

WEEKLY DIARY

Monday 3rd February

- 10.00am Women's Lifegroup *The Rectory*
7.30pm Alpha *St Mark's*
7.30pm Lifegroup. *Call office for location*

Tuesday 4th February

- 10am Service & Discussion Group
St Francis Chapel

Wednesday 5th February

- 10am Little Lions Toddler Group
St Mark's
8pm Lifegroup. *Call office for location*

Thursday 6th February

- 10.00am Holy Communion *St Mary's*

DENHAM PARISH NEWS

Hot off the press – the new magazine! Please take extra copies to give away, and put them in public and community places around the parish (of course, asking the owners for permission beforehand!)

Snowdrops

Have you seen the snowdrops starting to appear in the churchyard round the back of the vestry? Take a few minutes to go and have a look, they are beautiful.

Café Church:

God in the Life of Val Dewhurst TODAY, 2 Feb, 3.30pm, St Mark's

Val and her family lived in Denham for 36 years. She will talk about being part of the local community and church, and her experience of God's faithfulness in the ups and downs of life.

SAFEGUARDING IN THE CHURCH

Our churches and church-related activities must be safe for all, with safeguarding policies and practices that promote a safer church.

We need to be certain that all known cases of concern about the behaviour of our clergy or church officers towards children and adults have been considered and dealt with appropriately.

Every church in the Diocese, including our own, is now undertaking a comprehensive review as part of the national Past Cases Review 2 (PCR2). You can find out more about PCR2 on the Diocese of Oxford website: oxford.anglican.org/pcr-2

If you have information or need to make a disclosure regarding church-related abuse, please make direct contact with the Safeguarding Team at the Diocese of Oxford on 01865 208290.

If you have lived experience of abuse from within the Church of England, you may prefer to call the dedicated telephone NSPCC helpline, which is independent of the Church. Call 0800 80 20 20

The NSPCC helpline is also available to anyone wishing to provide information or to raise concerns regarding abuse within the Church of England. The helpline is there for you whether you are reporting issues relating to children or adults or seeking to whistleblow about poor safeguarding practice. Your call is confidential, and your concerns will be taken seriously.



PAROUSIA

Weekly News Sheet

2nd February 2020

4th Sunday of Epiphany

Welcome to church! If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello to the service leader or a member of the welcome team so we can welcome you personally. During the 10.30 service there is a Sunday club for children. If your child is under three or if you would like to help him/her settle, you are welcome to join in.
Christoph Lindner, Rector

"Healthy Family: Follow me!" by Nnamdi Maduka

Discipleship (i.e. following Jesus wholeheartedly) has always been at the heart of what it means to be the family of Jesus and is one of the vital issues for today. The Christian church has largely neglected the thrust of the Great Commission: to make disciples (not just converts!). When the charge 'follow me' comes from a member of a healthy family and from someone we trust, it leads us into the fullness of life that Jesus promised. The first disciples were a strong community and the healthiness of that family has been a blessing to the Christian world. God has placed people around you with a purpose- it is for you to point them to Jesus, the living water. According to Andrew Roberts in his book 'Holy Habits', "there are striking similarities in Luke's account of the call of Simon and the story of the call of Isaiah which reassures us that places of worship as well as places of work can also be places of encounter, call and commission." By allowing Jesus to live His life through us we will be a living and attractive message from God, which people will read and by his grace find Him. There is no greater good news to be found anywhere than in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Who else in the history of the world, can answer the deepest cries of the human heart? The cry for meaning. The cry for unconditional love. The cry for forgiveness. The cry for freedom. The cry for hope.

The clear resounding answer to every cry is Jesus Christ! Not only has he something highly relevant to say concerning all our deepest needs, but by his living presence among us, he has the power to change the very heart of man/woman. When our hearts are transformed, the resultant impact on society will be staggering. This happened in the first century when a tiny handful of timid disciples began, in the power of the Holy Spirit, the greatest spiritual revolution the world has ever known. If they did, of course we can, for He is the same, yesterday, today and forever.

Worship today



2nd February 2020
4th Sunday of Epiphany

8.00am Holy Communion *St Mary's*

Sidesman: Philip Constable
Reader: Mary Gage
Readings: Rom 13. 1
Matt. 8.23

9.55-10.00am Pre-Service Prayer
St Mary's, front of church

10.30am Family Service *St Mary's*
Healthy Family: "Follow me!"

Sidesteam:
Anne Thomas & John Breese
Bible Reading:
Luke 5. 1-11
Prayers: Clergy
Children's Activity: Kath Sole

3.30pm Café Church *St Mark's*
God in the life of Val Dewhurst
(please see back page)

Collect

God of heaven, you send the gospel to the ends of the earth and your messengers to every nation: send your Holy Spirit to transform us by the good news of everlasting life in Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

Luke 5.1-11

(The Voice Dramatised Bible)

On the banks of Gennesaret Lake, a huge crowd, Jesus in the centre of it, presses in to hear His message from God. Off to the side, fishermen are washing their nets, leaving their boats unattended on the shore.

Jesus gets into one of the boats and asks its owner, Simon, to push off and anchor a short distance from the beach. Jesus sits down and teaches the people standing on the beach.

After speaking for a while, Jesus speaks to Simon.

Jesus: Move out into deeper water, and drop your nets to see what you'll catch.

Simon (*perplexed*): Master, we've been fishing all night, and we haven't caught even a minnow. But . . . all right, I'll do it if You say so.

Simon then gets his fellow fishermen to help him let down their nets, and to their surprise, the water is bubbling with thrashing fish—a huge school.

The strands of their nets start snapping under the weight of the catch, so the crew shouts to the other boat to come out and give them a hand. They start scooping fish out of the nets and into their boats, and before long, their boats are so full of fish they almost sink!

Simon's fishing partners, James and John (two of Zebedee's sons), along with the rest of the fishermen, see this incredible haul of fish. They're all stunned, especially Simon. He comes close to Jesus and kneels in front of His knees.

Simon: I can't take this, Lord. I'm a sinful man. You shouldn't be around the likes of me.

Jesus: Don't be afraid, Simon. From now on, I'll ask you to bring Me people instead of fish.

The fishermen haul their fish-heavy boats to land, and they leave everything to follow Jesus.

Worship next week



9th February 2020
3rd Sunday before Lent

8.00am Holy Communion *St Mary's*

Sidesman: Carlene Litchmore
Reader: Stephen Barrett
Readings: 1 Cor. 9. 24-27
Matt. 20. 1-16

9.55-10.00am Pre-Service Prayer
St Mary's, front of church

10.30am Sung Communion *St Mary's*
Healthy Family: "Where are we going?"

Sidesteam:
Maurice Litchmore & Sharon Williams
Readers:
1 Cor 2. 1-13 Michael Carmody
Matt 3. 1-6, 4.12-17 Beverley Gray
Prayers: Carole Wadlow
Servers: Carlene Litchmore & Clergy
Sunday Club: Sonja Clements

In your prayers this week, please remember **Jo Beal, Sean Ryde and Christine Willson**. Also anyone known to us who is sick or suffering the pain of bereavement at this time especially the family of **Dr June MacGregor**.

