



CONTACT MAGAZINE



February – to April

**ST MARY'S KINGSWINFORD
& CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION WALL HEATH**

There is no charge for the magazine but a donation to cover costs would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

The views expressed in the article in this publication are not necessarily the views of the PCC of the parish of Kingswinford.



Welcome to the February to April edition of
CONTACT

I am hoping that you enjoy reading the articles.
If there is anything you would like to see included in the next edition,
or any comments you like to make about this edition, just drop me an
email. I can only make it **your** magazine if I know what you want to
see in the magazine.

The copy date for the next edition is

22nd of April

Please send your articles to Chris Knight
knightchristine2059@gmail.com





Mother Sarah writes...

They say time flies when you're having fun, don't they? Well, if that's the case I must've been having a lot of fun over this last year. 363 days at the time of writing go be exact. It's almost to the day when I was licensed as mission priest across the parish here, serving God day in, day out and getting to know so many folk along the way.

And over the past year so much has happened, hasn't it? If we just take a moment to think of all that's taken place inside and outside of our church buildings. If we take a moment to think of just quite how many people with have heard the Gospel message, if we think of how many may have heard of Gods abundant love for us all.

If we think of all the children and young people who have come through the doors and participated in the experience events, all the families who have become part of the Mainly Music family, those who find *their* church amongst the songs and bean bags and bubbles. And if we think of the children and young people who come to Soul Food and Choir Church, with space to form community and to ask questions. All this alongside more traditional expressions of worship.

We are sowing seeds in many ways, because we are all nurtured in different ways, and we're seeing promising signs of growth, in numbers, yes, but longer lasting, in that deepening of faith. The rumour of God and all we're doing to grow the Kingdom here in Kingswinford and Wall Heath *is* noticed, we only have to look at how many heard the rumour and wanted to come and join in over Advent and Christmas.

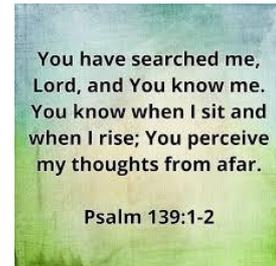
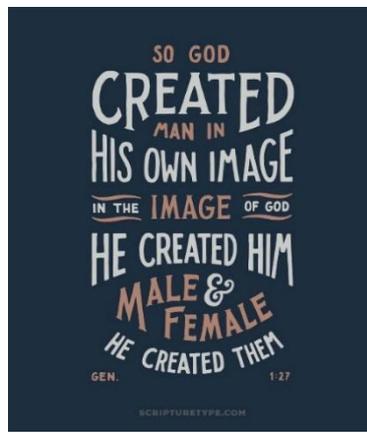
Busy times, but the start of the year gives us chance to reflect, to store up some energy as we approach Lent and Easter. And I've been thinking about that storing up of energy as I've walked through the churchyard this Candlemas and noticed so many snowdrops 'Candlemas bells' bravely emerging in the cold and windy days. Candlemas reminds us to keep looking forward 'from the crib to the cross', not to remain static, but to keep growing, rooted as we are, so that we, and others can continue to journey closer to the God who loves us, day in, day out.

With every blessing as we continue to journey,

Sarah

Mother Sarah

*fearfully
and
wonderfully
made
by
God*

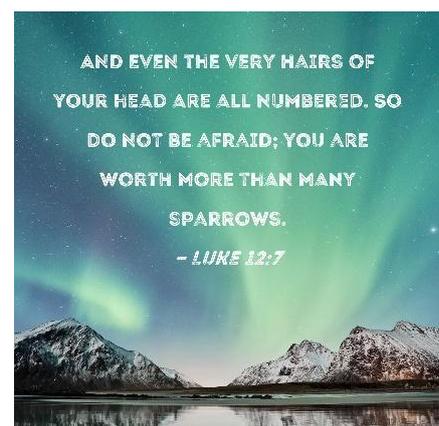


I have often listened to the words that God made us in his own image, knows us by name, knows us inside out, which has been a great comfort over the years. But what is it when you hear it again, it suddenly has a profound effect on your heart. Bishop Alan Winton who led our confirmation service spoke those very same words., addressing the congregation and candidates as they began their walk in faith. As he spoke, I felt he was speaking just to me, telling me to let go and do not be afraid., it's ok to be me. How can God love us, warts and all.

To think that God knows our every thought, our every action and moment in our lives, in greater depth than ourselves is intense and brings with it joy and if I'm honest a little bit of concern. It's a sobering thought as we ponder over why he chose us to follow him. Yet he never leaves us, always stands by us as a father, would do for his children. Have you ever looked in the mirror and said who is this person looking back at me? But it doesn't matter what you see, all you need to remember is that the face looking back at you was created by God. You are unique, your identity does not just lie in your appearance or accomplishments, our true identity has been given by God. Basically, HE JUST LOVES US UNCONDITONALLY.

As we watch children grow, they take our hand, trusting us to take care of them, to love them, and guide them as they move forward on their own journey, then we must do the same, allowing God to be the heart of our lives, trusting him to love his children and guide us on the path he has chosen for us. HE KNOWS, HE JUST KNOWS EVERYTHING ABOUT EVERYTHING AND EVERYBODY and that's OK. Thank you, God, for me. Amen.

God's Blessings, Karen Whitehouse



Notes from the Vicarage Garden, January 2026

Late winter is the season of snowdrops. I have heard people say that they love snowdrops because they are a sign that spring is just around the corner, like a floral John the Baptist preparing the way for the greater glories brought by daffodils and tulips. For me, this way of looking at them, as harbingers of better days to come, overlooks their intrinsic beauty and the value they have in themselves, not just in relation to other plants and as a sign of better things to come. They look lovely en masse, and you can quite quickly, and cheaply, establish large drifts of them by planting them in March 'in the green'. That means planting them just after they have finished flowering, before the leaves have died back, in clumps of four or five, a few centimetres deep. This is by far the best way of establishing them and spreading them round the garden. Planting bulbs in the autumn is far less reliable, and you have to wait much longer for flowers to appear. These days, garden centres tend to sell them in pots while they are in flower and these will grow well, but it is much more expensive than buying them freshly dug by the dozen. To do this you will probably have to send for them by mail order and will get them for about £12 per hundred. It is easy to find room for lots of them, because, although not very tall, they can be planted towards the back of a border as well as at the front, as they flower before most plants have started to grow, and will have died down by mid spring, so won't encroach on their neighbours. They also look good growing in grass or at the base of trees. Snowdrops are easy to grow, although, unlike many bulbs, they don't like very dry soil, and I mulch mine with leaf mould every year as they are emerging, which seems to keep them happy.

Although they look lovely in large numbers, snowdrops are also individually exquisitely beautiful, with their elegant flowers suspended on slender stems and delicate green markings on the white petals, and if you grow them in a pot or window box where you can see them at close quarters, this beauty can be fully appreciated. There are many different varieties, which differ slightly in the green markings, and enthusiasts, or galanthophiles, will pay very high prices for some of the rarest ones, but often these are less robust than the ordinary species. One I would recommend is *Galanthus nivalis* 'S Arnott'. It is taller than the common snowdrop and flowers a bit earlier but is just as easy to grow and not too expensive.

Whatever variety you choose, and wherever you grow them, whether you grow hundreds or just one, they will give you weeks and weeks of pleasure, from the time when the white buds start to emerge from below the dark soil until they achieve their full glory when the three outer petals spread open

like wings to reveal the green markings on the inner petals, which differ from variety to variety.

It is in the nature of gardening to always be planning for the future, and sometimes we can forget to take time to appreciate the present. Snowdrops are far more than just harbingers of spring. They belong to winter and remind us that there is beauty to be seen in every season and that joy can be found even in the darkness. This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 118)

Snowdrops,



Simon Daniel, January 2026

Sixty years of the Mother's Union at the Church of the Ascension



In September 1965 a new branch of the Mother's Union was founded at the Church of Ascension in Wall Heath. The founder members were Mrs Eileen Bishop (wife of the then curate Father Malcolm Bishop) with Mrs Irene Wells and Mrs Ellen Baker...

Fast Forward to 2025 and sixty years of loyal service was celebrated with a Thanksgiving Service kindly led by Father Adam.

We were pleased to welcome Jill Crofton (Diocesan Leader) Mrs Liz Williams (Deanery Leader) with us along with fellow members of the Mother's Union from St Mary's and St Mark's (Pensnett).

After the service we had tea, coffee and biscuits. During our refreshments Father Adam gave a very interesting and informative talk about the stoles and copes that he wears, along with the history of some of them. It was a very enjoyable afternoon for all.

If you would like to join us, we meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. in the church hall. All are welcome ladies and gentlemen.
Jane Lamb (Branch Leader)

Kingswinford Parish bring 'Ashes to Go' to Shopping Parade



Today, on Ash Wednesday, to mark the start of Lent, Mission Priest Sarah Roberts-Malpass, took the service to the streets and visited a Kingswinford shopping parade to offer 'Ashes to go' to passersby. Despite the cold weather, Sarah and her helpers from Kingswinford Churches

Together made lots of good connections with those visiting the shopping parade, Townsend Place. Sarah has been in her post a year now and has become a well-known member of the community. Families, couples and individuals of all ages stopped for a chat, and many were grateful for prayers or a blessing. Ten people also received ashes. Sarah said:

"At the start of lent, it's really important that we bring that message of God's love out into the community. We recognise that some people don't belong to churches or can't get along to churches so we see it as really vital that we meet people where they are to remind them that God's with them and will point the way through these Lenten days until Easter."



Lent is a forty-day period of preparation for Easter. It mirrors the forty days Jesus spent fasting in the desert, resisting temptation from Satan. In the Old Testament, ashes were used in times of mourning and distress. Today the wearing of ashes is used to signify repentance and the desire to become better disciples, following Jesus' example more closely.

Bishop's Lent Message 2026



In this year's Lent message, Bishop Hugh encourages us to consider using the 40 days to commit to a specific discipline which will help us to live life more fully with God and for God.

Sportswomen and sportsmen, the kind of people who play at Sixways, the home of Worcester Warriors Rugby Club, put in hours and hours of practice, repeating the same drills over and over again. The same drop kick or forehand; the same penalty flick or free kick – practising and practising. And of course that takes discipline.

And they do all that disciplined training so that, when they go out on match day in front of the crowds, they haven't got to think about what to do – they just do it instinctively. All that discipline in training means the kick, or the swing or the flick, become part of who they are.

And the same is true of musicians, and of actors, and of anyone who has to practise a skill in order to get to the point where instinct takes over – where responding to the situation doesn't take deliberate thought – it just happens.

Being a Christian is a bit like that. We have disciplines too – not out on a training pitch, but in prayer, and in reading the bible and in worship and in service. And in case the word 'discipline' sounds a bit heavy, remember it's the same word as 'disciple' which just means 'learner', 'student' or perhaps best of all - 'apprentice'.

And the point of those disciplines is to help us learn how to live faithfully when we're out and about getting on with life. Like the sportsmen and women who practise here, we pray and read the bible and worship, so that when we're getting on with life – at work, with our families, in the community, we haven't got to think about what to do – we just get on with working for justice, acting compassionately, introducing people to Jesus and his love.

Lent is just about to start. The gift of 40 days when we are invited to attend to our spiritual disciplines; to notice where we're on track, and where we're not. Lent gives us the opportunity to be honest with ourselves and with God, about where we need to go back to the training ground, back to the

basics of what it is to follow Jesus – to be a disciple, and to commit to doing something about it.

So, maybe you need to get back to praying each day, or to start for the first time, or to pray with your children. Maybe your bible hasn't been opened for a while, or regular worship has slipped. Whatever it is, Lent is offered to you as a gift. 40 days to practise the presence of God, so that you can live the whole of life more closely with him.

And you haven't even got to do it in the rain!

So, let me encourage you to consider – what one thing could you do this Lent - what one discipline could you commit to - that will help you live life more fully with God and for God?

God bless, and I hope you have a wonderful Lent.

Special Service held in Kingswinford to mark 85th ATC anniversary

Yesterday to mark 'ATC Sunday' and the 85th anniversary of the formation of the Air Training Corps, a special service was held at St Mary's church in Kingswinford. Young Cadets from five local squadrons were in attendance, including 156 (Kidderminster), 223 (Halesowen), 2488 (Kingswinford), 347 (Dudley) and 451 (Stourbridge), with guests from squadrons that make up the Staffordshire Wing.

Vicar Adam Hadley who is padre to the 2488 Kingswinford Squadron led the service, while our new Bishop of Worcester, Hugh Nelson, who is also Bishop to the Armed Forces, preached the sermon. Adam led the renewal of promises which focused on fostering the spirit of adventure as well as the importance of service, loyalty and being good citizens. Prayers were also offered as part of the service, led by the cadets, emphasising the joy of discovery, the warmth of friendship, and the satisfaction of achievement, and giving thanks to the dedication of the Officers, Civilian Instructors and volunteers.

During his sermon, Bishop Hugh talked about the 'World's Strongest Man' competition and the crazy challenges they have to undertake to prove their strength. He said:

“The Armed Forces, and the brilliant cadet units like yours, are meant to be strong. Everyone who serves in uniform has a role to play in defending this nation from danger and threats. But to do that properly, we need to know what real strength is, and what real strength is for.

Pulling aeroplanes is impressive, and massive muscles can intimidate, but real strength – the kind of strength that God shows – is always for the good of others, and especially those who are left out, or vulnerable or need your help....And whether you can chuck a keg over a 5m wall, or struggle to lift your bag when you go to school, I pray that you will be strong like that; that you will be strong like God is strong.”

Cadet Lucas Green, age 17, who has been in the ATC for almost four years and attends Church of the Ascension, the other church in Kingswinford Parish, read one of the Bible readings at the service. Later, he said:



“As someone who is religious, I find it really important to stick to certain types of traditions. I think the church is such an amazing body for support and learning. Even those that don’t believe in God, there’s so many lessons you can learn. I think it is important to give the cadets a taste of that, if they’ve never come to church before. If some of that resonates with them maybe they might come to church in the future.”
“Bishop Hugh’s sermon really resonated with me today. I agree that strength isn’t just about big muscles, but what you decide to do. Sometimes doing the right thing is the harder path, but it’s important as it will better people. That’s what takes real strength.”

After the service, Bishop Hugh said:

“The young people who are part of the Air Training Corps are an inspiration to us all. They were proud of what they do, dedicated to the ATC and a joy to be with. After 85 years of the ATC, it was good to see that it is thriving in Dudley and Kingswinford.”

Cadet India Ameson-Jeffries, 18, who has been in the ATC for over four years and who also spoke at the service, said:

“There’s always been a close relationship between the ATC and the church so it feels right to celebrate the history here because it’s important to remember where you’ve come from. We’ve always come to church services here and Fr Adam is our Padre. He’s brilliant and really committed.

This time it felt even more special because of the camaraderie between the squadrons as we can all relate to being Air Cadets and have that same passion. The church plays an important role in that sense of togetherness.”

Adam Hadley said:

“This is the second year we have welcomed different squadrons from across the region to St Mary’s, Kingswinford to mark ATC Sunday. This is the 85th anniversary of the formation of the ATC across the country and it is a real joy to see so many of our young people commit themselves to it and to be a real blessing to the communities they serve.”

Halesowen Squadron commander, Chris Sturman-Sprigg also added:

“Today is all about celebrating the formation of the Air Cadets, the young people we’ve got today and all that have gone before, whether they joined the forces or not. It’s definitely important to keep the link with the church as well, to keep it within the community and with the church being at the heart of that community, especially here in Kingswinford.”

There are more photos on our Facebook page:



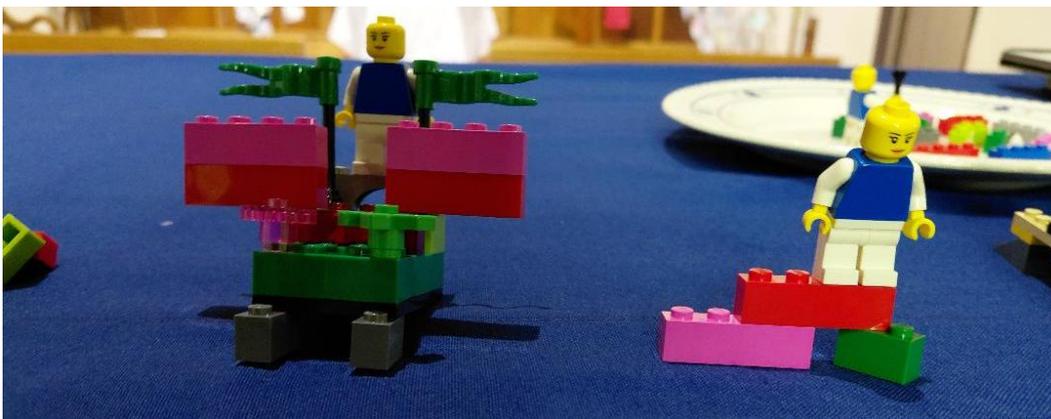
Our Parish Development Day



Our Parish Development Day at St Mark's Pensnett saw 35 people discuss our future under retired Archdeacon Rob Jones' leadership. He encouraged us to create a newspaper front page for 10 years hence highlighting the parish achievements, a task that provoked much discussion, laughter and dreaming. Common themes were the success of some of our current initiatives, the growth of children's and youth work, with some bolder ideas about pilgrimage, building extensions and a High St presence. Rob led us in a beautiful Eucharist, and we enjoyed lunch together, a very successful day!

Soul Food in November

At Soul Food in November, we thought about how God created us to be creative. With the help of some random Lego sets, we pictured what God was like: there was a rainforest, a Garden of Eden, a shepherd and his flock, a multicoloured heart, a welcoming throne, and a darkness into light among the varied creations!



iSing POP!

During November the congregation of St Mary's was treated to a pop-up iSing POP! Service after the morning service, it went down very well and as you can see the congregation joined in with the actions where they could.

Thank you to Sian and her team as they put together the whole service in the Church centre while the morning service was taking place in church!



Christmas Tree Festival 2025

Over the weekend of 29th & 30th November 2025 we held our annual Tree Festival at St Mary's. Above are photos of just a few of the wonderful displays on show. We had over 40 trees this year with contributions from all the local schools, Mike Wood MP, The British Legion, Kingswinford Lions, Kingswinford in Bloom, Scout and Guide groups to name but a few (alongside many of our own congregation's trees). The weekend was enhanced further by the ATC Band and singers



from the Kingswinford School, who performed for us on the Saturday. Another huge success and we are already planning for 2026! (Weekend of 28th & 29th November 2026)



Light Festival at Church of the Ascension

Our Light Festival Craft Morning was a glorious time of creating and conversing: stars and candles a-plenty were made from card, wood, fabric and polystyrene, to decorate the church.



Father Adam made a plaited Star! Here we are making Star Wreathes
Our Light Festival Open Day on 13 December brought a hundred people into church to see our wonderful school choir sing, and then a steady flow of locals seeking an Elf on the Jingle Trail but staying to admire our craft and enjoy tea and cake! Thanks to all who helped.



On Sunday 14th of December, during a service to celebrate the presence and importance light in our faith, we were thrilled that we could welcome Najama and Anne into the Christian Faith when Father Chris baptised them!



Quiz Night

On Saturday 6th December, St Mary's hosted their annual Christmas Quiz Night, and the hall was filled to capacity! 60 people all enjoyed an evening of quizzing and hot pork baps and mulled wine – some challenging questions set by the quiz master Helen, with some very competitive teams taking part!

Wreath Making Workshop

On Saturday 13th December, St Mary's held their second wreath making workshop. 25 people (men and women) came along to create their own wreaths under the guidance of advice from Elaine and Karen. A very enjoyable afternoon, with everyone working together to help one another. Below are just a few examples of what was created.



Christingle Service

Nearly fifty people attended the Church of the Ascension, Christingle service. They constructed their Christingle cakes on arrival and answered the quiz about the meanings of the components. Fr Chris led us

in some excellent carols, and we raised £ 86 for the Children's Society



O, come all ye faithful!



Almost 150 people attended the Outdoor Carol Service at Church of the Ascension on the Saturday before Christmas. We were lucky with the weather! Lots of folk stayed for mulled wine and mince pies. Our MP Mike Wood posted on Facebook that it was a “Delightful Carols on the Lawn Service”.





While the congregation at St Mary's were players in a Nativity Tableau during the Community Carol Service.

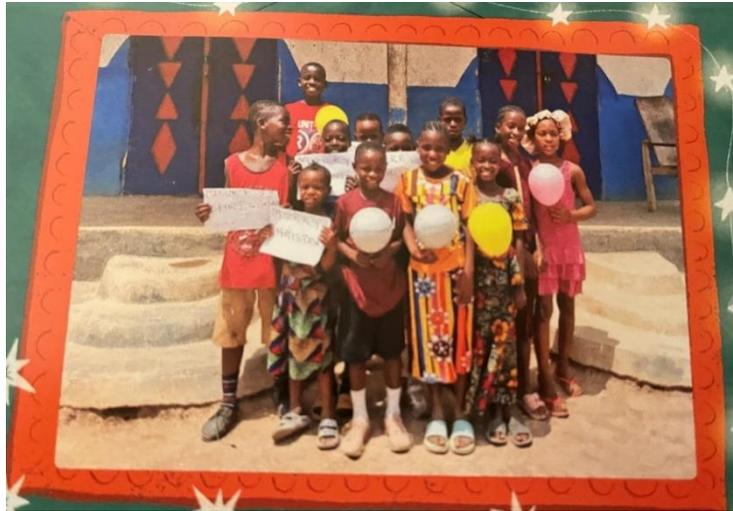
Crisps and the Crib!



Fr Adam's retelling of the Nativity story at the Crib Service on Christmas Eve, involved....crisps!

World Vision Communication

This is the Christmas card that St. Mary's received from Armoh who the child is whom they sponsors in Sierra Leone through World Vision.



“In the Bleak Mid-Winter!”



Epiphany at St Mary's

There is a tradition of blessing chalk at Epiphany to mark the threshold of our home with a new year blessing. It picks up the Old Testament traditions of marking the doorposts of the house with biblical texts (Deut 6v9), the theme of the Holy Family welcoming visitors to their home to visit the Christ-Child, and a reminder of the importance of hospitality throughout the Scriptures, because of the timing of Epiphany at the start of the year, it also offers a chance to pray for God's blessing at the start of the new year. At the end of the service to celebrate the start of the season of Epiphany the congregation went outside the West Door and Father Chris using chalk wrote 20+C+M+ B+ 26 on the left lintel of the Church's West Door.

The letters and numbers that are chucked on the door pick up the new year, the Epiphany story and the prayer for blessing.

The 20 and 26 are of course the beginning and end of the year's date. The middle three letters stand for the traditional names of the wise men (magi) Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. They also represent the initials of the Latin phrase "Christus mansionem benedicat" - "Christ bless the house"

Together they represent our prayer at the start of the year that our homes, may be places blessed by the love and light of Christ.

In order that all the congregation could write the blessing outside their own homes, all were given a piece of chalk to take home with them.



The installation of Bishop Hugh Saturday 17 January

A significant number of our parish attended the installation and all agreed that it was a lovely, lively service. Children and young people were centre stage throughout. For it was children who greeted him at the West Door when he wanted to enter the cathedral, the Archdeacon was asked by one of the children “Who is there, and why do you want to enter? The Archdeacon introduced the bishop then a second child asked the bishop. “Why have you been sent to us? A third child asked him “How will you serve us? Then all the children welcomed the bishop on behalf of us all. Children from our own parish presented him with his pectoral cross while children from the benefice of Pershore presented him with his stole, children from the parish of Kidderminster, West presented him with his cope and children from the Redditch and Bromsgrove Deanery presented him with his mitre.

The Procession of Clergy, showing some familiar faces!



The traditional knocking of the West Door to gain access. Let's hope he has now got his own key!



The bishop is presented with his cross by a young member of our parish.



There was a tremendous round of applause which rang throughout the Cathedral when the Dean presented Bishop Hugh to the people of the Diocese present in the Cathedral. He was very happy to receive such a rapturous welcome.



i Sing POP sang for the bishop. Again, our parish was well represented, can you see our Children, Youth and Family Minister singing with them? We were all invited to join in with the chorus of their song, and we were all treated to the sight of our new Bishop not only singing with the iSing POP choir but also some nifty dance moves-which were captured by the BBC and broadcast on the Midlands Today Saturday evening news! After the service all those present in the cathedral both laity and clergy were served cake and pear juice by the cathedral staff. A day we will all remember for a very long time.



An Inclusive Church?

Please pardon me for the deliberate use of a question mark in the title of this note. It's there because I'm not convinced that the Anglican church as a whole is committed to the inclusive approach to which we in our parish have signed up. If you don't recall the detail, carefully read the sign on the gate. In summary, we welcome everybody. I won't list all the characteristics here, but for me (as a straight white man) I want us to welcome LGBTQIA people and people of every race, as we do at Church of the Ascension, and at St Mary's. I'm also delighted, especially after some of the events of last summer, that we actively welcome asylum seekers.

The late great Tom Stoppard, himself a Czech refugee at age nine, visited the 'Jungle' camps in Calais, where thousands waited to cross the Channel. He was asked by a journalist whether it was possible that Britain's goodwill was being exploited by would-be immigrants and asylum seekers. Stoppard replied that such a thing might indeed be a possibility but that, even if it were, this was an argument about which he was happy to be historically on the wrong side. I stand with Tom Stoppard on this – we are a rich country and can afford asylum seekers – and, as with the many thousands who came in World War Two, almost all of them were fully integrated and became useful and productive citizens within a very few years.

But General Synod is a different matter. As I understand it, the latest Church of England Living in Love and Faith update this week is that the House of Bishops and General Synod have now ended the debate without resolution – so the present deeply unsatisfactory position will continue indefinitely. As far as I can tell, opponents of Living in Love and Faith have been seeking to pack the House of Laity with those opposed to change. So, I'd want us all to be asking our various representatives (and candidates for such representation) directly what they believe and how they will vote on this vital issue.

I'm completely unsighted on the complexities of the various Synods and how people get chosen – please don't try explain any of this to me if you do understand; my attention span is too short to make sense of it. But please do your best to make sure that our representatives are supportive of Living in Love and Faith and a truly inclusive Church.

I feel so strongly about all this that I recently wrote to senior Bishops, including our Bishop Hugh and Archbishops Sarah and Stephen. I'm sure that Bishop Hugh is on the side of inclusivity, and it was great to hear him preach at St Mary's, but the other responses were guarded, perhaps for understandable and proper reasons. Let's all act as though action in support of inclusion is something to which all commit ourselves.
John Freeman

Baptism and Confirmation Service 18 January



The bishops lead the newly confirmed members down the centre aisle to joyful applause from the whole of the congregation!

Karen made us a beautiful and very scrumptious cake!

The newly confirmed with the bishops, clergy and their sponsors from their home churches.

Smiles all round!



From the registers of St Mary's



Baptisms

23 November	Daniel Edwards Zahari Benedict	Son of Anna
11 January	Blake Howell	Son of James and Hannah
18 January	Ethan Bailey (Adult)	
25 January	Alivia Rose Marie Parry	daughter of Ryan and Stacey
	Rose Ann Wootton	daughter of Matthew and Tammy
	Rita Marie Wootton	daughter of Matthew and Tammy

Marriages

19 December	Jonathan Edward Forster and Roxanne Ward
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Funerals

1 December	Doreen Gwilt
10 December	Bill Prenton
9 January	Margaret Hickman

Confirmations

18 January	Ethan Bailey
	Melanie Jayne Beaumont
	James David Priestly
	Callum Darby

From the registers of Church of the Ascension

Baptisms

14 December	Najmeh Tarighat (Adult)
	Anne Elizabeth Arrowsmith (Adult)

Confirmations

18 January	(held at St Marys)
	Mohammad Mahan Dastlaf
	Nima Pouya
	Zahra Khalili
	Elmira Taheri
	Najmeh Tarighat
	Anne Elizabeth Arrowsmith

Easter at St. Mary's, Kingswinford 2026

LENT, HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

- 15th March: 8:45am Soul Food informal worship;
10am - Mothering Sunday, Sung Eucharist
- 22nd March: 10am Team Eucharist at St. Mary's; 6:30pm Benediction with Taize
- 29th March: 10am - Palm Sunday
Sung Eucharist with procession of Palm Crosses
- 30th March: 8:30am - Morning prayer; 7:30pm - Compline with reflection
- 31st March: 8:30am - Morning Prayer; 10am - Eucharist;
7:30pm - Compline with reflection
- 1st April: 8:30am - Morning Prayer; 7:30pm - Compline with reflection
- Maundy Thursday: 8:30am - Morning Prayer
7:30pm - Eucharist of the Lord's Supper,
followed by The Watch until 10pm
- Good Friday: 10am - Mainly Music
1pm - Stations of the Cross
2pm - The Liturgy of the Cross
including Holy Communion
- Easter Saturday: 8:00pm -
Easter Vigil and Eucharist of the Lord's Resurrection
- Easter Sunday: 10am - Eucharist



**YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US AT EITHER OF OUR CHURCHES
DURING THE SEASON OF LENT AND HOLY WEEK.**



Easter at Church of the Ascension, Wall Heath 2026

LENT, HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

- 15th March: 10am - Sung Eucharist for Mothering Sunday;
4pm - 4 P's reflective service
- 17th March: 5pm - Soul Food informal worship
- 22nd March: 10am - Team Eucharist Service at St. Mary's
- 29th March: 10:30am - Palm Sunday Eucharist
starting at St. Andrew's URC and processing to Church of the Ascension
- 30th March: 5pm - Evening Prayer; 5:30pm - Eucharist
- 31st March: 5pm - Evening prayer
- 1st April: 10am - Eucharist; 5pm - Evening prayer
- Maundy Thursday: 7:30pm - Eucharist of the Lord's Supper,
followed by The Watch until 10pm
- Good Friday: 2pm - The Liturgy of the Cross
including Holy Communion
- Easter Saturday: 7:30pm - Easter Vigil and Eucharist of the Lord's Resurrection
- Easter Sunday: 10am - Eucharist
With Easter egg hunt in the garden!

**YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US AT EITHER OF OUR CHURCHES
DURING THE SEASON OF LENT AND HOLY WEEK.**



www.stmaryskingswinford.org.uk
<https://www.facebook.com/stmaryschurchkingswinford>

For Baptisms, Weddings and General Enquiries:

Please contact the Parish Office
Every Saturday 10am-11am (in the church centre next to church) or
admin@stmaryskingswinford.org.uk

**For end of life ministry or pastoral care please contact one of the clergy
in the first instance**

Children are fully welcomed at all our services.

SUNDAY 10am WORSHIP

10am Every first, third and fourth Sunday of the month - Sung Eucharist
Every second Sunday of the month - Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 6.30PM WORSHIP

6.30pm Every second Sunday of the month – Evensong
Every fourth Sunday of the month – Either Benediction with
Taizé music or a Memorial Service for those who have died
(to find out which, see our website)

MAINLY MUSIC

10am Every Monday during term time.
Pre school worship with music, dancing, bubbles, play time and cake!
Contact Sian Morgan for more information.

SOUL FOOD

8.45am Eat food, make friends, explore the Bible and worship.
All ages, all together.
7 & 21 December
4 & 18 January
1 & 15 February
1 & 15 March
Contact Fr Chris or Sian Morgan for further information.

HEARTS ON FIRE

4pm

Every second Sunday of the month.

A Charismatic Mass with modern worship songs, healing ministry and traditional liturgy. Incense is used at this service.

COFFEE MORNING

Every second and fourth Thursday of the month between 10am and 12noon. Everyone is welcome to drop in for a cuppa.

BELL RINGERS

Our bells date from 1687 and are rung for Sunday Services and on Tuesday evenings for practice.

Anyone can learn – no special skills or strength needed!

For information, email our Tower Captain Daniel Clewes
danielclewes@yahoo.co.uk

Ringling takes place on Tuesdays 7.15pm-8.45pm and
Sundays 9.30am – 10am.

SERVERS

The team of Servers play a key roll in the smooth running of most services at St Mary's. For more details contact one of the clergy.

MOTHERS' UNION

Afternoon group meets on 1st Wednesday of the month in the Church Centre at 2.00pm.

For more details contact Mary Thompson, Liz Green or Eve Hamblett.

Evening Group for the working women or those unable to get to daytime meetings, contact Helen Moren or Adele Hurst.

CHOIR

The choir is a vital aid to the worship of our church.

If you are interested in church music, you will enjoy all the choir has to offer.

For more information ring Emily Vivash on 07814 284725.

CHURCH CENTRE

To hire the Church Centre please contact Lindsey Poulding on 07729 092973.

CHURCHYARD TEAM

We have a dedicated, friendly group of volunteers who meet each Monday between 9am and 12.30pm to maintain our beautiful churchyard. We are always after new people to come and join in with this important work.

For more information contact Bob Green on 01384 270228.



www.churchoftheascensionwallheath.org.uk/
<https://www.facebook.com/CofAWallHeath>

**For end of life ministry or pastoral care please contact one of the clergy
in the first instance**

SUNDAY 10am WORSHIP 10am each Sunday. The first Sunday is Morning Prayer and the second, third and fourth Sundays are Eucharist services. Children are fully welcomed at all our services.

MAINLY MUSIC 10am-11.30am each Thursday. Pre school worship with music, dancing, bubbles, play time and cake! Please contact Sian Morgan for more information.

SOUL FOOD Eat food, make friends, explore the Bible and worship. All ages, all together. Meets at 5pm on 11 & 25 November, 9 December, 6 & 20 January, 3 & 17 February and 3 & 17 March. Contact Fr Chris or Sian Morgan for further information.

CHURCH CLUB Primary age children's worship with craft/games/Bible stories alternate Tuesdays after school, in term-time, contact Sheila Freeman on 01384 357921. Permission slips in the school office.

MOTHERS' UNION First Wednesday of the month at 1.30pm in the Church Hall. Any changes will be announced on the news sheet. Contact Jane Lamb on 01384 274604

WORSHIP BAND Contact Debbie Filgate on 01384 287711

HALL BOOKING Available for private parties or regular bookings contact Lindsey Poulding on office@stmaryskingswinford.org.uk 07729 092973

FLOWER ARRANGING For festivals and special events. If you would like to join the team contact Jane Lamb on 01384 274604.

SOCIAL EVENTS We aim to offer social events throughout the year. Contact Becky Jones on 07521 739404 for forthcoming events.

Church of the Ascension is a member of the Inclusive Church Network
<https://www.inclusive-church.org/>

**WHO'S WHO
ST MARY'S KINGSWINFORD
CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION WALL HEATH**

PRIEST IN CHARGE

Fr Adam Hadley fr.adam@stmaryskingswinford.org.uk 07759 900947

MISSION PRIEST

Mthr Sarah Roberts-Malpass

mthr.sarah@stmaryskingswinford.org.uk

07976 965275

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTER

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Sian Morgan

sian@stmaryskingswinford.org.uk

07729 092972

psa@stmaryskingswinford.org.uk

CURATE

Fr Chris Smith

fr.chris@stmaryskingswinford.org.uk 07562 949395

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR & CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS

Lindsey Poulding

office@stmaryskingswinford.org.uk

07729 092973

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Grace Wrigglesworth

operations@stmaryskingswinford.org.uk

07562 955888

READERS (LICENSED LAY MINISTERS)

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01384 270045

Debbie Filgate

01384 287711

Chris Knight

07546 159813

AUTHORISED LAY MINISTERS

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Children and Young People

07790 436068

Bill Hazelton

Worship Leader

01384 250366

Helen Moren

Worship Leader

01384 270757

Neil Oliver

Worship Leader

07720 783330

Jenny Stewart

Pastoral

07723 535740

Karen Whitehouse

Worship Leader

01384 864709

CHURCHWARDENS

Helen Moren	St Mary's Church	01384 270757
Neil Oliver	St Mary's Church	07720 783330
Jean Blakemore	Church of the Ascension	01384 270828
Jenny Stewart	Church of the Ascension	07723 535740

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MAGAZINE ADVERTISING

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DIRECTORS OF MUSIC

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Emily Vivash	St Mary's	07814 284725

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