Parish of Stratford-upon-Avon.

**Weekly Bulletin**

**Sunday 24th March 2024 Holy Week**

This Week’s Services

Palm Sunday 24th March 2024

9.30 St Helen’s - Holy Communion, The Rev’d Diane Patterson will preside at this service.

9.30 All Saints’- Holy Communion, The Rev’d Jenny Rowland will preside at this service and Rev’d Emma Harrington will preach

10.00 Holy Trinity - Parish Eucharist for Palm Sunday with Procession of Palms, Passion Gospel and children’s breakout, The Rev’d Patrick Taylor will preside

17.00 Holy Trinity - Choral Evensong, The Rev’d Patrick Taylorl will officiate and James Sorel Cameron will preach at this service.

Good Friday at the Village Churches

 9.30am All Saints’ Good Friday Reflection

2.30pm St. Helen’s Good Friday Reflection

Midweek Communion

Wednesday 27th March 10.00 at the Guild Chapel

**Easter Day’s Services**

**Please see below for Holy Week Services**

Easter Day 31st March 2024

8.00 Holy Trinity - Holy Communion, The Rev’d Thomas Powell will preside at this service.

9.30 St Helen’s - Holy Communion,

9.30 All Saints’- Holy Communion, The Rev’d Graham Wilcox will preside at this service

10.00 Holy Trinity - Parish Eucharist with Trinity Voices, The Rev’d Emma Harrington will preside and the Rev’d Patrick Taylor will preach at this service

17.00 Holy Trinity - FestalChoral Evensong, The Rev’d Patrick Taylor will officiate and the Rev’d Richard Cooke will preach at this service.

Midweek Communion

Wednesday 3rd April 10.00 at the Guild Chapel

**For Your Prayers**

For the sick

Ron Hammond

Those who have recently died

Peter Wetherington

Continue to pray for

Wendy Datta

Sam Datta

Sandra MacDonald

Melinda

John Baugh

Marilyn Shorey

Hilton Calcutt

If you aren’t able to attend our Lent Course in person, or would like a refresher of what happened, Rev’d Richard Cooke’s notes from each session can be found at https://www.stratford-upon-avon.org/lent-courses-2024. There is also a link to the YouTube playlist with the video recordings of each session and you can download a copy of the poems to read each week.

To go directly to the recordings, click here https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLikWNbse8LPKfCgAlFDgvENCWUfD8ZIy3

The next of our Breakout Group, for Primary aged children during the 10am Parish Eucharist will be on 24th March

Primary age children will be invited to go to the clergy vestry after the Collect and before the first reading. We’ll return for the Peace.

The group will be an opportunity for the children to learn and explore faith in an age appropriate way. We will share a Bible reading and activities based on the theme of the service.

**Lilies to decorate our Church at Easter**

If you wish to donate towards lilies in memory of a loved one or simply to celebrate Easter, our flower teams would be very grateful. The closing date for donations is Saturday 23 March. Donations can be made by cheque or direct bank payment and you may add a dedication if you wish. Cheques should be sent to the Parish Centre and marked Easter Lilies. Direct bank payments should go to Stratford-upon-Avon PCC, sort code 40-43-19, account number 20649430

Trinity Players invite you to **WITNESSES**

The Easter Story in Words and Music

In the Chancel of HolyTrinity Church at 7 30 pm On Wednesday 27 March

Admission free

Retiring Collection for The Nicol Ward Garden at Stratford Hospital

King James Bible Readings

James and Bridget Sorel - Cameron will shortly be assembling the King James Bible Reading Rota for April. The idea is that every day that the church is open there will be a reading from the King James Translation of the Bible. Those on the rota currently, will have received an email asking for your availability.

The more people we have on the rota the better. If you would like to join us on this rota, please let us know. If you might like to try to be one of readers but are nervous of your ability to read from the lectern, we can arrange for you to have some practice. You would be under no obligation to join us, but it is a worthwhile and enjoyable way to become involved.

James Sorel – Cameron sorelcameron.james@gmail.com

Contemplative Prayer

The Contemplative Prayer group will next meet on Tuesday 9th April (NB NOT 2nd) in the Parish Centre at 5.30 pm. Please join us for half an hour of silent prayer together.

Calling All Team Leaders

Please will you get your report on the activities of your teamduring the past year (May 2023 to March 2024) to Liz Roome as soon aspossible for inclusion in the Reports Booklet for the APCM.

Deadline: 19th April 2024

Send it to: lizabetsy47@gmail.com

Electoral Roll

If you regularly worship at Holy Trinity, All Saints’, St Helen’s or the Guild Chapel you are encouraged to join the Electoral Roll so you can vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in May. This can be done preferably via this link or by taking an application form from the back of church and returning this to me at the Parish Office.

Please note a separate form is required for each person. The deadline for doing this is Sunday 21st April. Any forms received after this date will not take effect until after the APCM.

If you were on the Roll last year you do not need to do anything.

 Tim Raistrick, Electoral Roll Officer

Soul Space – 15th April to 13th May 2024

Soul Space is a workshop run over 5 weekly sessions. The workshop gives the opportunity to consider the bigger questions about life, as we explore key aspects of the Christian faith. The venue for the workshop will be VASA, Arden Street, Stratford-upon-Avon.

Each session will run from 7.30pm - 9.00pm.

Weekly meetings are for anyone and take place in a relaxed informal group whereyou can ask anything; no question is too simple or too challenging.

Each session provides an opportunity to listen, learn, discuss and discover

 **Explore - Discover - Believe**

Register now for our next workshop by clicking on the link and completing theform.

Mainly Mozart

The Requiem & other Mozart Favourites

Stratford-upon-Avon Choral Society’s Mainly Mozart concert on March 23rd contains several gems from the choral repertoire - Mozart’s Requiem, Ave Verum and Laudate Dominum from Vesperae solonnes de Confessore, plus Haydn’s Insanae et Vanae Curae.

Mozart Requiem is a great sing and great to listen to – an established favourite for choirs and audience alike. Originally commissioned in 1791 by an anonymous patron, Mozart, then only 35 years of age, composed it in his last months with deteriorating health and he died in December, leaving the final completion of the work to his pupil Sussmayr. You will recognise parts of it from the film Amadeus.

Stratford Choral Society, first formed in 1836, one year before Queen Victoria came to the throne, this year, one year after Charles III came to the throne, celebrates its 188th anniversary,. It shares with the Huddersfield Choral Society the accolade of being the two oldest choral societies in the country.

Professional soloists will include returning favourite Heather Wardle (Soprano), Matthew Keighley (Tenor), Nick Perfect (Bass), with the Regency Sinfonia and Douglas Keilitz, organ conducted by Music Director Oliver Neal Parker.

This concert takes place on **Saturday 23rd March 2024 at 7.30pm** at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon.

Concert tickets £20 (adults) or £10 (students) from choir members, Website www.stratfordchoral.org.uk, phone 01789 750704 or at the door on the night if seats available. Up to two children under 16 are admitted free of charge if accompanied by a paying adult.

www.stratfordchoral.org.uk. Charity Number: 502020

Luddington Village Walk

Saturday 13th April 10.00am start. Meet at Luddington village hall, parking in car park or on the road. Circular walk (about 1hr) Return via the weir to village hall for refreshments. Shorter walk to visit church and lock. To sign up click on the link giving names, contact number, indicating longer or short walk and whether a lift is required. For more information, please contact Chris Cottrell: 01789 204273 or email cottrellfamilysoa@hotmail.com. Thank you.

Climate hub - volunteer interest?

We will soon be opening a climate hub in Meer Street, in Stratford Town Centre. Our aim will be to provide reliable information on climate issues, to offer advice on what people can do to help with the climate emergency, to provide recycling opportunities, and to hold community events, talks and workshops.

We're looking for people who would be interested in volunteering there. Volunteers could help by staffing the hub and talking to the public, or with back-stage support, such as research, etc.

Don't worry - if you're in a public facing role, you won't have to be an expert, or know everything. We'll provide training, and will have a system for recording and responding to people's questions in time.

If you're interested in helping out, and would like to see the hub, we're having a drop-in session there this Monday, the 18th March, from 10 am until 4 pm. The address is 30 Meer Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6QB. Feel free to drop by and knock on the door, and we can show you around and have a chat. If you aren't free on Monday, please let us know, and we'll look to organise another opportunity to see the hub.

Planned Giving to this Parish

We are very grateful to all those who support the work of this parish, including those who give by regular Standing Order. If you are not yet part of our Stewardship Scheme for planned giving, the information you will need to set up a Standing Order and sign up for Gift Aid can be found here:

Planned Giving -Holy Trinity Church - Stratford upon Avon

Simplify your life as much as possible. Only keep belongings that you use/enjoy on a regular basis. By making the effort to reduce what you own, you will naturally purchase less/create less waste in the future.

Have a look at one of the websites which allow us to calculate our Eco footprint -

The Eco Footprint, Carbon Footprint and Water Footprint calculators.

**Remember. Reduce Purchases, Reuse, Recycle, Refuse, Rot**

Finally, whilst we all try to live a life which has less negative impact on our planet we still have to live and be productive. So whilst we can follow the steps outlines above reducing our impact is a progressive exercise. Looking at the impact of our food choices is one key way to change as is the progressive change of household equipment (fridges, heaters etc) all of which now carry eco labels. Choose the equipment which utilised the least energy, turn off water taps, look for fuel efficient ways of travelling.

New technologies are constantly being introduced to help us all on our eco journeys.

There is much which each of us can do by thoughtful planning. Happy Eco New Year

 Access to the book of Remembrance

When the church is closed if you wish to see the Book of Remembrance.

Please contact the office on 01789 632809 and we can arrange a time for the church to be open.

Submitting a notice for the bulletin

If you would like to submit a notice for the weekly bulletin, The deadline for submitting a notice is on Thursday at 4pm.

 Sharing the Bulletin for those not online.

People may not be aware, but each week a simplified version of the Weekly Bulletin is produced as a Word document in black and white and without pictures.

If you know of someone who isn’t online, you can print a copy of the simplified bulletin for them.

It can be found here (https://www.stratford-upon-avon.org/weekly-bulletin) or on the church website under the “Community” heading and then “Weekly Bulletin”.

A copy is also printed each week and put by the North door for people to read in church.

Pastoral Requests

If you or someone you know has a pastoral need please email contact@stratford-upon-avon.org or phone 01789 632811 and a member of the pastoral team will be in touch.

Foodbank

Items for the Foodbank can be left in the chest, by the servery, in Holy Trinity.