



Sunday 15th March 2026

Newsletter

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CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION SERVICES – MARCH

Sunday 15 March

10am

4pm

MOTHERING SUNDAY

Sung Eucharist

Pause, Pray, Ponder, Praise reflective service

Monday 16 March

5pm

7pm

Evening Prayer

Prayer and Praise at Fr Mel's

Tuesday 17 March

5pm

5pm

Soul Food

Evening Prayer

Wednesday 18 March

10am

5pm

Midweek Eucharist

Evening Prayer

Thursday 19 March

10am

1.15pm

Mainly Music

Year 5 Experience Easter

Sunday 22 March

10am

CHURCH CLOSED

Team Service at St Mary's

**All are welcome to Morning Prayer at St Mary's at 8.30am
on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this week.**

Pray for our sick and those who care for them: Evelyn, Pat Hughes, Chris Hemsley, Rev'd Beryl Pritchett, John Whitby, John Timmins, Brian and Jackie Wilson, Jayne Walker, Kerry, Brian, Rogerio Ponticelli, Sandra Mee, Shane Pincher, Julia and MU Members, especially the house bound.

Recently Departed: Carole Page, Bishop Andrew Watson, Joseph (Mick) Sadler.

Baptism Preparation – Prayer for March

A prayer we commit to pray for you as parents:

*Loving father, bless this family with the ability to love unconditionally even in the hardest moments. Help them realise what Jesus gave up so that they can know love and life. **Amen.***

Prayers from the Children at Church of the Ascension School

- * Thank you, God for all the things you have done for us. **Amen**
- * Dear God. Thank you for my house, dog and food. **Amen**
- * Dear God. Sorry for the times I have been wrong and disobeyed the teacher. **Amen**
- * Dear God. Sorry for the times I have talked to my parents in a not very nice tone. **Amen**

Please pray for the people that live in Oaklands Care Home in our parish and for the people who care for them.

**The next Prayer and Praise at Fr Mel's is at 7.30pm on Monday 16th March at
14 Beech Tree Close. ALL Welcome!**

Notices from Fr Adam

Team Service Eucharist This year Palm Sunday falls on a fifth Sunday which would normally be a Team Service. So that both churches can mark Palm Sunday in their usual way the Team Eucharist has been moved to **Sunday 22 March at 10am at St Mary's**. There will be no morning service at Church of the Ascension that day. All are welcome to come and worship together.

The Triduum – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and The Easter Vigil These three days are the biggest, most dramatic in the whole of the Christian calendar. You cannot move from Palm Sunday to Easter Day without walking the great three days with Jesus. It just wouldn't make any sense. Jesus walks with us every day of our lives, one way of responding to this is to walk the journey of Holy Week with Him. Please do take a post card detailing our Holy Week services and put them in your dairy now and try to make each on a priority. Loads of work go into these services to make them as special as possible so please come and join in as we walk with Jesus through Holy Week 2026.

Sian Morgan Our Children, Young People and Families Minister, Sian recently applied for a new more senior job at the Diocese and was successful in getting it and so will be leaving her role with us on Sunday 19 April. Sian has done tremendous job here in the parish building up our different worship opportunities and working closely with our church schools. Her biggest legacy here will no doubt be the numbers engaging with Mainly Music and we know this solid foundation will continue into the future. We will miss Sian and will have plenty of opportunities to say good luck to her in the next couple of months. We will be recruiting to the role but as a result of this change Fr Adam will be finishing at the cathedral earlier than the original six months planned and will be back in the parish full time from the middle of March in order to ensure that the work Sian undertook continues during the recruitment period. If you have any questions about any of this, please talk to one of the clergy team.

Pause, Pray, Ponder, Praise reflective service

This reflective service is being held on the third Sunday of the month by Chris Knight
at Church of the Ascension.

The next one is this Sunday afternoon, 15th March at 4 pm.

It is a service when you will have time to just sit quietly with God.
Everyone is welcome.

Church of the Ascension School Year 5 will be with us on **Thursday 19th March at** for their Experience Easter. If you are able to help with this, please let Sian or Sheila know.

St Mary's next Community Coffee Morning is on **Thursday 26th March 10-12**

Palm Sunday - 29th March We will be joining with St Andrews URC again for our Palm Sunday service and walk of witness. **Starting at St Andrews for 10:30am** (note the time!) and walking to CofA for the Eucharist. Aiming to conclude around 11:45am.

Hearts on Fire service

All are welcome to this contemporary, charismatic mass that is held on the second Sunday of the month **at St Mary's.** **The next service will be Sunday 12th April at 4pm.**
Come just as you are to worship.

Sunday 15th March – Mothering Sunday

Collect

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Today's Readings

Psalm 34: 11-20

Isaiah 66: 10-14a

Post Communion

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Parish Development update from Fr Adam

As you'll see elsewhere in the pew sheet Sian will be moving on in April to a new job. Having a Children, Young People and Families Minister has been invaluable in reaching out to new families and them embarking on a journey of faith. Please pray for the ministry team as we advertise the role again and particularly pray that people will apply and that God will call someone to join us on the next stage of our parish renewal. **Amen.**

Recycling old glasses – a note from Mary Green Mary has been sorting out old pairs of glasses to take to the Lions Club in Birmingham. If anyone has any glasses they want to donate, could you bring them to church and Mary will take them into Birmingham.

Mainly Music Thank you to everyone who is supporting Mainly Music by making cakes. They are very much appreciated and enjoyed by everyone who comes along. There is a new rota to take us to the Easter break if anyone can fill a space it would be much appreciated

Dudley Women's Refuge Lent Appeal If you are able to donate, the needs of the refuge at present are:

oven gloves, tea towels, chopping boards and kitchen utensils (masher, whisk, tongs, grater, tin opener, wooden spoons etc). Thank you so much for your ongoing support 😊

The Beacon Centre Please see the attached note from David and Colin and remember to bring in any used stamps for us to send to this very worthy charity.

Gluten Free Wafers

Whenever the Eucharist is celebrated, gluten free wafers will be available.