

TEAM NOTICES

Many of you will know that **Ray Davis** our wonderful St Mary's verger is retiring today. We are hugely grateful for all that he has done in cleaning, maintaining and setting up for services in the church. Also Ray has acted as 'librarian' for the choir and also has been heavily involved in arranging events and activities at St Mary's. Thank you Ray for all your work and we wish you all the very best for the future.

'Come & Sing' Choral Evensong TODAY, Sunday, 20th October at 6.30pm in St Mary's Church. Our guest this month is Peter Wright, formerly Southwark Cathedral. *Come and Sing* event is open to all singers. Arrival at St Mary's is for a 4.00pm rehearsal start. Cups of tea are provided between the rehearsal end and the service start at 6.30pm. All Welcome. Music provided. Just come and sing!

All Souls Service at St Mary's will be held this year on Sunday 3rd November at **3.30pm**. To all who have lost loved ones, both in the past few months, and longer ago, please join us in a service at All Souls tide to light candles and pray together. There will also be refreshments after the service. Lists for those who wish to have names of loved ones read out during the service will be available in the churches as usual in the days prior to the service.

All Things Bright and Beautiful takes place in St Mary's Church each Tuesday from 2.30pm – 3.30pm. A short service, which includes well known hymns, is followed by tea and cake. All Things Bright and Beautiful is particularly suitable for carers and those for whom they care and is dementia friendly. Is there someone who you could bring along or encourage to come? All are welcome.

T-Pot is held every Wednesday from 10am to 12.30pm in the Rectory Classroom. Come along for a cuppa and a chat. Everyone welcome!



Friday Fun Club – meets on Friday evenings 6.30-8pm, during term time, in the Rectory Classroom for 10-13 yr olds to enjoy food, games and chat. If you would like to join or need more information please contact Trish Clark at jandtclark@hotmail.com or Tel: 01929 425427.

Please Note that Friday Club will be meeting during half term on 25th October and 1st November.

Christmas Cards with a nativity theme are available again for this year at St Mary's, All Saints', and St Mark's, at £2 for a pack of five cards.

Coming shortly - as part of Purbeck Film Festival, **at 7.30pm on Monday, 21st October** St Mary's is hosting *The Quiet Girl*, an Irish film capturing the beauty and solitude of rural Ireland. A young girl from a dysfunctional family is sent to foster parents for the summer. She flourishes there but discovers a secret. Tickets on the door.

Don't Forget!! - the clocks go back 1 hour next Sunday 27th October.

REFLECTION

Today's readings: Isaiah 35:3-6; Acts 16:6-12a; Luke 10:1-9

Today we celebrate the life of St. Luke, Gospel writer and Evangelist. He was a Greek, a scholar, a physician and a close companion of Paul, with whom he is thought to have travelled widely as the early Church grew. From the beginning of both his Gospel and the Book of Acts it is clear that he had 'carefully investigated' eye witness accounts of Jesus' ministry, his death, resurrection and ascension into heaven. He documents the explosive growth of the early church including Peter's and Paul's ministries. It is clear that he wrote as someone who wanted people to realise the critical importance of knowing Jesus and following him and that salvation is for all, regardless of gender, social position or nationality.

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus commissions a group of 72 people, in pairs, to go out into towns and villages ahead of him to proclaim to the people that 'the Kingdom of God is near.' There's a sense of urgency and priority to proclaim the message and heal the sick in Jesus' commission. They are to go without support and rely on those they encounter who respond to their message. They do as they are charged and, in the verses following on from today's reading, Luke records them returning to Jesus rejoicing in what they had experienced. They had seen hints of the final Kingdom in which God establishes his justice and destroys all evil, like the picture presented in our reading from the Book of Isaiah.

These words of Luke remind us of the need to proclaim our faith. We are not all called to be evangelists, but we are all called to be witnesses, to be ambassadors for Christ, sharing our story of faith with others sensitively and appropriately. In our daily lives we can, by what we say and how we live, be true to our calling. We can be 'salt and light' in a world that can be rotten and dark. Being silent and doing nothing is not an option, if we are to be faithful disciples and if we are to experience more of God's Kingdom come among us.

Revd Ian Bird

Team Contact details

Team Rector

Revd Dr Ian Bird Tel: 01929 422916 (normal day off Friday)

Team Vicar

Revd Jo Levasier Tel 01929 208217 (normal day off Friday)

Parish Administrator

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Parish Office

Tues & Weds 9am-5pm / Friday 9am – 4pm Tel: 01929 421117

Visit our Team website swanageteam.com