

## SUNDAY SERVICES IN APRIL AT ST MARY'S

Including 10am—11.30am ADventure in the Church Rooms, in Term Time

Sunday 1st	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
Easter Day	10.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 8th	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
	10.00am	Informal Holy Communion
Sunday 15th	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
	10.00am	Holy Communion
	<b>2.30 - 4.00pm Café Stop at the Blenheim Centre</b>	
Sunday 22nd	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
	10.00am	4th Sunday at 10
	12 noon	Holy Baptism
Sunday 29th	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
	10.30am	Group Service of Holy Communion at Ovington

Every Week:- Service at 9.30am on Wednesday followed by Tea & Coffee  
Prayers at 5.00 - 5.30pm on Thursday  
9.30 - 10.00am and 5.00 - 6.00pm on Saturday

**STORY BAGS** Mondays 16th, 23rd & 30th April at St. Mary's from  
9.30 to 10.30am for parents and pre school children during term time only

### **ST MARY'S HOUSE GROUPS**

If you would like information on the availability, place and times of House Groups,  
please contact Pauline Blackmore, the co-ordinator on 01953 883031.

The Winner of the 100 Club March Draw was No. 24 Eleanor Nethaway

### **IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES or NEED HELP PLEASE CONTACT**

Church Office - from 9am to 1pm Tues, Wed, & Thurs.  
**TELEPHONE 01953 881252**

e-mail - [wattonchurch@gmail.com](mailto:wattonchurch@gmail.com)

St Mary's Church, Church Road, Watton. IP25 6DQ

Rev'd Gerry Foster (Vicar) **01953 881439**

Steve Bibby (churchwarden) 01953 885419

Gill Smith (churchwarden) 01953 483231

Visit our web site- [www.stmaryswatton.org](http://www.stmaryswatton.org)

Follow us on Twitter @StMarysWatton



## ST. MARY'S CHURCH, WATTON

### **Newsletter April 2018**

*St Mary's believes in Reaching out with the power and love  
of Jesus in a caring, family atmosphere*

**May I wish you every Easter Blessing – the most important  
message is that Jesus Christ is alive, with us every day and every  
night, through the power of His Holy Spirit.**

**Your Vicar Gerry**

**THURSDAY CHAT** Thursday 5th April 10am - 12 noon

A social coffee morning at St Mary's, Watton, continuing on the 1st Thursday of  
each month. All are welcome.

### **APCM at St. Mary's Church, Sunday 15th April at 11.45am**

This is an opportunity to join the PCC and help to forward the ongoing ministry of  
St Mary's. You would need to be a member of the church electoral roll. We meet on a  
monthly basis to make important decisions, sometimes following recommendations  
by the various groups which cover all of our ministry and the practical needs of  
running the church building. We vary our meeting nights from Monday - Thursday in  
order to work around members' other commitments. It is a great privilege to serve  
on the PCC. Please give it your consideration and ask Rev'd Gerry or any PCC  
member if you would like further details.

### **THE ARCHDEACON'S CHARGE & PICNIC**

Bank Holiday Monday 7th May 2018

10am to 3pm at Holkham Hall

An annual sponsored fun run, walk and family picnic open to everyone

Booking is open: entry is just £5 per adult and under 18s are free.

Margaret Cator, Ruth Seager and friends are intending to take part again this year  
and welcome other friends to join them.

Team St Mary's will be seeking sponsorship to raise funds for St Mary's,  
please support us if you are able.

If you would like to join in what has always been a very enjoyable day, please book on  
the Norwich Diocese website. If you have any difficulties please speak to

Margaret or Ruth

**1<sup>st</sup> Watton Rainbow Brownies – Mondays 4.30 – 5.45pm in the Church Rooms  
at St. Mary's Church, on Mondays 16th, 23rd & 30th of April**

Rainbows provide the opportunity for girls aged between 5 and 7 to join with others to have fun – playing games, doing craft activities and making new friends.

It is part of the Girl Guiding organisation.

We will meet every Monday in the Church Rooms during term time only.

For more information contact Bekka.

Email: [Rainbows1stwatton@hotmail.com](mailto:Rainbows1stwatton@hotmail.com) or look on Facebook.

If you're old-school you could also phone Linda on 01953 884385.



**Monday 9th April 10am to 2pm  
St Mary's Church, Watton  
Theme "Caring for our World"**

**Free. Fun, Food and friendship.  
children please bring an adult with you.**

**A colourful celebration amidst all the snow!**

Over thirty men and women came along to Watton Methodist Church at 2pm on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, braving the snow and freezing cold, to join thousands of people around the world in celebrating the annual Women's World Day of Prayer. This ecumenical initiative was started in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century and the first service was held in the UK back in 1932. The service is now translated into over 1,000 languages and dialects and observed in countries across the globe on the first Friday in March each year, with around 5,000 services in the UK alone.

This year's theme is: "All God's Creation is very Good!", thinking about caring for our world. The people of Watton came together for the afternoon to learn about and pray for the women of Suriname, a country in South America.

Outside the church, the high street was a cold sea of white but inside it was a colourful afternoon; rich in music, laughter and some glorious costumes as members from different churches in Watton dressed in brightly coloured national dress to represent the abundant cultural diversity in Suriname. The organisation brings together women, and men, from different church denominations in informed prayer and prayerful action, supporting a number of charitable initiatives around the world.

For more information on the Women's World Day of Prayer, see the website:

[www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk)

**WATTON COMMUNITY CINEMA at St Mary's**  
**Screenings: Friday 20th April at 2.15pm 'Loving Vincent'**  
**Saturday 21st April at 7.15pm Film 'Loving Vincent'**  
**Refreshment Café opens one hour prior to screening**  
Tickets available at the box office on the day  
We look forward to seeing you at the movies!

**THE THIRD AGERS SINGALONG**

Those who attended St Mary's Church on the afternoon of Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March, spent a fun time singing all kinds of popular songs to the accompaniment of the Third Agers Ukulele Band. Showman, David Stoner introduced the items and had us all laughing at his witty remarks and dry jokes! Afterwards we all enjoyed tea and cakes. Donations and proceeds of the raffle, in lieu of an entrance fee amounted to £282.00, after we had given the Band a £30.00 donation for the Stroke Association. It was a wonderful afternoon to enjoy at this time of year.

Margaret Cator on behalf of the Fundraising Team.

**A HEARTFELT THANK YOU**

It was such a surprise to be given the lovely gifts on Palm Sunday ahead of my last day as Parish Administrator on Maundy Thursday. It has been a very rewarding experience to be working alongside Ruth and all the clergy and readers at Watton and in Rev'd Jane's parishes. YOU have all been so supportive of our work in the parish office and I know you will give the same support to Su. I will still be in church on Sundays and helping with fund raising etc – this is my church family. Once again many thanks for your good wishes and kind thoughts. Margaret

We are so thankful for the nearly 23 years that Margaret has been Parish Administrator and the last 10 yrs with Ruth alongside as Assistant Parish Administrator in St Mary's Church Office. Maundy Thursday will have been Margaret's last official working day, but she, alongside Ruth, who we're so glad is continuing in her position, are providing a 'seamless' handover with our new Parish Administrator, Su Collins, who officially started on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018. Margaret will continue as PCC Secretary and with the involvements she really appreciates within St Mary's and the Community. But we thank her with all our hearts and wish her wonderful times with her Family, especially of course, with Austin!

So, welcome to Su! Indeed, many of you already know Su, so it is remarkable that we can actually welcome her back! We hope Su will be very happy and she can count on our prayers and our appreciation, for her taking up this hugely important role.