



This week at St Mary's Sunday 14 October 2018

WHERE YOU START FROM

We recently had a very enjoyable and memorable week in Croatia. Friends for a while had been urging us to go. Dubrovnik, even filled as it was with crowds of tourists, was fascinating. It was the wild coastline, however, with its peninsulas and inlets and the hundreds of islands that continued to draw our collective breath.

From near where we were staying, we could see a beautiful sandy beach. As the crow flies it was not far, but to get there – a different story! Down the inlet, up the other side for a bit, then over the hill, onto some rough tracks, getting lost a couple of times, about to give up, until eventually we were on an idyllic sandy beach. We all agreed it was well worth the journey. We had plenty of time, but it emphasised the importance of being aware of how close you are from where you start.

Experiencing a close human relationship can be the same. In common with many others, there are some people who, because of things which have or have not happened, it's now hard to get close to. I think, for anything to change, it'll help if at least I recognise where I am starting from.

I expect you've noticed how many worship services aim to start us on that note. Because worship for the Christian is all about what God has given and done for us, that's our overall context. But at some early point, many of our services (via a confession) gently – well, not always – remind us where we in fact are starting from. We all find ourselves in the same boat (coach maybe, using my Croatia example.) What may have looked a short distance away from where God is turns out to be much further, and however hard we seem to try, we don't seem to be getting much closer. Christianity's glory is that the grace of Christ, amazingly, has bridged that gap for us.

Of course, it's not so much at a beach, even an idyllic one that we end, as it is rich land waiting to become a wonderful harvest, with the landowner there to greet us. Don't let's forget that it's only by remembering where we started from that we won't find the entire perspective getting skewed.

Tom Gillman

PRAYING FOR £47,000

Please join with us **in praying** that we will more than bridge the gap of the 2108 projected deficit (see TWASM 30/9/18.) If you feel you would like to be part of the answer to these prayers by either by making a **one off donation**, or by setting up or increasing a **Standing Order** to St Mary's, this would be very much appreciated. Forms including a Gift Aid facility now available.

CONFIRMATION Sunday 18 November at St Mary's

Please let Tom know by 19 October if you think this might be the right time for you.

Verdi: REQUIEM Saturday 10 November 7.30pm here at St Mary's

This promises to be a stunning performance by The Choir of St Mary's and Orchestra of the Restoration, directed by John Keys. Please see the posters. Tickets £15 (£13 con) Unreserved from Nottm Tourism Centre 08444 775 678 or Windblowers 0115 941 0543

Simon Manby LOVE Matters Sculpture in bronze

Please visit this amazing exhibition of twenty sculptures in the beautiful south transept of the church, until 22 October. Open daily – see poster or website.

Lighting up St Mary's during Baby Loss Awareness Week 2018

A number of landmark buildings throughout Nottingham will be lit 'Pink & Blue' on 15 October and we are delighted that St Mary's is to be one of these. BLAW2018 is an initiative of Forever Stars www.foreverstars.org during 9–15 October to make the conversation about baby loss easier for people. Throughout the week there will be a number of fundraising and awareness raising activities as part of their #TalkAboutThem campaign.

Nottingham Peacebuilders FANFARE FOR HOPE 27 Oct 7.30 St Mary's

Powerful images set to glorious music play on the stones around you. Stories in poetry, memory and song. A vision of war and a dream of peace. Tickets Evenbright.co.uk, Nottm Tourism Centre, Maggies Nottm. £10 full, £7 under 16s

Threads Through Revelation has been touring cathedrals during the last three and a half years and its final destination is Southwell! This amazing 14 panel exhibition by Jaqui Parkinson is probably the largest work of textile art by a single artist in the world. An estimated 700,000 people have been to view it, provoking discussion and interest in the most challenging book of the New Testament. It will be in the Quire of the Minster from 16 October to 30 November. Please tell your friends and come see!

Winter Shelter

Emmanuel House Manager, Viv Dickinson, reported that the Winter Shelter is now open and they are in need of volunteers to help run a safe and smooth experience for each and every individual who requires shelter this winter. There are different types of volunteer roles (preparing simple meals, checking-in guests, help set-up/take-down) which can be found on their website at www.emmanuelhouse.org.uk/volunteer-at-the-winter-shelter or 0115 950 7140

Nottingham Workplace Chaplaincy INSIGHT meeting Wed 17 Oct What Triggers Homelessness?

The Friary's chief executive, Sam Crawford, will give us an *INSIGHT* into 'Why are the homeless homeless?', 'Who are they?' and 'Why people sleeping on the streets?'. We will also hear what is being done. Our host is ACAS East Midlands in the Dean Room at Apex Court, City Link NG2 4LA. **12.30pm – 2.00pm** - Buffet lunch is provided, please email: lensimmonds@aol.com to confirm your attendance.

An Evening of Music (popular songs from opera and music from around the world) 3 November 5pm All Saints Church Nottingham NG7 4DP

Fundraising concert for Women of Faith Nottingham (people seeking sanctuary from persecution). Featuring Il Canto - Martin Vindelís (Tenor) and Cathryn Vindelís (Messo Soprano) with the Women of Faith Nottingham. Admission and refreshments free. More details: Courtney Smith 07530 194394; Salani Mutseyami 07448 730581; Dianne Skerritt 07889 782640.

SETTING GOD'S PEOPLE FREE for MONDAY TO SATURDAY – Sat 17 November A conference for the laity at The Minster School, Southwell 9.30am-4pm. Key note speaker: **Alison Coulter** - Winchester Diocese Chair of Laity, General Synod Member and Co-author of the report, Setting God's People Free.

This Week's Services

Sunday 10.45am Sung Eucharist

Sunday 6.30pm Choral Evensong

Wednesday 8.30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 6.15pm Choral Evensong

Thursday 1.15pm Holy Communion

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Please continue to pray for

Estelle Barks

Debbie Butler

Daniel Hanson

Pauline Miller

Harry Palmer

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