

## Worship this Month in our churches:

| Date:    | Sunday Services St Paul's, Tadley                                     |
|----------|---|
| Sun 2nd  | 9am Holy Communion (Steve)<br>10.15am Café Worship (Steve)            |
| Wed 5th  | 7pm Benefice Ash Wednesday Service (Steve)                            |
| Sun 9th  | 10am Messy Church (Steve & Messy Church team)                         |
| Sun 16th | 9am Holy Communion (Rob)<br>10.15am Morning Worship (Myles and Sally) |
| Sun 23rd | 9am Holy Communion (Steve)<br>10.15am Holy Communion (Steve)          |
| Sun 30th | 10.15am Benefice service with Bishop Philip, Steve, Karen, Chris      |

| Date:    | Wednesday Services St Luke's                         |
|----------|--|
| Wed 5th  | 10am Ash Wednesday Midweek Holy Communion (Cathy)    |
| Wed 12th | 10am Midweek Holy Communion (Linda)                  |
| Wed 19th | 10am Midweek Holy Communion (Cathy and Linda)        |
| Wed 26th | 10am Midweek Holy Communion (Cathy, Linda and Myles) |

| Date:    | Sunday and Wednesday St. Marys, Tadley                                      |
|----------|---|
| Sun 2nd  | 10.30am Morning Worship (Chris)   |
| Wed 5th  | 10am Ash Wednesday Midweek Holy Communion (Chris)                           |
| Sun 9th  | 10.30am Holy Communion (Cathy and Charles)                                  |
| Wed 12th | 10am Midweek Holy Communion (Rob and Charles)                               |
| Sun 16th | 9am RISE (Chris, Steve and the RISE Team)<br>10.30am Holy Communion (Steve) |
| Wed 19th | 10am Midweek Holy Communion (Steve)   |
| Sun 23rd | 10.30am Holy Communion (Karen and Charles)                                  |
| Wed 26th | 10am Midweek Holy Communion – the Annunciation (Chris)                      |

| Date:    | Sunday Services St Mary the Virgin, Silchester                      |
|----------|---|
| Sun 2nd  | 8am BCP Holy Communion (Karen)<br>10am First Sunday Service (Karen) |
| Sun 9th  | 10am Holy Communion (Karen)<br>3pm Stillness on Sunday (Eve)        |
| Sun 16th | 10am Morning Prayer (Colin and Eve)                                 |
| Sun 23rd | 10am Holy Communion (Cathy)   |

Please keep this sheet for reference and check for updates via email.

Like our Facebook pages: **@St.Marys.Tadley** | **@stpaulstadley** | **@silchesterchurch** or go to our websites:

<https://st-marys-church-tadley.org.uk/>  
<https://www.stpaulstadley.org.uk/>  
<https://www.silchesterchurch.co.uk/>



### March Newsletter

#### Our Clergy, LLMs and Administrator

|                         |  |              |
|-------------------------|--|--------------|
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| Virge Routledge (admin) | <a href="mailto:enquiries@stpaulstadley.org.uk">enquiries@stpaulstadley.org.uk</a> |              |

March is characterised by Lent – the 40 days from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday and Easter. Lent is a shortened form of the Old English word 'lencten', meaning "spring season". For centuries it has been observed as a period of spiritual renewal, sometimes characterised by fasting or doing something to deepen our engagement with God.

Lent doesn't have to be exhausting but it must be intentional. Too often we vow to give up something trivial and our lives become miserable without things like chocolate and wine, and we see little spiritual growth. Then at the end of it we pat ourselves on the back for being miserable or berate ourselves for only lasting a week and it's got us nowhere!

I commend to you this year the practice of taking something on, rather than giving something up! Read a chapter of your bible each day. Resolve to read a good Christian book by Easter. Volunteer for one of our church rotas – we always need readers, intercessors, cleaners, servers, musicians, gardeners. Visit those in need or try to pray every morning and evening for someone you know. Why not join one of the Lent groups which start this month...more details inside this newsletter. I guarantee the practice of putting aside time in order to grow your faith will bring you closer to Christ than any amount of chocolate you give up!

*'We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.'* Psalm 33: 20 – 21

### Lent courses:

Everyone in our church family is invited to these groups. Please note, the Tuesday and Thursday sessions are the same:

**Every Thursday, 10am to 11am at Silchester Methodist Church from 6<sup>th</sup> March to 10<sup>th</sup> April**

**Every Tuesday, 7pm to 8pm at Silchester Sports Pavillion from 11<sup>th</sup> March to 15<sup>th</sup> April**

### Coming up...

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March, 10am – Tadley with Pamber Heath Ministry Team** meet in The Rectory.

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – First Sunday Services.** These take place across the churches and offer a chance to experience something a bit different. Café Worship takes place as usual at St. Paul's. Join us from 9.40am for breakfast followed by the service at 10.15am.

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 3pm to 5pm – Youth Group in St. Paul's Hall.** This session is specially for school years 5 to 13. Come along for games, chats, films, & pizza!

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm – Ash Wednesday Benefice service at St. Paul's.** This service is in addition to our two morning midweek services, all of which provide an opportunity to come together to mark the start of lent with the imposition of ashes.

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2pm – World Day of Prayer at the URC. Everyone is welcome.** This year we pray for the Cook Islands. There will be a practice for this at the URC at 2pm on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 10am – Messy Church at St. Paul's.** As always there will be crafts, stories, and lots of breakfast, and this month we celebrate a baptism. Why not come along and see why over 100 people join us each month.

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March, 10.30am to midday – St. Paul's Monthly Get-Together.** Everyone is welcome and why not bring a friend or neighbour along for fellowship, food, and friendship. If you would like to help with the event, please speak to Esther Redpath or Steve.

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March, from 9am – RISE family breakfast at St. Mary's.** Come with your family and enjoy a cooked breakfast, crafts, challenges, and stories as we gather for RISE. Everyone welcome.

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm for 7.30pm start – CTAT Forum at the Salvation Army, Mulfords Hill.**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March, from 7.30am – come and enjoy breakfast at St. Mary's Church, Tadley.** Why not pop in on the way to work or school and enjoy one of St. Mary's famous cooked breakfasts as we raise funds for charity. Everyone is welcome.

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 11.30am – Wedding Planning event, St. Mary the Virgin, Silchester.** A special event for any couples looking to get married in any of our churches over the next two years.

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 11.15am – Tadley North PCC Meeting at St. Mary's.**

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 10.30am to midday – An 'extra' Saturday St. Paul's Get together.** Come along for coffee, cake, and friendship, especially those who work and normally can't join us for our Monday Get-togethers. We'll be making posies for Mother's Day, so **all donations of flowers or greenery welcome.**

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March, 10.15am – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Mother's Day Benefice Service with Bishop Philip.** Come and spend some time with our diocesan bishop. Join together from:

**9:30am – breakfast in St. Paul's.** A time to meet and chat with the bishop and each other

**10:15am – Bishop Philip leads our Mothering Sunday benefice service** with Holy Communion and confirmation.

This is Bishop Philip's first visit to Tadley. He will help us celebrate our mothers and all that is good about our families and being children of God as we share worship together and confirm some of our own church family.

**Confirmation.** If you were baptized as a child, you may not remember it. Confirmation is open to all ages who feel they would like to celebrate their faith. Please do speak with one of the clergy team if this interests you.

We will be holding two confirmation get-togethers on:

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in The Rectory**

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March for breakfast at 9.30am in St. Paul's**

**Electoral Roll** – Every few years the electoral roll is wiped clean and started afresh. This year we begin this process. **Even if you are on the electoral roll, you will need to reapply.** Being on the electoral roll means you have a say in how our churches are run and you are able to elect trustees. Even if you don't live in the parish or don't come to church regularly you can still join. Even if you come once a month, please join. If you contribute time, money or care to any of our parishes, please do join. If you feel attached in any way to our churches, please join. If you are not sure, do speak to one of the clergy team. Forms and return boxes will be in each church. We will also send the forms out by email this month.

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June – Fete on The Green.** This event seems to grow year on year, and we are beginning planning for the next event which will be on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June. If you would be willing to help plan this event, please speak to Steve. If you would like a stall or know someone that would like a stall, please contact Virge at [enquiries@stpaulstadley.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@stpaulstadley.org.uk)