

Some dates for March 2012

Thur 1	8.00pm	Ground Floor Group (Vicarage)
Fri 2	10.30am	Women's World Day of Prayer service
	3.30pm	Tea, Chat and Toys (Vicarage)
Sat 3	8.30am	Men's Breakfast in the Lion
Sun 4	9.30am	Family Service (Offord)
	10:30am	Family Eucharist
	1.00pm	Baptism of Poppy Allen
	3.30pm	Gathering for Servers, Sacristans, Sidesmen, Cleaners, etc
	6.00pm	BCP Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Deanery Evensong (Everton)
Mon 5	12.30pm	Lent Study Lunch 2 (Methodist Hall)
Wed 7	9.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Mums and Tots (Methodist Hall)
	10.15am	Coffee after Communion (LS Room)
Fri 9	3.30pm	Tea, chat and toys (Vicarage)
Sun 11	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	9.30am	Holy Communion (Offord)
	10:30am	Family Eucharist
	4.00pm	Stepping Stones
	6.00pm	Deanery Evensong (Great Staughton)
Mon 12	12.30pm	Lent Study Lunch 3 (Methodist Hall)
Tue 13	7.30pm	15+ group (Living Stones Room)
Wed 14	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	Mums and Tots (Methodist Hall)
	10.15am	Coffee after Communion (LS Room)
	10.15am	Quiet Day at 25 Perry Road
Thur 15	8.00pm	Ground Floor Group (Vicarage)
Fri 16	3.30pm	Tea, chat and toys (Vicarage)
Sun 18		<i>Mothers' Sunday</i>
	9:30am	BCP Matins (Offord)
	10.30am	Family Eucharist
	4.00pm	Messy Church (Offord Church Rooms)
	6.00pm	BCP Evensong
Mon 19	12.30pm	Lent Study Lunch 4 (Methodist Hall)
	7.30pm	Buckden Churches Together AGM
Tue 20	7.30pm	Offord PCC meeting
Wed 21	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	Mums and Tots (Methodist Hall)
	10.15am	Coffee after Communion (LS Room)
	10.15am	Quiet Day at 25 Perry Road
	7.30pm	Friends in Deed open evening (Millennium Hall, Lincoln Room)
Fri 23	3.30pm	Tea, chat and toys (Vicarage)
Sun 25	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion
	9:30am	Holy Communion (Offord)
	10:30am	Family Communion
	2.00pm	Baptism (Offord)
	6.00pm	Deanery Evensong (St Mary's)
Mon 26	12.30pm	Lent Study Lunch 5 (Methodist Hall)
Wed 28	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	Mums and Tots (Methodist Hall)
	10.15am	Coffee after Communion (LS Room)
	10.15am	Quiet Day at 25 Perry Road
Thur 29	10.00am	Buckden School service (St Mary's)

Closing Date for April Newsletter: Sunday 18th March
 Items to Ken Gray by hand or by E Mail to:
grayfamily31@talktalk.net

We are now able to distribute the St Mary's newsletter by email. If you would like to receive your copy electronically, and haven't already told us, please be in touch. If you have already told us you're happy to go paperless, thank you! Electronic distribution saves paper (and, for those outside the parish, postage, too)

St Mary's The Parish Church of Buckden Newsletter, March 2012

Dear Friends

Most people don't like thinking or talking about death – when we have lost someone we love, or when we think we may do so in the near future, it is simply too painful, and most of us don't like to think too much about our own funeral arrangements – maybe it feels 'morbid' or maybe we don't want to seem too demanding about our wishes, or maybe we just don't really want to think about it! But death *is* a reality. It's a reality that we all have to face not just for ourselves, but with and for those around us, too. And anyone who has planned a funeral will know that it's incredibly hard to make all the decisions you need to make about the service and other arrangements, just at a time when grief makes any kind of decision-making feel impossible. Talking with your loved ones about their (and your) wishes, and writing some of your ideas down, can be a hugely helpful thing. It has the obvious advantage that those planning the funeral have something to start from, and even when different members of the family have very different views, often they can unite, knowing that 'it was what they wanted'. But more importantly, talking about funeral arrangements is a really good way of preparing for death itself. Giving yourself (or a loved one) a chance to ask, 'How do I want to be remembered?' and 'What has been most important in my life that I want to celebrate?' and 'What prayers, hymns and readings express the faith that I have (however shaky that faith may feel in times of great need). It can be tremendously liberating and comforting to be able to think about these questions with the people you love and trust the most.

To that end, do come along on 21st March to the Friends in Deed 'Planning a Funeral' open meeting, at 7.30pm in the Lincoln Room (Buckden Millennium Centre). You will be a very welcome, and, I hope, encouraged. Your clergy are also happy to be approached if you would like some personal help thinking through these issues at any time.

Yours in Christ

Ally



Prayer Corner

- In the life of the local church, please pray for:**
- Buckden Churches Together (AGM 19th March)
- In the local community, please pray for:**
- Buckden School (Community Week, 19-23 March)
- In the wider world, please pray for:**
- The women of Malasia, who have prepared the material for this year's Women's World Day of Prayer.

General Notices

The Children's Society Box Holders

Many thanks for your generous contributions to the Children's Society. We have raised the record total of £1,270.84 at this year's box opening. Well done. Jo McGregor.

Special Events for Lent

There will be a series of **Quiet Days** at 25 Perry Road, on Wednesday 14th, 21st and 28th March, and 4th April, starting at approximately 10.15am, to allow those attending the morning Holy Communion to arrive. You are welcome to stay just for the morning, or come just for the afternoon, or to stay the whole day, in which case a soup lunch will be provided.

All are welcome, of any denomination, or none, to have a time of reflection and exploration on their individual walk of faith.

Please call Irena Milloy 01480 811541 if interested or with any questions.

This Lent we will again have the usual **Churches Together Study Lunches**, for five Mondays, at 12.30pm at Buckden Methodist Church: 27th February, and 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th March.

Deanery Evensongs will take place at 6pm on:
4th March at Everton
11th March at Great Staughton
(no Deanery Evensong on Mothering Sunday)
25th March at Buckden
The theme of the series is 'Approaches to God'

Useful Contacts

Revd Ally Barrett (Vicar) 810371
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The Vicarage, Church St, Buckden, PE19 5TL

Revd Tim Hayward (Curate) 819665
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Churchwardens

Denise Grant 812259
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St Mary's web site: www.stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Follow St Mary's on Twitter: @A1ChurchBuckden
And find us on Facebook: St Mary's Buckden

Buckden Churches Together: www.bctc.fsnet.co.uk
All Saints: allsaintsoffordcluny.wordpress.com

St Mary's Fundraisers

Church Auction

This is our biggest Fundraiser of the year, & although this is going to press before the event, I should like to thank in advance everyone who has contributed & helped in any way. Many thanks.
Patsy Gray (Fundraiser Chaireman)

'The Mardling Acre'

East Anglian Tales, legends & songs

Come and hear **Hugh Lupton** one of England's greatest storytellers !

A programme of folk-tales, legends, music and songs from East Anglia,
In St. Mary's Church, Buckden
Thursday 26th April at 7.30pm

Tickets £10 (£8 concessions).

Available from Costcutter, Hunts End & 'Que Sera', High Street.

Also from Revd. Ron Ingamells (01480 811608)
In aid of church funds.

Complimentary glass of interval wine

Living Stones & Church Funds

Music at St. Mary's 2012 Dates for your diaries

Sat April 21st Lunchtime concert with '**The Silver Swan**' madrigal group will entertain with a wide variety of part-songs and madrigals-Donations.

Fri May 18th **Stageworks**
Another spectacular evening of songs from the shows with talented young students.

Sat June 2nd Folk music with '**Pennyless**' - three lively musicians bringing Folk to the Folk.

Fri June 8th **Ridley Hall Gospel Choir**
Their first visit & our first Gospel Group.

Sat June 16th **The Eagle Choir** from Bedford 'From Bach to Broadway' A return visit following their highly acclaimed concert of Karl Jenkins 'The Armed Man'.

Sat Sept 15th '**Peterborough Young Singers**' - stylish & accomplished- a welcome return visit.

Sat Sept 22nd '**Jazz and more....**' with Ally & Sam

Details: Ron Ingamells 01480 811608