

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

this month's church family thanks and prayers

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



Lent

Journey with God

Faith Engaging Lent!

February 2024

Dear Friends,

I have been refreshed and challenged by a verse from Psalm 66 that we read in Morning Prayer. *'Come and listen all you who fear God, and I will tell you what He has done for my soul'*. In many translations this is written as *'I will tell you what He has done for me'* (Ps 66:16). I have been reflecting on what God has done for me and that brings such joy to my heart; it lifts my Spirit and brings a smile to my face. When I first read the verse as *'what He has done for my soul'*, I thought of God's work penetrating

wonderfully to the very core of my being and marvelled at the depth to which, what God has done for me, penetrates to the very centre of my being. I encourage you to not only reflect on this verse for yourself but also to put it into practice by both asking others what God has done for them and listen to their ongoing faith stories but also be willing to share your story with others, whether close family, Christian friends or people on your frontlines. How that could wonderfully impact and excite our social and coffee times!

It is also a great verse to ponder as we look ahead to Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday on Wednesday 14th February; yes, Valentine's Day! There will be an evening service with the Imposition of Ashes in St. Mary's at 7.30 pm.

If we can begin each day of Lent telling our souls what God has done for us, that can lift our Spirits and perhaps help us in our spiritual journey through Lent. Lent is a time of preparation and is a time when many Christians start or develop something new – perhaps a new daily devotional reading or prayer at an additional time of day - to help us draw closer to Jesus. It may also be something that we give up to help us strengthen our friendship with God.

Will you take up the challenge of Lent this year?

As we have familiarised ourselves to the new pattern of services for this quarter, I hope that you are finding a service that helps you to worship God and draw closer to Him and that you are able to enjoy fellowship with others. It is wonderful to see so many people staying for refreshments in St. Mary's Hall after the 10.00 am service. As well as speaking with people you know, please do take the opportunity to look out for newcomers and welcome them and those you don't know, and introduce yourselves.

We will be praying that Lent 2024 will be a faith enriching time for you and for us all.

With our prayers,
Rev Jonny, Rev Dave, Rev Cathy and the team

The Missions We Support

As a Parish, we invest onwards 10% of the giving we receive. This models what we encourage of all faithful followers of Jesus, to give to God and His Church, 10% of what we receive. Last year, we supported overseas Christian mission through Fusion Spain, Barnabas Aid and its work in Nigeria and Tearfund for international disaster relief. We supported national organisations including CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society) and local organisations including the Molesey Churches Night Shelter, Brite Box and the Micah Fund. More details can be seen on the Missions Board at the back of St. Mary's or please contact Rev Jonny, Rev Dave, Helen Gaunt or Andrew Berkinshaw-Smith for more information.

Key Information

Vicars: Rev Jonny Blair | jonny@waltonparish.org.uk | 07466 401 614
(off duty Friday)

Rev Cathy Blair | cathy@waltonparish.org.uk | 01932 917 736

Assistant Minister: Rev Caroline Merrick (currently unavailable)

Curate: Rev Dave Bixby dave@waltonparish.org.uk | 07471 090 254
(off duty Friday)

Church Warden: David Henderson and Janet Todd (St John's)

Pastoral Matters: For pastoral enquiries contact vicar@waltonparish.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer:

Katharine Scott | safeguarding@waltonparish.org.uk

Wendy Fitch and Louise Turner (Vulnerable adults)

Safeguarding Administrator: Julia Gorrie (part time flexi hours)

safeguardingadmin@waltonparish.org.uk

Treasurer: Anne Redshaw | treasurer@waltonparish.org.uk

Assistant Treasurer: Julia Gorrie | assistant-treasurer@waltonparish.org.uk

A full list of Parish Officers can be found on our website

Information about weddings, funerals and baptisms can also be found on our website | www.waltonparish.org.uk

Church Office

Administrator: Sam Harrison

St Mary's Church Hall, Church Street, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 2QS

Telephone | 01932 224 238 Email | office@waltonparish.org.uk

The office contact hours are:

Closed Monday

Open Tuesday to Friday 10.00 am – 12 noon

St Mary's Church, Church Street, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 2QS

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

In Memoriam February

7th David Stannard

13th Judy Seale

17th Judy Turner

21st May Rose

23rd Alison Florence

25th Bill Lampkin

Peter Chessman

FEBRUARY 2024	St Mary's and St John's Services	Frontline Sundays and Lent	
For details of all Services, Events and Youth groups see www.waltonparish.org.uk			
Thurs 1 st Feb	10.30 am Holy Communion	St Mary's	
Sunday 4th Feb <i>2 before Lent</i>	8.30 am Said Service with Communion	St John's	Whoever We Are <i>Isaiah 62: 1-5; Matthew 6: 5-14</i>
	10.00 am Service for all with Communion	St Mary's	
	4.00 pm The Four	St John's	
Thurs 8 th Feb	10.30 am Holy Communion	St Mary's	
Sunday 11th Feb <i>Sunday before Lent</i>	8.30 am Said Service with Communion	St Mary's	Together We Grow <i>Hebrews 10: 19-25 John 3: 14-21</i>
	10.00 am Service for all Morning Praise	St Mary's	
	4.00 pm The Four	St John's	
Wed 14th Feb	7.30 pm Ash Wednesday Service	St Mary's	Truly Turn to God <i>Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17; Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21</i>
Thurs 15 th Feb	10.30 am Holy Communion	St Mary's	
Sunday 18th Feb <i>Lent 1</i>	8.30 am Said Service with Communion	St John's	Honour in Heaven <i>1 Peter 3: 18-22 Mark 1: 9-15</i>
	10.00 am Service for all with Communion	St Mary's	
	4.00 pm The Four	St John's	
Thurs 22 nd Feb	10.30 am Holy Communion	St Mary's	
Sunday 25th Feb <i>Lent 2</i>	8.30 am Said Service with Communion	St Mary's	True Faith <i>Romans 4: 13-25 Mark 8: 31-38</i>
	10.00 am Service for all Morning Praise	St Mary's	
	4.00 pm The Four	St John's	
Thurs 29 th Feb	10.30 am Holy Communion	St Mary's	
Sunday 3rd March	8.30 am Said Service with Communion	St John's	God's Wisdom <i>1 Cor 1: 18-25 John 2: 13-22</i>
	10.00 am Service for all with Communion	St Mary's	
	4.00 pm The Four	St John's	



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