

Notices: 18 February 2024

Sunday Feb 18th: First Sunday of Lent

8am Holy Communion

10am Parish Eucharist and Forest Sunday School

Midweek Services

Morning Prayer: 9am Monday and Tuesdays in the Coach House.

Midweek Communion: Wednesdays at 10am

Sunday Feb 25th: Second Sunday of Lent

8am Holy Communion

10am Parish Eucharist and Forest Sunday School

Housekeeping matters during the building work: Please kindly note that toilet facilities are available at the Coach House, and the vestry is now strictly out of use. Seating is more restricted inside the church - please be considerate when choosing a pew and allow space for latecomers if possible (**please consider filling up from the front!**). The back pews are reserved for children and families attending Sunday school. In the event of an emergency, fire exits are at the main church door and the chancel door. As the colder months approach please remember to wrap up warm when you come to church. With the north aisle boxing we don't have the full benefit of the church heating. Fleece blankets are available from the welcomers if needed!

We are so grateful that the building work is progressing smoothly and to plan! Although the church will look and feel quite different over the coming months of building work, we remember that we have laboured for a very long time to bring these plans to fruition, and we all look forward in faith and hope to the completion of the works in 2024. Please continue to hold the project in your prayers. As the psalmist writes: 'unless the Lord builds the house, those who labour build it in vain' (Psalm 127.1). We ask you all to pray especially for wisdom for our architect and contractors, and for peaceful relations with our neighbours and local residents affected by the work.

God of vision and hope,
we thank you for our church building;
a place of prayer and pilgrimage,
witnessing to your love and presence in our midst.
We pray for our plans to develop the building
to further the work of your kingdom in this and future

generations.

We pray for the guidance, resources and skills we need to bring the project to completion, and that we would be united in vision and focus as we work towards this goal, in the name of Jesus Christ our Cornerstone. Amen.

Tots Morning – Our next tots morning will be held on Tuesday **12th March at 10am in the Coach House.**

Can you help? Following our recent PCC meeting, we are looking for some extra congregational support to enable our new working groups to flourish and succeed. **Would you be interested in joining one of our newly formed groups?**

1. Finance and strategy. Led by Richard Stoneman, this group will explore the recommendations of our recent financial review, helping our church to become more financially sustainable in both the short and long term.

2. Sustainable heating. Led by Dave Smith, this group will explore sustainable heating options for our church buildings, supporting our church's commitment towards decarbonisation.

3. 175th anniversary celebrations

Led by Margaret Taylor and Frances Farrar, this group will oversee the celebrations for our church's 175th birthday, which will coincide with the end of our building project.

Please contact any of the group leaders if you are interested in joining or finding out more - we would love you to join us! You can also email or phone Helen in the Parish Office who would be happy to pass your contact details on to the group leaders.

Pancake making Our thanks to Frances Farrar for organizing this buildings fundraising event which raised £72. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported this enjoyable afternoon.

Save the Date – Back by popular demand the coach has been booked for the **annual parish day out at Alum Chine**

Bournemouth on 22nd June seats will be £20 each to book your seat or for more information about this All Age wonderful day please email frances.farrar@tiscali.co.uk

Lent Resources

This year's Diocesan 'Come and See' course is entitled: The Way of Love. Everyone who registers will receive a daily short email to

reflect on, and a weekly short video from Bishop Steven exploring the themes in a bit more detail. The materials are suitable both for those who are exploring faith for the first time and those with an established faith. There are also special materials for family groups and schools. You can sign up here:

<https://oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see>

If you would like a book to help deepen your life of prayer during Lent, Revd Laura recommends: *The Way of Ignatius: A Prayer Journey through Lent*, by Gemma Simmonds. If you are interested in meeting to discuss the book, please get in touch with Laura: we may set up a group meeting midway through Lent to share our reflections together.

Annual Friendship Walk of Faiths 6-8.00pm, Thursday 27 June The Walk begins at 6pm from the Jewish Centre, Richmond Road, stops at St Giles and the University Church, and ends at about 8pm at a mosque in East Oxford. At each place the Walkers are greeted and there are reflections from members of different faith traditions. The synagogue will be open to visitors from 5.30pm. The Walk is organised by the Oxford Council of Faiths (OxCoF) It provides an opportunity to meet and walk with people from Oxford's many different faith communities. People of all faiths and none are welcome to join in the Walk.

This week's Eco Tips: Maybe you missed the official Big Garden Bird Watch, but it's never too late to start counting the birds visiting your garden. Equip yourself with a pencil and paper, a revitalising tea or coffee, turn your arm chair round for a good view of the garden, and over the space of an hour watch and note down the species and number of birds that land in your garden. Or go to a park or field to watch and count. *Hilary Rollin, Eco Group.*

Pastoral care team Are you in need of support or would you like to talk to someone? We rely on you to let us know of anyone who is ill, or in hospital or who might welcome a visit. Please contact any of the clergy (numbers on back page) or Helen Day, Janet Masters, or Anne Tarassenko.

Holy Trinity Headington Quarry
*An open door between heaven and earth,
showing God's love to all.*

As the Anglican parish in Headington Quarry, Risinghurst and Wood Farm, we are here for every local resident. Our church is open every day. We hope that you will find God's peace as you come to pray or just sit and rest awhile. If you have questions about the Christian faith or would like to find out more about church life, please get in touch:

Contact us

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