



CONTACT MAGAZINE



May – July 2026

**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

Welcome to the May to July edition of
CONTACT

I hope you enjoy reading the articles.
If there is anything you would like to see in the next edition or any
comments you would like to make about this edition, just drop me an
email or speak to me when you see me.
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:

23 July 2026

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





Fr Adam writes...

Dear friends

We have seen considerable change already this year. The start of it saw me heading to the cathedral on a secondment for two and a half days per week as the Interim Chief Operating Officer. I learnt a lot being there especially around the complexities of cathedral life and what it means to be a custodian of something so large and critical to the life of the diocese as well as the history of the nation. We then saw Sian gain a richly deserved promotion where she will be leading the strategy for children and young people across the Diocese. We have then had the news that Fr Chris will be leaving us in June to become Curate in Charge at St Mark's Pensnett as an extension of the Church Renewal which took place here. In January, Chris will be signed off as a curate and become Priest-in-Charge there. On one hand it seems like a lot of people leaving us.

But, as soon as Sian received her promotion, we got our skates on, and we were able to readvertise her role and we will be richly blessed by a new person joining us as our new Children, Young People and Families Minister. Although at time of print I can't announce their name I can tell you that they come with a wealth of experience and we look forward to all that they will bring to the life of our churches. Then in June, Jonathan Pincher, who was with us on placement last summer, will be ordained as Deacon at Worcester Cathedral and join us as our Curate and we look forward to welcoming him and his family here. Then finally, I will be installed as the Rector of the Parish in July after five years as your Priest-in-Charge. Lots of change!

As human beings we often react against change. We feel comfortable with things as they always have been, and the church is not immune to this, and given that we are going through a season of change it's worth us reflecting on this because not only are our churches changing in terms of who ministers here we also live in a world that is changing faster than ever before. Technology evolves almost daily and changes the way we live and the way we understand the world. Technology isn't always telling us the truth with AI being sometimes used to give us false information. We are needing to be ever more discerning and disciplined to understand what is going on around us. Change is an ever-present reality and we all need the tools to embrace good change and challenge bad change,

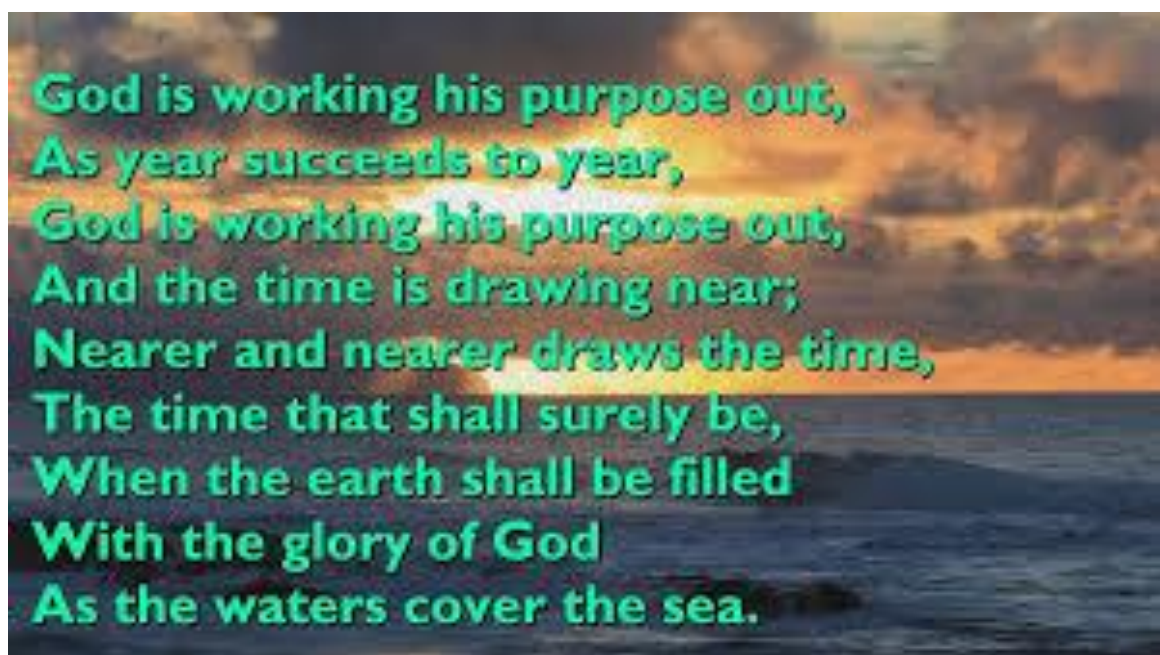
Many of us will be familiar with the Bible passage from Ecclesiastes often called 'a time for everything' which is honest about change and the turbulence and uncertainty it can bring but when we feel like this I call us back to Hebrews 13 where we are told that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" or to quote the hymn 'Abide with me' – 'he who changest not'. Change is a human reality, but when we traverse change, we do so with a constant God who does not change and who will walk with us throughout times of trial and change.

Also remember that through his death on the cross Jesus transformed an instrument of death, humiliation, and pain into new life. Change and transformation are also central to our faith and can bring about new and amazing possibilities.

In this season of change in our churches let's each wait with joyful anticipation at what God has in store for our parish and pray for all those whose journey is now in a new place and for those joining us here to journey with us in the next season.

With every blessing.

Fr Adam





Father Chris writes

It's hard to believe that nearly two years have passed since I first arrived in the parish. Now, the time is approaching for me to move on, as I prepare to be licensed as Curate-in-Charge of St Mark's, Pensnett. It's a strange moment, filled with a mixture of emotions. On the one hand, I'm excited and looking forward to this new chapter—a fresh challenge and an opportunity to spread my wings. At the same time, I'm under no illusion about the responsibility that lies ahead, as I join the people of St Mark's in discerning how God is calling us to grow His church and His Kingdom in that community.

On the other hand, I will deeply miss everyone I've had the privilege of getting to know and serve alongside at St Mary's and the Church of the Ascension. I'm so grateful for your patience, your grace, and your openness to new ideas—some, it's fair to say, more successful than others! One of the greatest joys has been sharing in worship together in so many different settings: in our church buildings and halls, but also in homes, care homes, and schools; at baptisms, weddings, and funerals. Time and again, I've been reminded that God's presence meets us in the most unexpected places.

There have been countless highlights over these past two years—far too many to name—but I have especially valued leading the Faith Foundations course. It has been a real encouragement to see people grow in faith and discipleship, whether they are just beginning their Christian journey or have been walking it for many years. Sharing meals, exploring big questions, praying together, and waiting on the Holy Spirit for renewal and strength—these moments have been a true privilege.

I am also deeply thankful for all I have learned under the guidance and encouragement of Fr Adam. His support has meant a great deal, and I look forward to our friendship continuing in the years ahead. I hope, too, to return from time to time and stay connected with Kingswinford parish as it continues in its Renewal programme.

As I step into this new season, I would very much value your prayers. Mel, my wife, continues to be a tremendous support, and we are both grateful for all that this parish has meant to us. Also pray for Jonathon and his family, as he prepares to join you as your new curate from July. You would be very warmly welcome to join me at my licensing service at 3pm on Sunday 19th July, as we celebrate all that has been and look ahead to what is to come. Thank you everyone, and God bless you.

The prayer of each one of us for Father Chris as he begins his onward journey.



Faith amongst the People



BAPTISTRY



CATHEDRAL

I have often wondered how other Christians around the world worship and celebrate the main festivals. I was lucky enough to visit Tuscany at the end of March with my daughter, staying in the old part of Pisa. Not being at St. Mary's for Palm Sunday was quite strange, but being in that beautiful part of Italy with its wonderful architecture was just amazing. We visited many of the museums, visited a vineyard, toured around the Baptistery, Cathedral and climbed the 294 steps to the top of the Leaning Tower. What a view to behold.

We decided on the Palm Sunday morning to watch the procession from the 12th-century Baptistery to the Cathedral. There were many tourists from numerous cultural backgrounds, all there to witness the procession, and watch the people take the walk across the pathway marking Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem then into the 11th-century Cathedral. Palm Sunday at the Pisa Cathedral (Duomo di Pisa) is a deeply traditional experience, featuring the blessing of olive branches and palms in the Baptistery and then to the Cathedral amidst the stunning Romanesque architecture of the [Piazza dei Miracoli](#). Even though we did not speak Latin, the reading of the Passion of our Lord and the singing was extremely emotive. The singing echoed around the building where each and every person watched and listened in silence whilst holding their olive branches. Looking back on this experience still brings those feelings back.

As we continued on to enjoy our day, we saw so many people carrying olive branches, even on the train and when we visited Florence. People were not afraid to show their faith however big or small it may be. It filled my heart with such joy, that I was walking along strangers who walked in Gods footsteps. It made me feel safe and secure knowing that we were walking the same path.

In today's troubled world, we can often become despondent, wondering where faith fits into all of it. It made me realise that no matter what life throws at us, no matter what the world is doing to itself, when we walk in faith, we know that many other people around the world are doing the same. Together we are building the walls of faith that will never be broken. We should never doubt the strength of God's love and the peace that he brings us, even in the most difficult times. If we stand together as one, then our foundations in faith will stand firm. Wherever we are and whoever we are, we know that he is walking alongside us. God Bless,

Karen Whitehouse



PROCESSION FROM THE BAPTISTRY TO THE CATHEDRAL

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him. [.Colossians 2:6](#)

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. [2 Corinthians 4:18](#)

Bob's Boys!

Well rain has started after that beautiful hot period when we could not mow the grass. However, the hot period did give us time to cut down brambles which covered graves.

The grass is now growing with a vengeance. We cut the grass one week; it grows to the same length as before and must be mowed again the following week!

As you will have seen we have cleared out the weeds and moved a bush in the garden in front of the church centre. We have now planted 330 spring bulbs so look out for the display next year.

One of biggest problems we face is getting rid of the green rubbish we produce so we must burn it periodically. We couldn't do this during the very dry spell, and we had to wait for a south, south-easterly wind. The rubbish had accumulated and with favourable conditions the big burn could commence. With the use of the leaf blower, we managed to encourage the fire, and the rubbish is now a heap of ash.

Timber Tim is now in the churchyard tending to our trees.

We will continue mowing, strimming, and clearing up the leaves through to the Autumn season to ensure the churchyard is a beautiful and restful place to visit.

Bob Green



The People's Briefing

We are so incredibly proud to announce that both churches have now been awarded their Silver Eco Church Award. A lot of hard work has gone on both at the forefront and behind the scenes to achieve this, and we are incredibly grateful to our members of the parish who share our Eco ambitions and drive these forward in everything we do. We also believe there is lots more we can do to keep pushing and achieve more – not just within the award but in the sustainable changes we can make.



We are truly excited to be hosting our first ever Parish Sustainable Evening on Wednesday 24th June, 6pm at St Mary's. This will be an evening to discuss all things Eco, where we will hopefully also be joined by local councillors and members of the Diocese. The evening will start with a light vegan meal, followed by a short showing of an Eco film that has been produced and distributed to educate more people on the crisis Earth currently faces. We will then have informal breakout groups focused on a range of topics where we can discuss changes we make not only within our Parish but within our lives as well.

The event will be completely free to attend, we request you sign up at the back of church so as we are aware of numbers for catering though. In the meantime, check out the calendar below for other Eco activities you can get involved in throughout the year! If you would like to join our Eco groups, or just want some more information, please speak with Grace on 07562955888 or operations@stmaryskingswinford.org.uk

ECO CALENDAR   		
JANUARY 01 Big Garden Birdwatch 23 rd - 25 th January	FEBRUARY 02 World Day of Social Justice 20 th February	MARCH 03 Earth Hour 28 th March
APRIL 04 Earth Day 22 nd April Pledge forms available at the back of Church	MAY 05 Every Flower Counts 31 st May Plantlife citizen activity. Sign up pre event and take part at home	JUNE 06 30 Days Wild Throughout June Weekly Eco/outside activities across both churches. Details will be available in pewsheet
JULY 07 Big Butterfly Count Date TBC Both churches will take part in the count	AUGUST 08 World Plant Milk Day 22 nd August Plant milk will be used on Sunday 23 rd service	SEPTEMBER 09 International Day of Peace 21 st September Prayers and service to have a focus on international peace. Prayer cards will be available
OCTOBER 10 Vegetarian Day 1 st October Meat free recipes on social media for the week	NOVEMBER 11 World Kindness Day 13 th November A Good Deed Tree will be available for people to make pledges	DECEMBER 12 Giving Tuesday 1 st December Donations to be made the first week of December



Were your bins collected on time? No, mine weren't either.

Did you know they've got extra vans and staff on? I even saw them working on Saturday.

Where have you put your little food caddy, I don't really like it on the side?

I will bet you have heard one, if not all, of the above in the last 2 weeks as Dudley Borough muddle their way through the new bin collections. The introduction of the black food waste bin is set to tackle the amount of food waste the UK produces and, put basically, simplify the recycling process.

The UK generates over 180,000 tonnes of food waste a WEEK, amounting to nearly 10 million tonnes annually. Nearly 2/3 of this is then sent onto landfill, which we can all agree isn't great for anyone! By introducing the new bins the hope is less contamination of recyclable materials and now this food waste can be sent to specified plants to generate more sustainable energy for homes and businesses. Now while this is great in theory, there is still so much to be done (namely businesses/community spaces like ours not yet being eligible for said black bin but more on that another day!)

Two of the top 5 reasons for food waste in the UK come from either unsold supermarket stock or food thrown out due to confusion of date labels, much of which is till perfectly edible. In fact, in monetary value £250 of edible food is thrown away per person annually!! Now, this isn't me saying eat that yogurt that's been sat in the back of your fridge for two months or that that week old chicken is perfectly safe to eat, but there are things we can do to bring the UK's food waste down whilst also benefitting financially too.

Too Good To Go is an app you can download on your phone and reserve bags of food that would otherwise be thrown away from various restaurants, supermarkets, cafes etc. The app is completely free to download and there are places such as Aldi, Morrisons, Co-Op, Krispy Kreme, Costa Coffee and hundreds more. You can choose which kind of bag you would like – fruit and veg, groceries, baked goods etc but the catch is the items you get are a complete surprise! I'm usually a meal planner through and through but since using this more often I'm being a bit more flexible in my food plans for the week and, especially with a toddler (read: fruit monster) I know that the majority of the fruit and veg I get in the

surprise bag will be eaten. Plus, it's fun to be creative with what I'm cooking; never before have I had swede chips but I've had them twice in the last fortnight now! Our Eco teams have been using this app for the last few weeks and had some absolute bargains but also made a positive impact on food waste. These stores now don't have to throw away unused but perfectly edible items. Fruit and veg bags in particular are great as even though they are date coded these are actually *best before* and not use by – which is completely different. If buying grocery bags most of the items are pantry items that will keep far past their BBD, especially if unopened. If the bags include meat, you can freeze it on the day your purchase it and pull it out whenever.

As we continue our Eco work, I encourage all of you to look at how you can make small changes that will amount to a big difference. Our focus is not only on the way we care for our buildings, our land and each other, but the wider world around us, the way our daily decisions impact God's creation and the way we can change this. We have lots of exciting events coming up for our Eco work and can't wait to share these with you but for now, why not download the app and see what you can save, in more ways than one!



Grace picked up 3 boxes of Driscoll's strawberries, 2 bags of parsnips, 2 lettuces, coriander, basil, 4 suedes, vine ripened tomatoes, 3 passionfruit and a box of mixed grapes for £3.09!!

Some of the dishes made include:

- Sausage and swede traybake
- Fish and swede chips
- Acai bowls (yogurt, granola, strawberries, passionfruit, honey and desiccated coconut)
- Carrot and parsnip soup
- Duck salad
- Chicken Caesar salad



Jean Blakemore grabbed a grocery bag from Morrisons and admitted that while these may not always be things she would pick up herself who doesn't like butterscotch angel delight and crème eggs?! Her grandchildren will be glad of the ice creams, they regularly eat Ryvita and granola

anyway and it's always handy to have a can of Dr Pepper in the fridge. All this for £2.99, when the granola itself originally cost £4.90!

Whilst I will rave about Too Good To Go, please be mindful of what your purchase and also, that you plan to use it as there is no point purchasing a bag if you don't believe you will get the best from it. It is also important to check all guidelines on storage to prolong any items shelf life and health recommendations.

Notes from the Vicarage Garden, April 2026

So far, this spring has been a good one for gardens. After a wet winter which replenished ground water levels following last year's hot and dry spring and summer, we have had warm sunshine and no late frosts (though that danger isn't over yet) and plants have grown well. I haven't noticed much slug and snail activity either. Some springs they can be very busy eating young shoots as they emerge from below the ground and often plants never really recover, but not this year. I wonder if this is because last year's prolonged hot and dry weather has decimated their population. One of our clematis has been quite extensively nibbled, not by molluscs, but by the caterpillars of the yellow underwing moth, and badgers have dug holes in some of the borders, uprooting some tulips, but those are just about my only grievances. I'm sure that soon I will be complaining about something, most likely lack of rain, but if everything was perfect, there wouldn't be much to do, and I would hate that, because although I love looking round the garden, and other people's gardens, I think even more I love the act of gardening, and being busy planting and pruning and sowing seeds and weeding and doing all that needs doing and never running out of jobs. If plants always thrived and never died there would be fewer opportunities to try something new. I have dug up a large thirty-year-old hydrangea which had struggled through several hot dry summers, and I felt very sad about it, but it has given me a nice space in which to plant something different, something more suited to the changing climate. Badgers dug up our entire crop of potatoes two years in a row, so this year, at Sarah's suggestion, I have planted a Victoria plum tree instead, and I think we will appreciate the plums even more than the potatoes. And if weeds never grew, there would be no need to get down on your hands and knees and in amongst the plants. There's something very satisfying about easing a long piece of bindweed root from the soil, and when you are down there you notice things that remain hidden if you are standing up. The other day I spotted

two scarlet tiger moth caterpillars on some forget-me-nots, digger wasps going in and out of their underground nests and a frog keeping cool under some leaves. How wonderful it is to know that I have helped to create an environment where these creatures can live and thrive. I am so grateful that I have been granted the joy of possessing my own garden and of working in the vicarage garden too, and I think one way of praising God for our blessings is by the work we do and the way we care for his creation.

Rev. Henry Ellacombe, a 19th Century clergyman, vicar of Bitton in Gloucestershire, was a keen gardener and plantsman, and he was of the same opinion:

“To have a garden where nature and the climate do everything, and man is called upon to do little more than scratch the ground and gather the flowers and fruit, might be very pleasant from one point of view, but it would take away all that to me constitutes the real interest of gardening, in its difficulties, and even its disappointments.”



Clematis macropetala Westleton



Scarlet tiger moth caterpillar

Simon Daniel, April 2026



Waiting with Hope

Andy Todd, Diocesan Secretary, has written this article for May editions of parish magazines.

In Samuel Beckett's 1956 play, *Waiting for Godot*, two characters spend the entire time waiting for the arrival of a mysterious character called Godot who will sort out all their problems - but who never comes. It's an unsettling read, like watching life on 'pause': "Nothing happens, nobody comes, nobody goes, it's awful." (Beckett's words – not mine!) What keeps the characters waiting? Is it hope?

I often hear people saying that they despair at what is reported in the News. Understandably, they talk of the need in contemporary society for hope. But all too often what passes for 'hope' seems more like the lame wishful-thinking of the characters in Beckett's play – a vague optimism that something better is around the corner. That kind of thinking can simply lead to a passive acceptance of things as they are – ironically, not unlike despair.

But throughout history, true hope has been a consistent force for transformation. As the American writer Dale Carnegie recognized, "Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying where there seemed to be no hope at all." That is hope in action. Hope energises as well as bringing comfort.

For Christians, Easter is the focal point for all true hope: in the Easter story, out of the terrible wrong of the torture and murder of an innocent man, God brings good. Our hope is based, not on some vague belief that things will turn out alright in the end, nor in the longed-for arrival of some elusive "Godot" figure, but on the confidence that, in Christ, God has revealed Himself to be utterly, eternally 'for' us. Because of that, we can know that no situation is ever too far gone, nothing is beyond redemption. Even the challenges of global proportion. Even the brokenness of our own lives. Although Easter Day is now behind us, the Church continues for these weeks to celebrate Easter Season, reminding us that we are and will always be Easter people. There is an urgent need for us as Easter people to tell stories of real hope – stories to energise and sustain our communities. So, whatever stories you tell in this Season, may many of them be hopeful ones!

Children's Society Boxes

During June I will be collecting and opening the Children's Society Boxes. Please let me or one of the Church Wardens have your box during June or alternatively let me know if you want me to collect yours.

The Children's Society works with young people to counsel and support them through their most serious life challenges, empowering them to make positive changes and rediscover their hope. This can include drug or alcohol addiction, domestic abuse, looking after parents, or low self-esteem and many other problems.

If you don't have a box and would like one, please let me know.

Thank you.

Craig Stevens 07968037755

Celebrating Mother Sarah's First year in Parish



Church of the Ascension celebrated Mother Sarah's first year in the parish with a cake at our Soul Food session in February.

Wall Heath in Bloom

Wall Heath in Bloom are busy making, the Church of the Ascension garden more welcoming to wildlife, with bug hotels, a sip and dip tray, and a composter. We are very grateful for their enthusiasm and skill!



Soul Food -Shrove Tuesday

Church of the Ascension's Soul Food service on Shrove Tuesday involved eating and racing with pancakes! They also buried an "Alleluia" outside as it won't be needed again until Easter Sunday- after the six weeks of Lent.

The racing was lots of fun...as was the eating of the pancakes!



Mama Mia at Church of the Ascension!

Our first social event this year was an afternoon tea: Becky, Diane and team produced plates of savouries and cakes for 33 people, who enjoyed a good natter, followed by a screening of Mamma Mia on our big screen. There was a lot of laughter and singing along!



Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday members of the congregation of Church of the Ascension enjoyed worship at St Andrew's URC, before processing together with their members to Church of the Ascension to share Holy Communion, a splendid morning enjoyed by all!



Children's Work begins Good Friday for the Parish

A wonderful Soul Food/Mainly Music combination brought 70+ people to St Marys' to retrace the journey of Holy Week. Children and adults made palm branches, plates of bread and wine, crowns of thorns and Easter biscuit tombs which were brought to a central table as we retold the story, interspersed with songs. Then a happy time of sharing Hot Cross Buns and chocolate!



**SOUL
FOOD**

GOOD FRIDAY
10am @St Mary's Kingswinford
crafts, food, music, reflection time

Goodbye, good luck and thank you!

We bid a fond farewell to Sian, our Children, Youth and Families Minister and wish her well for her new post in the Diocese. During the week from Monday 13th of April to Sunday the 19th of April, she has said goodbye to the two Mainly Music groups, School Worship Leaders, our Soul Food Families and both churches!



Race Night at St Mary's

On Saturday 25th April we held our third race night at St Mary's. Thanks to our new big screen, in the main hall, it meant that everyone was able to enjoy the races fully. 43 of us joined together on the evening to enjoy a fish and chip supper and great camaraderie as we all tried to decide who would win the races. Congratulations to Audrey Smith who scored the most points by predicting 4 winners and 3 runners up in the 8 races.

Thanks to everyone who helped organise and run the evening helping us raise just over £200 for our church projects.

Helen



A Quiz about drink in the Bible



How many of these questions can you answer?

- 1) After Abram's victory over the kings, what drink does Melchizedek bring out to bless him? (Clue, Genesis 14)
- 2) What drink did Pharaoh's cupbearer squeeze directly into the king's cup in his dream? (Clue, Genesis 40)
- 3) What drink was poured out as part of the daily offering before the LORD in the Tabernacle? (Clue, Numbers 28)
- 4) What Beverage did David refuse to drink after his mighty army risked their lives to bring it to him from enemy territory? (Clue, 2 Samuel)
- 5) What drink did Boaz invite Ruth to share while she rested and gleaned among the workers? (Clue, Ruth 2)
- 6) What drink did Hannah insist she had not consumed when she prayed silently before the LORD? (Clue, 1 Samuel)
- 7) What drink does Proverbs say bites like a serpent and stings like a viper? (Clue, Proverbs 23)
- 8) What drink is paired with honey when the bride's words are described as sweetness? (Clue, Song of Solomon 4)
- 9) What drink was lifted to Jesus on a hyssop branch while He was on the cross? (Clue, John 19)
- 10) What drink is poured out undiluted in Revelation as an expression of God's wrath? (Revelation 14)

The answers will be given in the next magazine, Cheers!

From the registers of St Mary's



Baptisms

12 April	Elizabeth Ethel Edwards	daughter of Jack and Jessica
12 April	Joseph Percival Hunter Land	son of James and Eleanor
26 April	Henley Michael Green	son of Matthew and Hannah
26 April	Ayda Mave Tomlinson	daughter of Danny and Lindsey

Marriages

14 March	Daryl Joseph McIvor and Isabel Louise Cleeton	
18 April	Ashley Kieren Chapman and Hannah Louise Nicholls	

Funerals

26 February Lurline Burrell

Upcoming Social Events at St Mary's

Murder/ Mystery Night	Saturday 4 July at 7pm
Harvest Supper	Saturday 3 October at 7pm
Christmas Tree Festival	Saturday 28 November between 10am-3pm
	Sunday 29 November between 11.30am-2pm
Quiz Night	Saturday 5 December at 7pm
Wreath Making Workshop	Saturday 12 th December at 1.30pm

Further information about each event will be advertised closer to the date – but put the dates in your diary and we look forward to you joining us.



The story of the Table

It was on a night when old familiar stories were retold that Jesus and his friends engaged in the sacred meal which Jews call the Passover.

During this meal, rich in food and memory, Jesus took a piece of bread. And after he had blessed it, He broke it and said,

‘This is my body. It is given for you. Do this to remember me.’

Later in the meal, he took a cup of wine, and having given thanks over it. He gave it to his disciples with the following words.

‘In this cup is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Drink it all of you to remember me’

Our Invitation

We go to that table not because we must but because we may. Not because we are strong but because we are weak. We go not because any goodness of our own gives us a right to come but because we need mercy and help. We go because want to love the Lord more. We go because He loves us and gave His life for us. It is our Lord who invites you to His table, it is His will that we should meet him there.

Upcoming Social Events at Church of the Ascension

Line dancing night	Saturday 20 June at 7pm
Pimms and hymns	Sunday 5 July at 3.30pm
Harvest Supper and quiz	Saturday 26 September at 7pm

POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

POL



MURDER MYSTERY

Do you fancy yourself as a detective?
Do you love to solve puzzles?
Then this is the night for you!



SATURDAY 4TH JULY

7PM

To include 2 courses

Main:
Lasagne, Garlic Bread
and Salad

Dessert:
Scones with jam and
cream

£15

**BOOK YOUR PLACES WITH HELEN MOREN
BY SUNDAY 28TH JUNE
OR CONTACT US VIA
WWW.STMARYSKINGSWINFORD.ORG.UK**

POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

St Mary's
KINGSWINFORD



**A 6-WEEK
JOURNEY
INTO THE
HEART OF
THE
CHRISTIAN
FAITH**

New to church and want to explore the basics?

A long-standing Christian who wants to revisit what you believe and why?

Got some burning questions you want to ask?

...this course is for you.

- Who is Jesus?
- What is the Bible all about?
- Why does prayer matter?
- What does it mean to be a Christian today?

You'll have the chance to learn, ask questions, and share in open conversations in a relaxed, friendly environment.

Food at 6:30pm, session at 7:15pm

STARTS: Monday 15 June 2026

CONTACT: Fr Adam 07759 900947

Other dates for your diary

24 May	Pentecost – wear something red to the services
31 May	Trinity Sunday – team service at St Mary's 10am
14 June	Fr Chris' final service. Team service at Church of the Ascension at 10am
28 June	Fr Jonathan's ordination as Deacon at Worcester Cathedral at 10am <i>all welcome or if you're not able to there will be a Team Service at Church of the Ascension at 10am</i>
5 July	Memorial service at St Mary's at 6.30pm
19 July	Fr Chris' licensing service at St Mark's Pensnett at 3pm
26 July	Fr Adam's licensing service as Rector at St Mary's at 4pm followed by a reception

Memorial Service

5 JULY

6:30 PM

Please come and join us for one of our regular memorial services of music and words where we remember those we have loved who have died.

It doesn't matter if we were part of the funeral or if it was a long time ago.

During the service you'll be able to light a candle as a symbol of God's continued love and protection for them.

Fr. Adam Hadley
07759 900947

fr.adam@stmaryskingswinford.org.uk





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 MORNING 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.

WEDNESDAY MORNING WORSHIP 10am each Wednesday is a Eucharist with songs followed by a cuppa in the hall.

MAINLY MUSIC 10am-11.30am each Thursday. Pre school worship with music, dancing, bubbles, play time and cake! Contact Mthr Sarah for more information.

SOUL FOOD Eat food, make friends, explore the Bible and worship. All ages, all together. Meets the second and fourth Tuesday each month at 5pm.

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.

PAUSE, PRAY, PONDER, PRAISE 4pm on the third Sunday of each month. A reflective service with space to gently enter the presence of God. Contact Chris Knight on 07546 159813 for more information.

iSingPOP pop up church 10am – 12noon on the second Sunday of each month. Preparation in the hall, followed by refreshments and then the service in church. Lots of singing and dancing for God! Contact Mthr Sarah for more information.

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



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 MORNING WORSHIP

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

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP

4pm (October – March)

6.30pm (April – September)

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 Fr Adam for more information

SOUL FOOD

8.45am

Eat food, make friends, explore the Bible and worship

All ages, all together

Every first and third Sunday of the month

TUESDAY MIDWEEK WORSHIP

10AM

Eucharist every week

- HEARTS ON FIRE** Every second Sunday of the month
4pm 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
Ringing 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

**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

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

Fr Adam &
Mthr Sarah

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)

David Cousins

01384 270045

Debbie Filgate

01384 287711

Chris Knight

07546 159813

AUTHORISED LAY MINISTERS

Sheila Freeman

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

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Christine Knight	knightchristine2059@gmail.com	07546 159813
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MAGAZINE ADVERTISING

Lindsey Poulding	office@stmaryskingswinford.org.uk	07729 092973
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DIRECTORS OF MUSIC

Debbie Filgate	Church of the Ascension	01384 287711
Emily Vivash	St Mary's	07814 284725

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