



This week at St Mary's

Sunday 31 March 2019

WE PRAYED FOR £47,000

At the end of September, I asked if you would join me in praying for £47,000. The reason was that we were projecting a 2018 deficit for St Mary's of £37,000. Rather than just breaking even, I felt we should aim for a £10,000 surplus.

I am delighted to say that God has indeed answered our prayers. Our Accounts have been prepared and they show a SURPLUS of £18,894, if restricted funds are included, £7,390 if they are not. It goes without saying this is really good news and indeed an occasion for thanksgiving to God. I almost feel like suggesting we should spend the surplus on a party!

Let me go a bit into the detail. Jean our Treasurer had worked hard to get the 'best estimate' of the figures. They were rounded off of the nearest thousand. So how did a £37,000 deficit become a surplus?

First, an additional £10,000 was donated, for which huge thanks. Also, income from our portfolio of investments turned out to be more than had been projected. Finally, income from other things, which included external events was higher than anticipated. There were also a couple of areas of expenditure, redecorating the vestry and the gas bill, which in the event it turned out did not fall to be paid in 2018.

As I say, this is an occasion for thanksgiving to God. Prayer for this sort of thing benefits from being specific, isn't it faith building to see how things have turned out? All prayer stems from our confidence and trust in God – it's as though He knew the bigger picture (He did!) Our part is to give, as generously as we can – and I repeat my thanks to those who contributed to the £47,000 request.

I feel humbled by it all. It's as though God has smiled on us, noticing and remembering us, to encourage us to trust Him more and more. It's almost as though He is saying, 'You trusted me on a simple thing like this. Keep going now and push back new limits as you continue to trust me.'

Tom Gillman

NEW ELECTORAL ROLL

The new Electoral Roll is now complete and on display on the table by the South Porch. This can now be checked for accuracy and corrections can be made, but no names may be added or deleted at this stage. If there are any anomalies, please let Lorna know at l.richardson@live.co.uk.

ANNUAL MEETING - Sunday 7th April at 12.30pm in church.

The Annual **Vestry** Meeting for the election of churchwardens and the Annual **Parochial Church Council** Meeting to receive a report of the activities of the parish together with the Accounts and to elect PCC Members. Nomination Forms for both Wardens and PCC Members at back of church by South Porch Door. Only those on the Electoral Roll can stand for election. Please note that copies of the Annual Report, Financial Statement, APCM Agenda and Minutes of the Special Vestry Meeting 2018 are all available on the South entrance table. Please contact the office if further copies are required.

WORKPLACE CHAPLAINCY *INSIGHT* MEETING WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL 2019

You are welcome to join us at the next meeting at 12-1.30pm. This is your chance to get an *INSIGHT* into **ACAS East Midlands** – an organisation that helps to build thriving workplaces and working lives. It also shapes and informs policy thinking and practice on employment issues in the workplace so that businesses can succeed. The meeting is in the **ACAS offices (the Dean Room) in Apex Court, City Link NG2 4LA on the BBC Island, London Road**. A buffet lunch is provided. To help with the catering arrangements please email lensimmonds@aol.com to confirm your attendance.

LENT TALKS AT ST PETER'S

These will focus on the relationship between prayer and various areas of life more generally. They will continue on 4 April (Rev'd James Saxton, Prayer and Mental Health) and concluding on 11 April (Rev'd Jenny Jones, Prayer and Inclusiveness). Light refreshments available from 12.30 and the talks beginning at 1.00 pm, followed by discussion and ending by 2.00 pm. All are welcome to attend and entrance is free.

MICHAEL LAKIN DECEASED

There will be a funeral service here at St Mary's on Thursday 4 April at 10.30am, followed by a family only cremation at Wilford Hill at 11.40am. Michael's ashes will be interred at St Mary's at a later date.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

Sometimes called 'the Tridium', seen as one continuous act of worship. The **7.30 Maundy Thursday** Service will include the dramatic stripping of the Altar and then lead into a silent vigil. The **Good Friday evening Meditation** promises to be a powerful combination of music and reflection on the Words spoken by Jesus on the Cross. We are including **two additional Services** this year, the **Noon - 3.00pm Good Friday Time for Reflection**, ie the time Jesus was on the Cross (divided into half hour sections, each to include reading of part of the crucifixion story, focus for reflection, a hymn, prayer, silence) and **Dawn Vigil** on Easter morning, we'll start at 5.00am with the traditional readings and then as dawn breaks, light the Pascal Candle and celebrate the resurrection with an informal communion and much rejoicing, then coffee and pastries (There can be NO better start to Easter Day.)

Palm Sunday 14 April	10.45am 6.30pm	Sung Eucharist Evensong
Wednesday 17 April		Please note no Wednesday Evensong
Maundy Thursday 18 April	1.15pm 7.30pm	Holy Communion Last Supper Communion Service with prayer vigil following
Good Friday 19 April	12-3pm 7pm	Reflections during the three hours at the Cross Meditation – MacMillan’s The Seven Last Words by the Choir of St Mary’s and The Orchestra of the Restoration
Holy Saturday 20 April	7pm	Easter Eve Confirmation Service
Easter Day 21 April	5am 10.45am 6.30pm	Dawn Vigil Sung Eucharist Evensong

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**Please continue to pray for**

Estelle Barks

Debbie Butler

Daniel Hanson

Pauline Miller

Harry Palmer

Rick Savage

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**A very warm welcome to all our regular worshippers
and those visiting St Mary's this week**

This Week's Services

Sunday 10.45am Sung Eucharist

Sunday 6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 6.15pm Choral Evensong

Thursday 1.15pm Holy Communion



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