

The Bridge

**The Parish Magazine
for the
Churches of Hedsor with Bourne End**

Issue: February and March 2012



St Nicholas' Church, Hedsor



St Mark's Church, Bourne End

The Bridge

**Welcome to “The Bridge” the Parish Magazine for
the Parish of Hedsor with Bourne End.**

**This magazine covers the activities of the two Churches, St Nicholas’ Hedsor and St
Mark’s Bourne End under the Pastoral care of the Reverend Ann Trew and our
Associate Priest, the Reverend Rosemary Payne.
We hope you will enjoy reading the magazine and will join us at some of our
services and social activities.**

Useful Contact Numbers



Clergy Rector

Rev’d Ann Trew
(Day off Friday)

01628 523046

Associate Priest

Rev’d Rosemary Payne
(Days off Wednesday and Thursday)

01628 523034

Licensed Lay Minister – Lyn Gooch

01628 530402

Parish Administrator:

Sarah Byng

07949 059187

parishoffice@stmarksbourneend.org.uk

Churchwardens:-

St Nicholas’, Hedsor

St Mark’s, Bourne End

Graham Stacey 01628521348

Jane Cottrell 01628 810590

John Rosewarne 01628 523868

Sue Burke - 01628 521119

Website:-

www.parishes-of-hedsor-and-bourne-end.org.uk

“The Bridge” Editor

Lyn Gooch email lyngooch@gmail.com
01628 530402



The Parishes of Hedsor and Bourne End



My Grandmother always used to comment when the evenings started to "draw out" and I find myself doing the same. These family sayings and traditions can be comforting markers as we go through the seasons. In the Church family we are no different, we have our traditions and symbols that bring Bible stories and particularly the Gospel closer to us, providing visual and audible markers throughout the Church year.

Having just celebrated Candlemas we now turn towards the next big festival, Easter and enter the period of Lent on 22 February. We are delighted to welcome Archdeacon Karen to St Mark's to our Ash Wednesday service which features the imposition of ashes - a stark reminder that we came from dust and to dust we will return. Archdeacon Karen will also be with us for our Good Friday service bringing to a close our Lenten journey.

It is interesting that in these days where Christianity is being marginalised, you will often overhear groups of people of all ages discussing what they are giving up for Lent. I think this tradition remains popular as Pancake Day is still very much in evidence and the Supermarkets always have special offers on Pancake ingredients! Many people will give up or cut down on sweet things during lent, or give up alcohol. Few these days will live a life of extreme fasting, common in earlier times, which may have grown out of necessity in the days before food was in such abundance in this Country.

As I promised in December, we will be running "Messy Easter" (see p5 for details) and I hope our Church will be bursting at the seams with families coming to join in a variety of crafts, hear the Easter story and learn some new songs before a well-deserved tea in the hall. I hope and pray that this will be the beginning of some new traditions for the children who come along and for their parents too.

Lent is a good time for a spiritual Spring-clean and living a more frugal life. We hear a lot about frugality in these difficult economic times and many families do not have the luxury of deciding to make do with less, it is a harsh reality. To help us spend some time in spiritual reflection we are holding a Lent Quiet Day on Thursday 15th March. Spending some peaceful time together can help us to be more receptive to God and his guidance for us in the coming weeks and months. Please join us if you can as part of your Lent preparation.(see p.8 for details).

Whatever you do to observe Lent, I hope it will be productive for you and a time of spiritual growth.

Lyn Gooch



Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals.

**For Baptisms and Funerals at both churches
please contact
Reverend Ann Trew**

**For Weddings
please contact
Reverend Rosemary Payne**

HELP NEEDED.

We are looking for someone to help with the administration work required for Weddings. If you can spare a little time for this, the Clergy and our couples preparing for their weddings would be very grateful!

For details of the work required, please contact Rev Rosemary Payne



PASTORAL VISITS

Would you or someone you care for like to be visited at home by one of our Pastoral Team? Home Communion visits can also be arranged. Please contact Sarah Byng our Parish Administrator to arrange a visit.





Calling all parents/grandparents/carers and children.....

"**Messy Easter**" is coming to St Mark's Church,
Station Road, Bourne End

Saturday 10th March 2012 from 3pm - 5pm

Come and have a **messy** time with crafts,
worship and fun songs followed by tea in the
hall.

Dress for **Mess!** And its **FREE!**

For catering purposes, please let us know how
many of you are coming - lyngooch@gmail.com or
01628530402



DIARY

Regular Services

1st Sunday of Each Month

08.00	Holy Communion	St Mark's
09.00	Communion with Choir	St Nicholas
10.30	All-age Service (Communion by Extension)	St Mark's

All other Sundays:

09.00	Holy Communion	St Nicholas
10.30	Sung Eucharist	St Mark's

Regular Services

Every Tuesday*

09.30	Morning Prayer	St Mark's
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Every Thursday*

* unless otherwise indicated

09.30	Holy Communion	St Mark's
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Last Tuesday of the month:

09.15	Holy Communion	St Nicholas
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Other Services and Events are listed below

February

Date	Time	Event	Venue
11.2.2012	10.00am	Intercessions Workshop	St Mark's Church Hall
22.2.2012	8.00pm	Service for Ash Wednesday with Archdeacon Karen	St Mark's

27th February
to 11th March

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT - look out for events

March

10.3.2012		"Messy Easter"	St Mark's
15.3.2012	10.00 -3pm	Lent Quiet Day	St Katherine's Parmoor

17.3.2012	10.00-12	Sale and Coffee morning	St Mark's
18.3.2012		MOTHERING SUNDAY	
25.3.2012		BRITISH SUMMER TIME BEGINS	
	10.00	Annual Parochial Church Meeting	St Nicholas'
	12.00	Annual Parochial Church Meeting	St Mark's
30.3.2012	7.30pm	Fabulous Forties Night	St Mark's

Dates for your Diary

1st April	Palm Sunday
6th April	Good Friday
8th April	Easter Day

Lent Lunches

As in previous years, we will be arranging simple Lent Lunches in the hall on Mondays in Lent from 12 - 2pm. There will be no lunch in Holy Week.

Donations are requested and all proceeds will go to a charity chosen by the organisers this year. The lunches are a popular social event so please come along and bring a friend or neighbour - its a great way to meet new people.

This year we need some more volunteers to help make soup and/or to help serve on some of the days. If anyone would like to help with preparing and serving the food - please contact Sarah Byng (Parish Co-ordinator)



Quiet Day - 15 March 2012

Once again, we will be visiting the beautiful house and grounds of St Katharine's Parmoor for our Quiet Day in Lent.

The cost of the day is £5.00. The formal day will begin at 10.00 and will finish by 3pm.

Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee is provided.

The Quiet Day is open to everyone in our churches and anyone else who is interested in having a day of rest and contemplation in lovely surroundings.

For further information and to book a place, please speak to Rev Ann or Sarah Byng .



Photo copyright Lyn Gooch

Calling all cooks!

We have all enjoyed the delicious cakes, sweets and preserves provided by so many of our ladies at our Fayres and sales so thought that it would be a wonderful idea to collect them into a recipe book which can be sold to raise funds for St Marks.

The recipes may be sweet or savoury, hot or cold, old favourites, in fact anything!

If you have any recipes that you would like to share, please give them to Lyn, Jane or Sarah (written or email) and we will do the rest.



St Mark's Women's Fellowship

Anyone interested in joining is very welcome.
Our subs are only £1.00 a year!!
We meet every third Wednesday of the month
2-15 for 2.30pm in the Church Hall.

For more details ring Jean Peasley 01628 520627

Pebbles Sunday School

St Nicholas, Hedsor

All children welcome!



A fun and creative session is held every third Sunday of the month in the vestry at 9 am

(Children under 3 will need a parent or guardian with them)

There are also regular activities to involve both the children and families within the church community, including our summer picnic, harvest art display and Nativity Play.

**Any questions please call Katy on 01628 526554
katysmith@hotmail.com**

ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH - SOCIAL EVENT

There will be a "Scrabble Evening" on Friday 30th March.

Tickets will be £15.00 per head to include Supper and a welcome glass of wine.

For further information and directions to venue - please contact Ruby Lunn on 01628 522721



Advance Notice...Hedsor Fair will be taking place on 30th June 2012
- further details to follow.....

Signs & Symbols: the timing of Lent

Ever wondered why we start Lent on a Wednesday? It's not really a very convenient day is it if, like most of us, like to eat pancakes the day before, and it's a working day. It would be so much more convenient to have Pancake Tuesday on the Saturday then we could start Lent on the Sunday. Sounds so much more practical, doesn't it? So why didn't the church didn't take up the idea decades ago?

There is, of course, a catch with this suggestion. How can we hold 'Lent' – a time of reflection on Jesus and our relationship with God and others – at the same time as we're rejoicing on the resurrection of Jesus on a Sunday? Now that would be a stretch too far.

If Lent is intended to be a period of reflection how long does it need to be? Long enough for us to actually connect with the purpose, and not just skirt over it with a token gesture. Short enough so that we can see the hope within it, that there will be an ending and we shall see the glory of God revealed through the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ. If something goes on too long then we feel there's no end in sight so we don't engage, but if it's too short then there's not enough time to consider, test and try, and then actually commit.

It's like a family meal. Too long and the children start to get restless and the whole thing breaks down into chaos or shouting; too short and there's not enough time to enjoy each other's company, for each to have enough time to share their thoughts and news and to relax together.

This month: How long do you think Lent needs to be for you? Do you jump in from the very start or does it take you until the last week to make the connections? Then count how many days are in 'Lent' and work out why we start on a Wednesday.

What it's worth

A man and his ten-year-old son were on a fishing trip miles from home. At the boy's insistence, they decided to attend the Sunday worship service at a small rural church. The father forgot to bring any cash, so he reached in his pocket and gave his son 10p to drop in the offering plate as it was passed.

As they walked back to their car after the service, the father complained. "The service was too long," he lamented. "The sermon was boring, and the singing was off key." Finally the boy said, "Daddy, I thought it was pretty good for 10p."



Fabulous Forties Night



Friday 30th March

7:30pm

St Mark's Church

Station Road, Bourne End, Buckinghamshire, SL8 5QE

Musical Entertainment

by the Fabulous

Polka Dots



**Table Quiz & Supper
Tickets**

£10 in advance

From 07581201161



**Sing Along, Dance Along
Period Dress Optional**



This is a fundraising event for St Mark's Church

INTERCESSIONS WORKSHOP

"Let us thank God for the Church and the World, and let us thank God for a short sleep!"

This is the opening line of "The Intercessions Handbook" by Bishop John Pritchard. In it he explores the different types of Intercessory prayer; why we have it at all on a Sunday morning and why it matters. (and why it shouldn't send anyone to sleep!).

The Ministry team will be running another Intercessions Workshop and this time we will be joined by our friends at Cores End URC along with their minister, Rev'd Janet Hopewell.

We hope that we can explore together how to write prayers and lead public prayer in an interesting and creative way at different times of the Church Calendar.

Who should come to the workshop? Anyone! You are welcome to come if you already lead intercessions and would like to learn more; if you have never led intercessions but aspire to do so or are curious to know to craft these prayers which it is a privilege and responsibility to lead each week.

Please come along to St Mark's Church Hall on Saturday 11th February between 10 am and 12.30pm. We hope it will be an enjoyable morning for all concerned.



ST MARK'S "200" CLUB

Would you like to support our work in the Parish for £1.00 per week? We are looking for some additional shareholders for our Club. £1.00 per week will buy you the chance to win one of three small cash prizes once a month and £200 in our Grand Christmas Draw. The odds of winning are considerably higher than the National Lottery or Euro Millions although the prizes more modest!

We have a number of regular shareholders but are looking for some new ones. Perhaps you are reading this magazine for the first time and didn't know about the Club - perhaps you only visit us occasionally but would like to see us be able to plan for the future of this Church in our Community.... What ever your reason for joining, we would be very pleased to welcome your support.

For further information and an application form, please contact Jimmy Heyes on 01628 523498.



MONDAY MORNING COFFEE - ST MARK'S CHURCH HALL

Join us every Monday between
10-12.00 for coffee, tea and lively conversation!
All very welcome

St Mark's Babies and Toddler Group

Our friendly group meets in the Church Hall every Wednesday morning at 9.30 Come and join us for unhurried conversation, tea and playtime for the children. All parents or carers with small children welcome. For further information call Shirley Mansfield on 01628 523403.

St Mark's Monthly Markets

Quality 'Good as New' clothes and accessories, books and refreshments. and Raffle. All to be held in St Mark's Church Hall, 10.00 - 12.00noon.

Please pop in for a coffee and a chat and view the sale items. All proceeds go into the church funds helping us to maintain our building and our work within the community.

Next Dates: -February 18th and March 17th

If you have anything to donate, please contact Jane Cottrell at Church or on 01628 810590.

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