away having signed up to be on a new rota or a committee or doing anything else!

## So, what will it give you?

"The Servant Course is a journey of discovery about the way God made us, combining Spiritual gifts as well as our personality and passions. You will leave with something very personal to you, your life and your understanding of yourself. But don't take our word for it..."

Comments from people on previous courses:

**Excellent.** *Affirming.* **It confirmed what I thought.**

*I have never done anything like this before.*

**Life changing.** *I loved it!* **Releasing.**

Please check the website for more information and to register or contact [cathy@waltonparish.org.uk](mailto:cathy@waltonparish.org.uk) or [sally@waltonparish.org.uk](mailto:sally@waltonparish.org.uk) to learn more.

**Dates available for the Summer term – May 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> and  
June 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>**



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## Preparation of The New Electoral Roll - 2019

The compiling of the new Electoral Roll for St Mary's and St John's will take place during the period of Sunday 3rd February to Sunday 10th March 2019 inclusive. Every 6 years a new Electoral Roll is prepared and those on the previous roll must re-apply by completing an application form. Forms of application for enrolment will be available from the Parish Office and in the churches during that period. The application form is also available to download from the Parish website [LINK](#). Signed hard copies must be returned to the Parish Office by no later than Monday 11th March 2019 after which no further changes can be made until after the Annual Parish Church Meeting on Wednesday 3rd April 2019. *Abi Riehl Church Electoral Roll Officer*



**Saturday 16th March**  
**7.30 pm**  
**St Mary's Church**

### **THE CORRIE TEN BOOM STORY**

The incredible story of the ten Boom's, a devoted Christian family who felt they couldn't just watch the devastating circumstances of the Jews so they acted and set out on an incredible rescue mission.

Tickets £10 available from  
St Mary's Church Office  
or buy online *here*.

**And then I remembered: my vision... All the people I loved being drawn against our wills, unable to turn back, going to a world we did not know, somewhere we did not want to go.**

Oddments Theatre Company brings 'The Hiding Place' – the inspirational and heart wrenching testimony of Corrie ten Boom, to life in their latest production –. Corrie, born on April 15, 1892 in Haarlem, Holland, and her Christian family are outraged at the German occupation in the Second World War, and the constant persecution of the Jewish community. Her sister, Betsie, and father, Casper, join Corrie and thousands of others in the unceasing resistance of God's underground. Their refusal to stand by and watch the Nazi's horrendous onslaught, and their faith that prevails throughout their subsequent suffering of the Second World War's darkest terrors, continues to inspire all of those who encounter Corrie's incredible story.

Oddments are one of the few full-time Christian Theatre Companies in the UK. Based in Yeovil, Somerset, they are a registered charity reaching out to churches, schools, and prisons. The Hiding Place is currently brought to you by a production team of six performers whom, alongside an exciting, rotating stage set, music, and lively stage action, will make you laugh before they make you cry. Rated 5 stars by audience members, you will not be disappointed by this passionate story of God's love and hope in amidst an environment of darkness and brutality.

Described by the audience as – “a powerful performance showing how God's love can overcome hatred and evil” and – “an inspiration to us all”, we can guarantee it is a show not to miss. Corrie and her family's incredible story is timeless, and Oddments truly capture the Christian message in a new and encouraging way.

The play is rated a five star show consistently by audiences.

“Outstanding performance, I highly recommend it. If you're near a performance... it's a must see. Brilliantly done.”

“It was brilliant. I went not knowing what to expect, but I was confronted with a very moving and emotional play.”

“It was excellent. A very moving portrayal of the story. Well done.”

[Tickets here!](#)

# Services

<b>MARCH 2019</b>		
<b>St Mary's and St John's Services</b>		
<b>Sun 3 March</b> <i>Sun before Lent</i>	<b>St Mary's</b> 8.00 am Said Communion 9.15 am Lively Service All Age 11.00 am Reflective Service with Communion	<b>Glory on earth</b> <i>2 Corinthians 3:12-18</i> <i>Luke 9:28-36</i>
	<b>St John's</b> 9.00 am Said Communion with Baptism 10.30 am Morning Praise	
<i>Wed 6 March</i>	<b>St John's</b> <i>10.00 am Said Communion</i>	
<b>Sun 10 March</b> <i>Lent 1</i>	<b>St Mary's</b> 8.00 am BCP Communion 9.15 am Lively Service with Communion 11.00 am Reflective Service with Communion	<b>Time for testing</b> <i>Romans 10:8b-13</i> <i>Luke 4:1-13</i>
	<b>St John's</b> 10.30 am Morning Praise for All	
<i>Thurs 14 March</i>	<b>St Mary's</b> <i>10.00 am Said Communion</i>	
<b>Sun 17 March</b> <i>Lent 2</i>	<b>St Mary's</b> 8.00 am Said Communion 9.15 am Lively Service 11.00 am Reflective Service with Communion  <i>7pm Evening Praise</i>	<b>Time for standing firm</b> <i>Philippians 3:17-4:1</i> <i>Luke 13:31-end</i>
	<b>St John's</b> 10.30 am Holy Communion	
<i>Wed 20 March</i>	<b>St John's</b> <i>10.00 am Said Communion</i>	
<i>Thurs 21 March</i>	<b>Walton Community Centre</b> <i>11.00 am Communion</i>	
<b>Sun 24 March</b> <i>Lent 3</i>	<b>St Mary's</b> 8.00 am Said Communion 9.15 am Lively Service with Baptism 11.00 am Reflective Service with Communion 3.00 pm Baptism	<b>Time for a reality check</b> <i>1 Corinthians 10:1-13</i> <i>Luke 13:1-9</i>
	<b>St John's</b> 10.30 am Morning Praise	
<i>Thurs 28 March</i>	<b>St Mary's</b> <i>NO SERVICE</i>	
<b>Sun 31 March</b> <i>Lent 1</i> <i>Mothering</i> <i>Sunday</i>	<b>St Mary's</b> 8.00 am Said Communion <b>10.00 am JOINT Parish Service</b> with Communion and Sunday School	<b>Time to come home</b> <i>2 Corinthians 5:16-end</i> <i>Luke 15:1-3, 11b-end</i>
	<b>St John's</b> NO SERVICE	

# This month... March

<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	8.00 pm	<b>St Mary's</b>	United Worship & Prayer
<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	2.30 pm	<b>St John's</b>	Connections
<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00 am	<b>St John's</b>	Ash Wednesday
<b>8<sup>th</sup> &amp;</b>	7.00 pm	<b>St John's</b>	Servant Course
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00 am	<b>St John's</b>	Servant Course
<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	4.00 pm	<b>St Mary's</b>	Young Musicians Concert*
<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	7.30 pm	<b>St Mary's</b>	The Corrie ten Boom Story
<b>27<sup>th</sup></b>	8.00 pm	<b>St John's</b>	PCC
<b>31<sup>st</sup></b>	-----	-----	Mothering Sunday

\*Contact Carol Abson to learn more

## Regular fixtures... \* monthly

<b>Mondays</b>	9.15 am	<b>St Mary's</b>	Morning Prayer
<b>Tuesdays</b>	8.30 am	<b>St John's</b>	Morning Prayer
	9.30 am	<b>St John's</b>	Alpha Course
	2.30 pm	<b>St John's</b> <sup>*1st Tues</sup>	Walton Connections
	8.00 pm	<b>St John's</b> <sup>*1st &amp; 2nd Tues</sup>	Baptism Matters
<b>Wednesdays</b>	8.30 pm	<b>St Mary's</b>	Choir Practice
<b>Thursdays</b>	9.15 am	<b>St Mary's</b>	Morning Prayer
	7.30 pm	<b>St John's</b>	Alpha Course
	6.45 pm	<b>St Mary's</b>	Junior Choir
	7.30 pm	<b>St Mary's</b>	Band Practice
<b>Fridays</b>	10.30 am	<b>St John's</b>	Toddlers' Praise
	2.00 pm	<b>St Mary's Hall</b>	Toddlers' Praise
	3.30 pm	<b>St John's</b> <sup>* 2nd Friday</sup>	Messy Church
	6.00 pm	<b>St Mary's Hall</b>	Youth Groups (Yr 3-6)
	7.45 pm	<b>St Mary's</b>	Bellringing Practice
<b>Saturdays</b>	9.15 am	<b>St John's</b>	Breakfast Prayer Meeting
<b>Sunday</b>	7.00 pm	<b>St Mary's</b> <sup>*3rd Sun</sup>	Evening Praise
	6.00 pm	<b>St John's</b> <sup>**monthly</sup>	Solid Ground** (Yr7+)

\*\*check website calendar

**(NB: some of these activities only take place during term time.)**



# Daily Prayer Pointers

Some ideas for prayer for our church & community

## Sunday

**Sunday Services, midweek Communion**, for all who make our Church feel welcoming. For our Singers and Musicians.

## Monday

**One another** in our daily lives at work, in our neighbourhood, wherever we are, to show God's love. On our frontlines.

## Tuesday

**Seniors** – Walton Connections. **Other groups** - Mothers' Union and St John's Wives.

## Wednesday

**Discipleship and Leadership** – Small Groups, the Servant Course, PCC, worship leaders, preachers and Pastoral Assistants.

## Thursday

**Outreach & community links** – the Alpha Course, Messy Church, assemblies in Walton schools, the Open the Book team, baptisms and funerals.

## Friday

**Children and Youth** – Friday groups, Sunday School and Sunday youth groups, Toddlers' Praise. For all helpers and leaders and for more leaders.

## Saturday

**Missionaries we support** – Tear Fund, Compassion, Foodbank, Hannah Satterthwaite, Home Leone.

[www.waltonparish.org.uk](http://www.waltonparish.org.uk)



Walton-on-Thames  
**St Mary's and St John's**