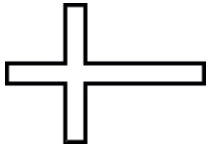


**SERVICES TODAY, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2009, Easter Sunday**

Highworth 8.00am Holy Communion BCP, Geoff Sowden  
 10.00am Family Communion CW, Geoff Sowden  
 6.00pm Informal Worship, Arthur Woo/Phil Bradley  
 Sevenhampton 6.00pm Holy Communion BCP, Geoff Sowden  
 Hannington 10.30am Holy Communion, Arthur Woo  
 Blunsdon 8.00am Holy Communion BCP, John Rees  
 10.00am Family Communion, John Rees  
 Grove Hill 7.30pm Evening Service, Hilary Fortnam



**SERVICES NEXT WEEK, Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2009, Easter 2**

Highworth 8.00am Holy Communion CW, David Day  
 10.00am Morning Worship and thanksgiving, Arthur Woo  
 Sevenhampton 6.00pm Shared Choral Evensong, Arthur Woo  
 Hannington 10.30am Matins BCP, John Godfree  
 Blunsdon 10.00am Family Communion, John Rees/Katherine Dack  
 Newburgh 7.30pm Evening Worship, Jean Ashton



**HOLIDAY CLUB 2009**

This year's Holiday Club dates are 17-21 August.

The theme will be 'Landlubbers' - pirates searching for hidden treasure on a desert island who eventually discover the greatest treasure of all - knowing Jesus.

The Club will run 10am-12.30pm each day. If you are able to be involved please contact **Lesley Uzzell** (765050). We have need of group leaders, group helpers, crèche helpers, registration, refreshments, craft helpers, teenage helpers and a team of folk to pray. This year both infants and juniors will be together in the Methodist church, so everyone will be working closely together.

Also, as we start to plan craft etc, please can you collect your empty Pringles tubes, shoeboxes and Transparent Plastic Dishes (the type "nice" mousses or individual trifles come in). Naomi Ray-Mathur, this year's coordinator and leader, will let us know where to bring them shortly.

It is hoped to run termly follow-up sessions to the Holiday Club theme during the school holidays from October onwards, this is a new idea and we would value prayer as we look at planning this too.

**WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK**

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Monday daytime fellowship (venue? contact Bella 762010)  
 Tue 14<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Pilates in the Church Room  
 Wed 15<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Holy Communion at St Leonard's Blunsdon  
 7.00pm Pilates in the Church Room  
 8.00pm Wednesday Fellowship, 26 Priory Green (Wendy 861122)  
 Thu 16<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Bellingring practice, Bell Tower  
 Fri 17<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm Choir Practice  
 Sat 18<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Coffee Morning and bulletin folding, Church Room

**APCM IN CHURCH**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm**

**Our Vision and Change  
 Speakers: Bishop Lee and Geoff**

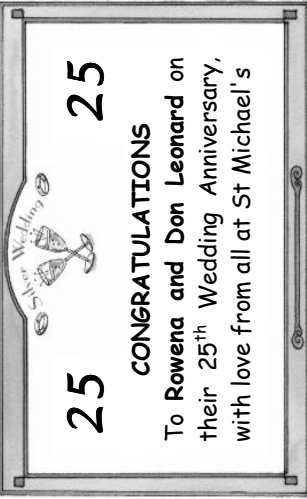
**Please come**



**CONGRATULATIONS** to Hilary and Alf Fortnam on the arrival of their grandson Jack Henry, son to Simon and Linda, with love from St Michael's church family.

**ELECTORAL ROLL**

The Electoral Roll has now been updated for 2009, and the new Roll is on display on the oak chest. Please check the Roll and ensure that your entry is correct. The Electoral Roll is now closed until the APCM on 27<sup>th</sup> April, when applications can again be made. If you have any queries on the Electoral Roll please contact the Electoral Roll Officer, **Lesley Uzzell**, on 765050.



**THANK YOU**

Hazel and Mike Langford would like to express their grateful thanks to all our friends in the church family for their prayers, best wishes, and cards to celebrate our Ruby Wedding anniversary last Sunday, which were very much appreciated. It was a great pleasure to be able to share this happy occasion with you all.

**Hazel and Mike**

### ANOTHER ANNIVERSARY

This year I celebrate my own personal Golden Anniversary, and as part of my 'celebration' I will be taking a driving challenge next month in aid of The FireFighter's Charity, which helps to look after firefighters injured in the course of their work and families of firefighters who lose their lives in the course of their work. I would be very pleased if anyone feels able to sponsor me for the driving challenge, and help raise funds for this charity. I have a sponsor form with me - thank you.

**Lesley Uzzell**

### SOME EVENTS AT HMC

Advance notice for some events at the Methodist Church:

**2<sup>nd</sup> May 7.30pm** speaker Stuart Burgess on 'The Origin of Beauty' - evidence for biblical creation

**16<sup>th</sup> May 8.30am** Men's Breakfast - speaker Gerard Chrispin, former General Director of Daylight Christian Prison Trust and Christian Writer

**16<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm** speaker Gerard Chrispin on 'How Can God Allow Suffering'

### PRAYING FOR THE BENEFICE

This week we pray for those who live in

The Mews, Middi Haines Court, Newburgh House, Newburgh Place, North View, and for all who attend, work or help at Northview School at this time of uncertainty

### PRAYER

Blessed be the risen Lord;  
He has broken from the tomb and opens for us the gate to life eternal.  
Blessed be the risen Lord;  
He comes to his disciples - where two or three gather together he is there.  
Blessed be the risen Lord;  
He comes from the dead with life,  
He brings us light and joy and hope.  
Blessed be the risen Lord!

**Amen**

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

*...all those who are sick or troubled,*  
praying especially for  
Frank Barnett, Lorna Bowie, Bob Bromberg,  
Leonard Cheesley, Val Cox, Andrew Crowley,  
Lesley Evans, Kim Fulgoni, Joan Furlonger,  
Peter Gibbs, Syd Huband, Timothy James,  
Keith Lodwick, Carole Richmond, Julia Riggs,  
Mick Sellar, Betty Taber

*...all those who are recently bereaved,*  
praying especially for those who love and miss Tony Wothers

### 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](mailto:stmichaelshighworth@offices.orangehome.co.uk)  
Youth Ministry Enquiries - telephone 07983-507349 (day off Saturday)  
[www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk](http://www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk)



**He is Risen!**

**Week beginning Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

**New life held out in the resurrection**

What must it have been like for Mary that first Easter? Bereaved of the one she loved, feeling betrayed with hopes built up by Jesus seemingly not fulfilled and fearful. What has happened to the man who had promised so much and in whom she had placed so much faith? One word changed her whole world, 'Mary'. Instantly she recognised the voice, and is able to go to the disciples with the news that she has 'seen the Lord'.

For Mary, right then in the midst of all her confusion and despair, is the life transforming appearance of Jesus. Jesus was there for her, and instantly meets her fear, betrayal and bereavement, after those three agonising days, she is not disappointed.

One of the privileges of being in public ministry is hearing those personal stories of how Jesus has met us individually, 'I have seen the Lord'. Sometimes it is through other people, how wonderful friends and family have been. Sometimes Jesus meets us through circumstances. For some people, I hear stories of Jesus meeting them in a very personal manner, they feel he was with them in the hospital, or they wake up and feel he had been there with them through the night.

Personal stories are very powerful, they cannot be argued with, they are able to sustain us in times of doubt and difficulty. The resurrection is personal, and unique for each of us, Jesus is there for each of us, he meets our fear, betrayal and loneliness, he calls us by name.

New life does shine through, Jesus did not disappoint Mary, and I hope and pray that too is your testimony.

**Geoff Sowden**

### Our readings today are

Acts 10: 34-43 (pew bible p1104)

John 20: 1-18 (pew bible p1089)

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