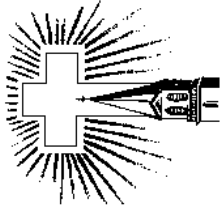


SERVICES TODAY, Sunday 8th February 2009, 3rd before Lent

Highworth 8.00am Holy Communion BCP, Geoff Sowden
 10.00am Parish Communion, Geoff Sowden/ Arthur Woo
 3.00pm ATC Parade, Arthur Woo/Rev John Darling
 6.00pm Informal Worship, Arthur Woo
 Hannington 10.30am *** SERVICE CANCELLED ***
 Blunsdon 8.00am Holy Communion BCP, Rev Dr Richard Armitage
 10.00am Family Worship, Jane Ockwell
 6.30pm Evensong, John Rees/Hilary Fortnam
 Grove Hill Evening Service, Helen Weaver

SERVICES NEXT WEEK, Sunday 15th February 2009, 2nd before Lent

Highworth 8.00am Holy Communion CW, Geoff Sowden
 10.00am Morning Worship, Charles Kirke/Lesley Page
 Sevenhampton 6.00pm Shared Choral Evensong, Rob Stewart
 Hannington 10.30am Matins, John Godfree
 Blunsdon 10.00am Family Communion, Geoff Sowden/Hilary Fortnam
 Newburgh Evening Service, Geoff Sowden



ANNUAL INCOME SURVEY

This is today and next Sunday. This survey will be used to calculate our apportionment of Diocesan costs and so it is very important that everyone who is a regular worshipper at St Michael's completes a form to ensure that we are charged a fair allocation. Please note that **couples complete separate forms as two individuals**. Individuals record their personal income, not their household or spouse's, and it is important that you complete a form even if you have no personal income, are on a pension, or are under 16 years of age. Confidentiality is assured, the returns are **completely anonymous**. So PLEASE complete a form.

Rosie and Mike, Churchwardens

YOFs

HELP! Could you help Nicky Leonard with our young people once a month or even every other month on a Friday? (Day may change to mid wk at some point) No planning needed but Nicky needs an extra body so this can continue to run. No experience needed just a love of children and young people. If you can help speak with Rache or speak directly to Nicky

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Mon 9 th	9.00am Watercolour group, church room, till 3.00pm 9.30am Prayers in the chancel - all are welcome 10.00am Ministry Team meeting, Church Office 10.00am Monday daytime fellowship (venue? contact Bella)
Tue 10 th	9.30am Pilates in the Church Room 10.00am Tuesday Daytime Fellowship, 34 Eastrop (Lynn) 1.00pm Funeral of Eileen Brewer, St Leonard's Blunsdon 1.00pm Westrop school in church with Arthur Woo
Wed 11 th	9.00am Deadline for Parish News for March edition 9.30am Music Bugs, Church Room 9.30am Little Fishes, Cullerne room and chancel 7.00pm Pilates in the Church Room 7.15pm Network course in church 7.45pm ICC at the URC
Thu 12 th	10.00am Holy Communion, Warneford Chapel in church 11.00am One Only in the Church Room 7.30pm Alpha in Church Room 7.30pm Bellringing practice, Bell Tower
Fri 13 th	7.00pm Choir Practice
Sat 14 th	10.00am Coffee Morning and bulletin folding, Church Room 2.00pm Church Room booked for private hire till 5.00pm 6.00pm Church Room booked for private hire till 11.00pm

ADRIAN PLASS EVENING

The Saltmine Theatre Company present 'Looking Good Being Bad' with Adrian Plass on Friday v27th February at 7.30pm at Christ Church, Swindon. Comedy, theatre and churchmanship – all in one hilarious and thought-provoking evening! Tickets £8 (concessions and groups over 10 £7) from 01384 454808 or www.saltmine.org

PARISH NEWS

The deadline for the March edition of the Parish News is this Wednesday 11th February. It's quite early as February is such a short month! So please get your information to Kathleen Spencer either by email to parishnewshighworth@yahoo.com, by hand to 1 The Paddock, or by phone

YOUTH ALPHA

Let Rache or one of the youth team know asap if you/another young person wants to do this in Feb. Don't forget that it's the open night at Bellas (the youth office) TUESDAY 10th FEB from 7pm ages yr 7 up. Parents welcome. Pizza provided! Come and see what it is all about. Tell your friends.

The Youth Team

CHRISTIAN AID/FAIRTRADE EVENING

On Monday 2nd March, 7.00pm to 9.30pm at Toothill Church, Dunwich Drive, West Swindon, SN5 8SX - Come along and enjoy some Fairtrade drinks and food followed by a screening of the award winning, eye opening exposé "Black Gold" - a film about coffee and trade. All welcome, admission is free, but donations are welcome.

Would you like to know how to cope with teenagers?

If so, you should get to one of these events:

Oxford: Thursday 5th March 7.30-10pm Town Hall, St. Aldate's, Oxford, OX1 1BX

Bristol: Tuesday, 17th March 7.30-10pm Colston Hall, Colston St, Bristol, BS1 5AR

Rob Parsons, of Care for the Family, will be speaking on this topic and referring to his book "Teenagers! What every parent has to know" (a brilliant book!) (The book will be on sale at these events for half-price).

We could go as a group from Highworth if enough people are interested and we get a discounted rate. Please contact **Phyllis Reid** at The Bridge, if you are interested. Telephone 01793 765060 or email: Phyllis@highworthcc.co.uk
Further details are available on www.careforthefamily.org.uk/teenagers.

PRAYING FOR THE BENEFICE

This week we pray particularly for those living in

The Archers, Arran Way, Barra Close,
Beech Grove, Biddell Springs,
and for all who work on the
Blackworth Industrial Estate

PRAYER

Guide us, Lord, in all our doings
with your gracious favour,
and further us with your continual help;
that in all our works,
begun, continued and ended in you,
we may glorify your holy name,
and by your mercy attain everlasting
life;

through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen

BCP & T

The next BCP&T service will be on Sunday
1st March at 3.00pm - please make a note in
your diary - there will be more details to
follow.

Esmé Buller

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

...all those who are sick or troubled,
praying especially for Yvonne Beck, Lorna
Bowie, Bob Bromberg, Leonard Cheesley, Val
Cox, Andrew Crowley, Lesley Evans, Arthur
Francis, Kim Fulgoni, Peter Gibbs, Syd
Huband, Timothy James, Julia Riggs, Mick
Sellar, Betty Taber

...all those who are recently bereaved,
praying especially for those who love and
miss Pat Bennett, Eileen Brewer, Mervyn
Hancock, Lesley Hibbert

Parish of Highworth, with Sevenhampton & Inglesham - who to contact

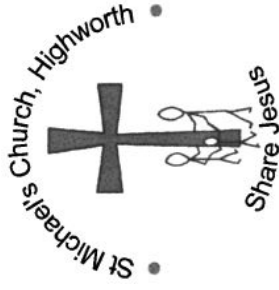
All Ministry Enquiries - Rev Geoff Sowden (day off Friday) telephone 01793-765554

Church Office (Administration/General Enquiries) - tel 01793-762702 or

email to stmichaelshighworth@offices.orangehome.co.uk

Youth Ministry Enquiries - telephone 07983-507349 (day off Saturday)

www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk



Week beginning Sunday 8th February 2009

1 CORINTHIANS 9:16-23, MARK 1:29-39

In 1 Corinthians Paul speaks very personally of his difficult relationship with the Corinthians. The heart of the matter appears to have been his authority as an apostle and the support the Christian community in Corinth gave him. Paul says that his only purpose was to proclaim the gospel so that as many as possible might come to know Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord - and Paul takes time to understand those to whom he is talking so as to maximise the effectiveness of his preaching.

In our Mark reading we hear how healing the sick and disabled had an important place in Jesus' early ministry in Galilee. It did not seem to matter who needed his help. He cared for every one of whose need he became aware. He did not perform these miracles for any reason other than to proclaim the reign of God's love in human affairs. To maintain this as the one goal of his ministry, he needed to be in constant fellowship with God through prayer.

At this point Jesus' ministry was a very public one - there were many patients healed in this passage, beginning with Simon Peter's mother-in-law - and yet the latter part of this reading shows us how Jesus also needed to find some time to be in solitary communion with his Father.

So, in the busy-ness of our daily lives - whether we are at work, dashing off on the school and activities run, helping our snow-bound neighbours - we too need to make time for God. If we take time to talk with Him we will be better prepared for the work given to us by our Lord. Then, in all we do, we will be better able to proclaim the love of God.

Lesley Uzzell

Our readings today are

1 Corinthians 9:16-23 (pew bible p1150) Mark 1:29-39 (pew bible p1003)

Please join us for refreshments after the 10am service today

If you prefer not to take alcohol, alcohol-free wine is available at our communion services - please take a pink card from a steward and ensure it is visible as you come for communion