



Sunday 24th March 2024

HOLY WEEK

Priest in Charge: Revd Joy Ludlow
Email: joyeludlow@outlook.com / thornburybenefice@outlook.com
Phone: 01454 419 229 / 01454 281 900



Church Wardens - If you need any help the church wardens are always contactable.

Tel: Jenny Ovens (01454414727), Robin Gupta (01454 413650), Mike Dennett (01454 419082), Andrew Gazard (07831 849 742) and Sandra Grey (01454 260316).

CALENDAR

Friday 22nd March

7.30pm – Choir Practice at St Mary's

Saturday 23rd March

2:30pm - Visiting Bell Ringers

7.00pm - Thornbury Good Afternoon Choir

Sunday 24th March - Palm Sunday

9:00am – Holy Communion at St Paul's

10:30am – *Holy Communion at St Mary's

3:00pm - Muddy Praise at St Mary's

6.00pm - Evening Prayer at St Arilda's

Monday 25th March

7:00pm - Easter Reflection Service at St Paul's

Tuesday 26th March

Wednesday 27th March

7:00pm - Prayers for Creation at St Arilda's

Thursday 28th March - Maundy Thursday

9:00am – Hopscotch at St Mary's

7:00pm - Agape Meal at St Mary's

Friday 29th March - Good Friday

2:00pm - Service of Reflection at St Mary's

When I survey the wondrous cross,
what do I see?

3:00pm - Walk of Witness at St Arilda's.

7.30pm – Choir Practice at St Mary's

Sunday 31st March - Easter Sunday

6:30am - Dawn Holy Communion at St Arilda's

7.00pm - The Kingdom and the Cross service at St Mary's

7.30pm – Bell ringing practice

9:00am – Holy Communion at St Paul's

10:30am – *All Age Holy Communion at St Mary's

*Please note: most services at St Mary's will be live streamed
Livestreaming – If you are unable to make it to church, please do use the link below so you can be part of our worship. The camera records the person speaking, with some wider shots of the church.

NOTICES AND EVENTS

Dawn Service - Our Easter morning service this year will run again at St Arilda's at the slightly later time of 6:30am (because of the clock change). This will still be the traditional Dawn Service with an Easter fire **and incense** and the singing of the exultet. Some members of the Thornbury community may like to join us for this but struggle with the journey to Oldbury. If you would really like to attend this service but might struggle with the journey please let the office know if you are driving from Thornbury already and willing to take someone with you please do let the office know too. We will help as much as we can.

Electoral Roll – It is the time of year when we begin to prepare for our APCM in May. If you are not yet on our Electoral Roll and would like to feel part of the Church family please complete a form. There is a supply at the back of St Mary's and St Paul's. Please hand completed forms to a Churchwarden. Thank you.

Easter Lilies in St Mary's Church - If you would like to make a donation towards the Easter Lilies to remember loved ones please speak to or phone Kate Teague 415837, Cath Barnard 413565 or Carole Ball 413665. Please let us have the names of those to be remembered so that they can be displayed in a frame by the arrangement near the pulpit. Many thanks.

Flowers for Easter at St Paul's - If you would like to donate money for flowers to decorate St Paul's for Easter in memory of a loved one, please add your name and the name of your loved one to the list at the back of St Paul's. Thank you.

2024 Lent Appeal for Christian Aid: Everyone is Equal in the sight of God -

The 2024 Lent Appeal is in aid of Christian Aid who are supporting us with the Lent course, 'Act on Poverty'. Christian Aid believes every prayer, every gift, every action helps transform lives, demonstrating the power of people coming together in faith. They raise awareness of suffering, tackle injustice and

champion people's rights. "Loving our neighbours means living out our faith on a local and global scale." Please collect an envelope from the back of church and return it to church, during a service, at Easter. Many thanks. Christine Dadd, Chair, Missions: Global and Local Concern.



Choir Concert

On **Saturday 23rd March** there will be a charity concert at St Mary's Church. The Bath male Choir will be teaming up with the Thornbury Good Afternoon Choir to raise money for Thornbury & District League of Friends.

Tickets cost £10 and can either be purchased on the door or atgac.ticketlight.co.uk or call 0844 8889991.

Thornbury and District League of Friends exists to support community health and wellbeing within Thornbury and the surrounding villages. Since the closure of Thornbury Hospital at the end of 2018 we have continued to support the Henderson Rehabilitation Unit at Grace Care Centre and the Outpatients in St Mary Centre, however our main focus is now as a grant-giving body whereby we accept applications (on an annual basis) from any local organisation or charity which requires funding for a specific health/wellbeing-related project. All such applications are carefully considered each November.

Agape Supper – **Thursday 28 March** at 7pm in St Mary's Church – A sign up sheet is available in the churches. If you wish to attend, please add your name and any allergies – to help with catering arrangements. Thank you!

TCT Walk of Witness - Friday 29th March at 10:30am. The walk will start at Thornbury Christ the King Church, then walk to the Methodist Church, then onto St. Mary's Baptist church, finishing at URC for refreshments.

St Mary's Easter Prayer stations - This Easter at St Mary's Church, 3 temporary Prayer stations will be set up. Contemplation spaces that have been inspired by a wall frieze by Emma Yarlett, 'The Big Frieze' which is part of the RE curriculum at St Mary's School.

CHURCH RE-ORDERING



With work starting soon after Easter, we are really excited to see our outdoor toilet and storage in place today. Environment champions are pleased to see our wild flowers being kept safe and there are no chemicals in the toilet!

We will continue to keep you updated as work continues at St Mary's. For more updates please do follow the Thornbury Benefice Facebook page.

We are pleased to say that we have now received the Faculty (permission) for the reordering works to the west end of St Mary's Church. The work will start after Easter, and will take at least 6 months to complete.

The work will involve the whole of the back area of the Church, in other words the raised carpeted area, being closed off. The carpeted floor is being replaced with stone paving at the same level as the body of the Church. There will be a large, dedicated storage area in the corner where the kitchen is now, and a new, larger servery will be built in the north-west corner. There will still be a children's area in a more central position in the back of the Church, with purpose-built cupboards.

The font will be moved eastwards so that it aligns with the south and north doors.

The current toilet will be replaced with a fully compliant disabled toilet and a second toilet constructed. The existing choir robes and books storage will also be replaced with a purpose built storage unit.

Please do speak to any of the Church wardens if you have any questions or concerns about any of the above.

CHURCH FAMILY

Help needed with weddings and funerals at St. Mary's and/or St. Paul's

- Join us in supporting our community during important life events like weddings and funerals. Your help as a verger ensures each service is personal and seamless. Assist with setting up the church, greeting attendees, and more. If you can spare even a little time, please reach out to Reverend Joy or Lizzie Jones for more information on how you can contribute. Training and support provided. Contact Lizzie at lifeevents.thornburybenefice@outlook.com.

Bereaved or need Pastoral Care? - As a church community we always try to be there for any person who is in need or has experienced a loss. We would hope that someone from the church family would be round to visit you following a bereavement within the first few days. This might not always be Revd Joy but could also be a visit from Revd Sheila Fisher or another member of the ministry team, or friends from within the Church community. We are lucky to have a wonderful church team and family to help each other through difficult times. This also makes it possible for our vicar to visit all in need that are not yet part of the family. Please do let Revd Joy (joyeludlow@outlook.com) and Lizzie Jones (lifeevents.thornburybenefice@outlook.com) know as soon as possible following a bereavement and we will do all that we can to help. If you specifically want a visit from a member of the clergy, please do get in touch. We are never too busy, but not all people need the same things, and it helps for us to hear from you.

If you or someone you know is in hospital, struggling in isolation or has cause for concern, please let the office know and we can pass on information as appropriate.

The Office - The office in St Mary's will be open during the hours of 10am and 2pm, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. All messages will be dealt with as soon as possible. Please send newsletter items to the office by 10am on the Wednesday. Email: thornburybenefice@outlook.com. Thankyou.

St Mary's School Contact:

St Mary's C of E VA School, Headteacher Mrs. S Gillman

Email: stmarysthornbury@sgmail.org.uk

Phone: 01454 866 760

PAGE OF PRAYER

Those who have asked for our prayers at this time:

Gareth Mullinex, Angela Swan, Hughan Welch, Joyce Barge, Verity Barker, Phil Jones, Sylvia Zelle, Jean Boakes, Stuart Elliott, Gill and Chris Platt.

Those for whom we regularly pray: Roger Holliday, Betty Hayes and Diana Jarvis.

Recently departed: We pray for the family and friends of Nanette Smedley who mourn their loss.

Readings: Isaiah 50.4-9a, Philippians 2. 5-11, Mark 14.1- end of 15

GOSPEL READING

Mark 14. 3-9

3 While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. 4 But some were there who said to one another in anger, 'Why was the ointment wasted in this way? 5 For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.' And they scolded her. 6 But Jesus said, 'Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. 7 For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. 8 She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. 9 Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.'

FOR OUR

FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT - In the Colombia-Ecuador border area, mangroves are threatened by pollution, the climate emergency and violence related to drug trafficking. According to estimates, 10 percent of mangroves have disappeared in the last 10 years at global level. In this particular area, the loss is estimated at 6 percent, corresponding to almost 145,000 hectares. The Amazon foothills have been home to Afro-descendant communities and the Awá Indigenous people. Communities on both sides of the border have contributed to the reforestation of over 10,000 hectares of land. This includes 400 hectares of mangroves on the Ecuadorian side and 9,600 hectares of tropical forest in Colombia. The Awá people preserve their rich agricultural heritage. Rescuing traditional seeds believed to be extinct in the area contributes to safeguarding the biodiversity of indigenous crops and reviving local farming practices. You can find more information at World Food Programme website.

FOR OUR WORLD – The world is “tantalisingly close” to eradicating polio – with no confirmed cases of wild polio anywhere so far this year. But experts warn that vaccination efforts – and funding – must not falter if the world is to rid itself of a human infectious disease for the second time in history, after smallpox.

FOR COMMUNITY – Are you ready for Easter? [The Meaningful Chocolate Company](#) produce 'Real Easter Eggs' – there's a choice of milk chocolate and dark chocolate, it's all Fairtrade, and the company makes a charity donation from every sale. You can order Real Easter Eggs online or check their list of stockists.

The United Benefice of Thornbury with Oldbury and Shepperdine consists of the ecclesiastical parish of Thornbury and the ecclesiastical parish of Oldbury-on-Severn with Shepperdine. The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Thornbury is registered charity no. 1137265.