

St Mary's Events and News March 2020

If you want to include any information in the monthly Events & News then please contact Dennis on dennishooton@talktalk.net or 01773-852158

Vicar's Message

MARCH is a month when it seems lots of things are beginning to change. The weather, which has been so devastating to many, is just one of those things that demonstrates the fact of change so vividly. Seven individual times [at time of writing!] over just a couple of months, All Saints Church has had to face the rise in water level and the stress of the clean-up operations. Just one sign of change.

The church is also facing change; some predictable [it's always Purple colour in church during Lent] but others not so predictable. We have been asking what makes for a Healthy Church and what might that look like for St Mary's and All Saints. Is being healthy all about weights and measures and/or is it also about fitness and stamina?

Weights and measures are part of being healthy, many of us know what our weight and height are but what might our BMI look like? Weights and measures are fine, but they only tell part of the story. Fitness and Stamina are another part of being Healthy; is the church still fit for its purpose? Are we still fit enough to be able to do what the church is here for? Being fit might be about also stopping doing some things in order to be fitter overall. The church has always had Stamina, built up over two thousand years of faith but that is Stamina for the long haul. Do we have the Stamina for the short run, the quick response and the immediate challenge of change?

I am beginning to wonder what the shape of the church might be for the future? Younger, slimmer and fitter? Or growing older, doing the same things but taking longer to do them? The answer is probably both!

Whatever changes come, and changes will come, we have the one who doesn't change; the Lord God of All, who in Jesus said 'Behold I do a new thing...change?' but the change was still part of the whole package of Love, Commitment, Challenge and Wholeness that our God has always been into. How that change is to be worked

out in Crich and South Wingfield is our calling for this time and for this place.

Are you willing to be part of change, but also part of holding things together? I pray that we are.

Ian Whitehead, Vicar

March Events:

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| Sunday 1st March
Bishop Jan | 8.00am – Holy Communion
10.00am – All Age/Confirmation
6.30pm – Holy Communion |
| Friday 6th March
Saturday | 7.00pm – World Day of Prayer/Zimbabwe
9.00am – Prayer, 22 Cromford Rd |
| Sunday 8th March | 8.00am - Holy Communion
10.00am – Holy Communion
6.30pm – Worship & 7 |
| Friday 13th March
Saturday 14th March | 7.30pm – Choir Practice
9.00am – Prayer, 22 Cromford Rd |
| Sunday 15th March | 8.00am – Holy Communion
10.00am – Holy Communion
First Communion for one of our young people
10.00am – Sunday Stars
6.30pm – Celtic Evening Service |
| Friday 20th March
Saturday 21st March
Saturday 21st March | 7.30pm – Choir Practice
9.00am – Prayer, 22 Cromford Road
7.30pm – Worship with
Trace & the Resonators - Free Entry |
| Sunday 22nd March | Mothering Sunday
8.00am – Holy Communion
10.00am – Mothering Sunday Service
6.30pm – Celtic Service |
| Friday 27th March
Saturday 28th March
Saturday 28th March | 7.30pm – Choir Practice
9.00am – Prayer, 22 Cromford Road
2.00pm – Wedding |

Sunday 29th March
CLOCKS FORWARD

8.00am – Holy Communion
10.00am – Healing Holy Communion
6.30pm – Special Service

Sunday 5th April
PALM SUNDAY

8.00am – Holy Communion
10.00am – All Age
6.30pm – Celtic Holy Communion

Worship with Trace Taylor
Saturday 21st March @ 7.30pm
St Mary's Church Cromford Rd, Crich, DE4 5DJ

Trace Taylor and her band, the Resonators, are a finely honed three-piece worship performance band. Their heart is to spread the good news about Jesus through their love of musical theatre, incorporating the sounds of jazz, rock, pop and folk with a general ambient electronic vibe throughout.

All Welcome. Free Admission

Healthy Churches – Lent study groups

We are using Robert Warren's excellent book 'The Healthy Churches Handbook' to see how healthy we are and where we need to change. For example, are we -

- deeply rooted in the local community, working in partnership with other denominations, faiths, secular groups and networks
- passionate and prophetic about justice and peace, locally and globally
- making connections between faith and daily living
- responding to human need by loving service

Mondays 7.30pm at 1 Bower Drive (contact Lynn 853746)

Wednesdays 7.30pm at 3 Roes Court (and other homes)
(contact Serena 856948)

Daytime group tba

Letter from Isaac Shaw, one of our young people, who is travelling to Tanzania in July with his school, Derby High, to help with an on-going project. Gedeli B School is located in Mwanza and has around 1300 children at the school aged between 7 and 14 completing their equivalent of our 'primary' education. Few move on to secondary education.

Tanzania is a very poor country. Most people live in a basic hut with tin roofs, in one room, without electricity or running water.

The Derby Grammar boys visit is life changing for both them and the children in Mwanza.

"In July 2020 I am going to Tanzania with school as part of the Gedeli B School project in Mwanza. In this, I will be traveling to various orphanages and schools in Mwanza to teach and meet with the children and decorate classrooms. There may be other projects that we will be involved with too. This is part of a 10-year project developed by my school and 2020 will be the eighth visit. In order for me to go to this visit I have to raise funds to travel, and I need to raise a further £1,500. So, I am writing to ask if the church would like to help by making a donation towards it. St Mary's may also wish to contribute to the project itself which is a registered charity.

So far the project has built five classrooms, including a special-needs classroom - and has installed electricity and running water. We have also built two toilet blocks with cesspits and running water. We have supplied classroom equipment including furniture and teaching resources, created a sports area, and provided sports equipment. We have also installed a 10,000 litre water tower. More information about the project is on the website

<https://www.derbygrammar.org/school-life/charity/tanzania-project/>

I think it will be an incredible experience, and I am very excited about it. I need to raise money for my own travel, and I would be very grateful for any donation towards it. I would be happy to speak to the church when I return and share my experiences."

(St Mary's is giving a generous donation to this very worthy cause, and you are welcome to contribute as well. All donations for Isaac's trip, and to the Derby Grammar school visit, to St Mary's via Dennis Hooton who will pass them onto Isaac.)