Services and Meetings this week

St. Martin's, St. Kenelm's & Tresham Church: open weekdays 10 – 6pm
St. Mary's opens daily 9am –4pm.

Monday 9th March
10.00am Morning Prayer at Perry & Dawes

Tuesday 10th March

Wednesday 11th March
9.30am Holy Communion Service at St. Mary's
12.00am Funeral Service for Susan Salmon at St. Mary's
5.15pm Junior Choir Practice
7.30pm Wotton PCC Meeting at St. Mary's

Thursday 12th March
2.30pm Discussion Group with Jane Kenchington in NN (see notices)

Friday 13th March – Office Closed
12.00pm Lent Lunch at St. Mary's in aid of MAF
1.30pm Art Group at St. Mary's
6.15pm Senior Choir Practice at St. Mary's

Saturday 14th March

Sunday 15th March – 4th Sunday of Lent
9.30am Family Service at St. Martin's
9.30am Holy Communion at St. Mary's
11.15am Holy Communion at St. Kenelm's

Principal Reading (from the Lectionary)
1st Reading: Exodus 2: 1-10
2nd Reading: Corinthians 1: 3-7
Gospel: Luke 2: 33-35

Clergy:
Rev Lesley Hewish 07827 418188 / vicar@tyndalebenefice.co.uk
Rev Peter Marsh 01453 547521 / pcemarsh@gmail.com
Please do not call after 6pm
Rev Canon Jane Kenchington 07779 991 760 / janekenchington@gmail.com
(Part Time)
Revd Peter Fewings 07795 206590 / ptfewings@gmail.com

Vicar's Secretary & Benefice Administrator:
Kate Cropper Office open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10 – 12pm
office@tyndalebenefice.co.uk 01453 842175

Wotton-under-Edge with Ozleworth Churchwardens:
Mrs Kate Tutty stmaryschurchwardenwotton@gmail.com / 01453 844371
Safeguarding – Gillian Carpenter, Shelley Ratcliffe, Rachel Tooley, Lesley Hewish – 07827 418188 wottonsafeguarding@tyndalebenefice.co.uk

Director of Music:
Mr Jed Hughes 07761 748044 / directorofmusicstmarys@gmail.com

North Nibley Churchwarden:
Mr John Hay 07973 327881 admin@northnibleychurch.uk
Safeguarding officer – Rev Lesley Hewish 07827 418188 / vicar@tyndalebenefic.co.uk

Alderley (including Tresham) Churchwardens:
Mrs Kay Pettifer 07850 345978
Mrs Susan Whitfield 01666 890 338 & Safeguarding officer
www.wottonparishchurch.org.uk **St Mary's Wotton**
www.northnibleychurch.uk

Did you know – that St. Martin's produces an audio service which is available every week? The clergy (& others) take it in turns & you can listen to it here: https://northnibleychurch.uk/recorded-services/ All the services are on here, so you listen at your leisure. It's for everyone, so do spread the word.

As you are aware, Lesley dislocated her shoulder whilst on retreat in Scotland. Although she is back amongst us, she is now signed off until further notice.
If you need an urgent response to anything, please let me know in the office and I can prioritise things.
Lesley would love some visitors – but please contact her before turning up!!

Tyndale

Benefice

Wotton-under-Edge with Ozleworth
North Nibley
Alderley (including Tresham)

Sunday 8th March 2026
Third Sunday of Lent

Services

9.30am Holy Communion at St. Martin's
10.00am Family Service at St. Mary's
6.00pm Evensong at St. Mary's

Collect

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

or

Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Lord,
grant your people grace to withstand the temptations
of the world, the flesh and the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice.
Harden not your hearts.
All: Alleluia.

Principal Readings - Lectionary

1st Reading: *Exodus 17: 1-7*

1From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. 2The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?"
3But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?"
4So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."
5The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. 6I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

2nd Reading: *Romans 5: 1-11*

1Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. 3And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.
6For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. 8But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.
9Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. 10For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. 11But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Gospel: *John 4: 5-42*

5So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.
7A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." 8(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)
9The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)
10Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."
11The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? 12Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" 13Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 14but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."
15The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."
16Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."
17The woman answered him, "I have no husband."
Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, "I have no husband';
18for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"
19The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. 20Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."
21Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. 24God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."
25The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."
26Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."
27Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"
28Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 29"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" 30They left the city and were on their way to him.
31Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."
32But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."
33So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?"
34Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. 35Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. 36The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. 37For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps.' 38I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour." 39Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." 40So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. 41And many more believed because of his word. 42They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

For your prayers:

For the family and friends of:

Susan Salmon whose funeral is on Wednesday 11th March at midday at St. Mary's
Peggy Cross whose funeral is on Thurs 12th March at 3pm at Westerleigh Crematorium
Joyce Woodward Hughes whose funeral is on Tuesday 17th March at 12pm at St. Mary's
Bob Pearce whose funeral is on Monday 23rd March at 2pm at St. Mary's
Anne Rees-Simkins whose funeral is on Wed 25th March at 2pm at Westerleigh Crematorium followed by refreshments in the Orangery at Tortworth Court. All are welcome
Bruce Holman whose memorial service was on Monday 23rd February at St. Mary's
Christine Cannon whose funeral was on 5th March at St. Mary's

Prayer Chain/Ministry - There is a group of people who will pray for you. To request prayer contact Joan Deveney (01453 844370) or Pat Forster (01453 842557). The Prayer Chain operates for a fortnight, unless otherwise requested.

There is also a notebook outside the Catherine Chapel for written prayer requests too.
If you miss the names of the people being prayed for on a Sunday, please contact the office for a copy.

In March, please pray for Wotton Quakers and its congregation

***** NOTICES *****

Lent Lunches at St. Mary's *(unless otherwise stated)* from 12- 2pm
6th Mar – Following World Day of Prayer service
13th Mar – MAF
20th Mar at Wotton Baptist Church – Christian Aid
27th Mar – Read with me

North Nibley's World Day of Prayer Service will be held at Nibley Chapel, Barrs Lane at 3.45pm on Friday 6th March. The service this year has been compiled by people from Nigeria.
If anyone has any fabric or artefacts from the country for display, please bring along with you. All welcome!

Concert at St. Mary's on Saturday 7th March starting at 3pm. Tea and cake available. **Moonrakers** (Celtic harp, cello, stringed instruments, whistles, female/male vocals), pride themselves on having brought traditional and contemporary folk music to new audiences in village halls, churches, arts centres and festivals across the UK. To see and hear more, go to www.moonrakers.net

Wed 11th Mar Holy Communion – due to a funeral at 12pm, there won't be any refreshments served after the service.

Wotton Concert Series – featuring our own Jed Hughes – at St. Mary's Saturday 28th March, at 7.30pm. Tickets from ww.wottonconcertseries.co.uk

St. Mary's Experience Easter Event – 19th – 21st March. Still need some more volunteers. We are looking to get around 500 local primary school children to "Experience Easter" and are in need of the following: Story tellers; potential small acting parts; guides; welcomers; refreshments. All the churches in Wotton are being asked for assistance as this is a CTiW event. Please let Kate C know when you might be available (days or part days!) & which role you might like.
Also needed as props – plants in pots to make it look like a garden plus fabrics in browns, greens & greys to make a mound look like Golgotha

Children's Society Coffee morning at St. Mary's – Saturday 11th April – 10am – 12pm – pop it in your diaries!

Thursday 12 March 2026 2.30pm- 4pm at 7 Warren Croft, North Nibley - Discussion group for anyone to attend from across the Benefice: "Do we have rights?" - a discussion on whether we have rights, how do rights and responsibilities integrate from a Christian point of view. If you're interested, do let Jane Kenchington know- all welcome. *Jane 07779991760*

St. Mary's Easter Flowers – if you would like to financial donate to the Easter Flower fund, please put any monies in the carboy at the back of the church.

St. Mary's Palm Cross making and coffee morning – Saturday 21st March 10 – 11.30am. All welcome and training will be given!

A prayer for Iran by the Rt Revd Guli Francis-Dehqani - who herself was a refugee from Iran when she fled to the UK with her family in 1979.
Ever - loving God,
who hears us in our anguish and distress,
and longs for us to be free.
We pray for the people of Iran and the wider Middle East,
at this time of fear and uncertainty.
Be near to those who are anxious;
bring comfort to all who are suffering.
Guide those with the power to make decisions,
and lead them in the ways of wisdom, compassion and moderation:
that people of goodwill would seek harmony and reconciliation.
Join us with our Christian brothers and sisters in all places,
in praying for peace with justice,
through him who is the prince of peace,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.