

*January Wolf Moon*



## South Cotswold Team Ministry Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January

### Clergy

Vicar: Rev'd Caroline Symcox– 01285 712467

carolinesymcox@googlemail.com

Curate: Rev'd Vicky Falvey – 07356 23424

revvickyfalvey@gmail.com

### SERVICES

#### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

8.00 am BCP Holy Communion

10.00 am Common Worship Holy Communion

Sidespeople: Eleanor Toby and Jenny Hewes

Readings: Sally Salter

Intercessions: Alison Godsall

Offertory: Jane Easton

Prayer Rota: Michelle Harris and Sheila Hughes

*Coffee: Linda and Peter Howlett*

#### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

8.00 am BCP Holy Communion

10.00 am Family Service

6.00 Healing Service with Holy Communion

*Coffee: Christine and Stewart Benzie*

**From Rev'd Caroline – Email [carolinesymcox@googlemail.com](mailto:carolinesymcox@googlemail.com)**

Readings for Sunday: Isaiah 49.1-7; 1 Corinthians 1.1-9; John 1.29-42

Through these last couple of years it has felt that the world is headed in a strange and troubling direction. We see nations and groups turning to force and violence in a way that we have not seen for many decades, and a pervading sense of division, cynicism and selfishness; these dark trends running like fault lines through our communities. It is hard to know where blame might be placed, if it can indeed be placed at all. New technologies and means of communicating and miscommunicating offer new ways for such darkness to be spread and amplified, but they are just tools. No, it seems more right to look deeper and further back, and to recognise that these divisions and evils are part and parcel of humanity's darker side. This darkness is rooted much deeper than we might like to admit.

In this season of Epiphany, our major theme is 'seeing'. Both our capacity to see the wonderful truth of who Jesus is, and what he has come to do; and also the acts of God that allow us the opportunity to see – his revealing his plan and his Son to us. In this season we celebrate the fact that God has opened himself fully to us, showing us absolutely everything we could need in the person of Jesus Christ. In Jesus we see the Father – in his actions, his words, his presence, his gracious love for those he meets.

The present darkness in the world stems from the evil desire for personal power. We see people framing themselves as the only ones to listen to, emphasising the force they wield, making themselves seem big and threatening and important. In Jesus we are reminded of how fake an image of power this is. True power belongs to our Lord, who comes not with threats and bluster, but with a truth and a presence that lights up the world, even in its quietness. Jesus comes to us not to oppress or control, but to be given "as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth".

The truth and power of God is revealed to us – now it is our task to attend to that revelation, to see, to understand, and to follow, just like those first disciples. And in this, may the glory of our Lord blot out the darkness of this present time and set ourselves once again on his path of light. Amen.

*Rev'd Caroline*

Join us for Morning Prayer via Zoom on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday at 9am every week. Click below for the week starting 12<sup>th</sup> January.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86481058661?pwd=FeGshzpoy7X6jtffnRmVBJbIFLQ4mC.1>

Meeting ID: 864 8105 8661

Passcode: 548975

**From Heather** - [fairfordpcc@gmail.com](mailto:fairfordpcc@gmail.com) or [heathergorton31@gmail.com](mailto:heathergorton31@gmail.com) Office: 01285 712611 or home 01285 712428

My office hours are 10.00 to 1.00 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. I am also continuing to work from home so you can contact me at either the office or home. The office is closed on Mondays and Michelle will be in on Fridays from 10.00 to 12.00.

If you are sending in your articles, photos etc. for the bumper copy at the end of the month I will need them by 12 noon on the last Wednesday of the month. For the weekly newsletter I would still like articles in by Wednesday midday.

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**Please remember the following in your prayers:**

**Those who are ill:** Grace Slack, Hannah, David and Glynnis Langley

**Those who have died:** Geoffrey Hawkes, Bob Skinner, Joan Hall, Mark Vaughan

### **Geoffrey Hawkes 1940-2025**

We are saddened to hear about the passing of Geoff Hawkes.

Geoff passed away peacefully, in Kendal, Cumbria. He leaves behind Frances, Philip and Simon.

Many of you will have known Geoff, across the 46 years he lived in Fairford. He was very active in Friends of Fairford Church, particularly around the restoration of the windows. He was a familiar face in the church itself, hosting tours and singing in the choir.

A memorial service will be held at 2.30pm in Fairford Church on February 7<sup>th</sup>, and everyone is warmly invited to celebrate Geoff's life and join in remembering him in love.

## **PRAYER AND WORSHIP**

### **Community Prayers**

All are welcome to come and pray together for the world, the nation and our community along with any prayer requests that are placed in our prayer box in the Lady Chapel. We meet every Monday at 5pm for 30 minutes in the Chancel. Please use the north door.

*(Please also note we do not always meet on Bank Holidays, please check notices above for clarification)*

For further details contact Rev'd Canon Denise Hyde [denisehyde15@gmail.com](mailto:denisehyde15@gmail.com)

### **Prayer/Thought for the Week**

Jesus said, "Whenever you offer your gift at the altar and you remember that someone has something against you, leave your gift and go and make peace first." It's still the best advice for reconciliation.

Lord God, we thank you for the message of peace that Christmas brings to our distracted world, give peace among nations, peace in our land, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts, as we remember the birth at Bethlehem of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. We pray in his most holy name, AMEN

## **NOTICES**

### **Vicarage Telephone**

Sadly, the usual telephone line to the Vicarage has developed a fault over the festive season, and is currently non-operational. BT have promised they are on the case, with an engineer set to visit this Friday, but in the meantime, please contact Rev'd Caroline via email - [carolinesymcox@googlemail.com](mailto:carolinesymcox@googlemail.com)

### **Church Flowers**

We need more volunteers to arrange the church flowers. If you would like to help please contact me. It is a fortnight at a time and at least twice a year. No need to have any experience but willing to help. Please contact Heather – 712428. Thank you.

### **Items for Ukraine**

The people taking a van to Ukraine no longer have room for bedding, clothing or shoes. They are VERY grateful for all the items on the blue poster here. We will continue to take them to the Ukrainian Church in Gloucester who are transporting them to Ukraine. If you have a question about any other items, please phone us on 0779 555 4102

Thank you *Geoff & Hope*



# WHAT'S ON

## TRIPS

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January W4W go shopping!  
£3 join us for Swindon Orbital.  
Contact Mary Ann for your place.



January 2026

## TODDLER Group

**Fridays term time 930am-11am**

**£1 per family**

**United Church**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January Peppa Pig theme**

**16<sup>th</sup> January Soft Play must book for this session**

**23<sup>rd</sup> January Under the sea**

**30<sup>th</sup> January Teddy bear picnic.**

**Bring your teddy bear for cake and story time**

**Family Hub every Wednesday 1030am-12pm Free refreshments and play and stay Fairford Community centre**



## WARM ROOM

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 1130am-1230pm  
hot chocolate and cookies. A talk from Ian about his adventures in Antarctica.  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 12-2pm Afternoon tea and card games.  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February Love quiz and toasties.  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March is a community meal in Lechlade 12pm-2pm Roast dinner.



## CRAFT AND CHAT

January Craft and Chat will be Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> of January this month.

Join Janet our volunteer for Macrame bracelets 7pm-9pm at Fairford Community Centre. £5



## COOKING FOR ZERO WASTE

Last year W4W cooked for friendship coming in April we will have sessions for cooking for Zero Waste. Please contact Mary Ann to book your space.

## REGULAR EVENTS

- Monday:** Senior Yoga class £3 currently full. Warm room 10am-2pm
- Tuesday:** Digital Drop in 10am-11am Warm Room 10am-2pm
- Wednesday:** Peer movement class 930am-10am  
Fairford Talking Cafe 1030am-12pm  
Family Hub 1030am-12pm
- Thursday:** Lechlade Talking Café 1030am-12pm Digital Drop in also available . Lechlade Baptist Church

## CONTACT DETAILS

**Mary Ann**  
**07555738138**

**maryann.dibbs@w4w.uk**

**Come along to Jos's house in The Croft  
for**

**Early 9.15 or Lie-In 11.00**

# **Continental Breakfast**

**Fruit juice, muesli, yoghurt,  
a hot prepared breakfast dish,**



**fresh fruit salad, croissant and jam,  
coffee or tea.**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January**

**£10.00**

**Tickets: Church Office, Community Centre.**



*All proceeds in support of High Five Children's Charities*

  
**St Mary's Church**  
• FAIRFORD •



# The Jane Kidd Eco Talks

Presented by  
St Mary's Eco Church Group Fairford

Thursday  
**29th**  
January

**'A No Sandals Look at  
Organic Farming'**  
by Organic Farmer, Chris Peachy



Farmor Room  
Community Centre  
Fairford  
7pm refreshments  
7.30pm start



Future Talks  
• Thu 26th Feb



Advanced booking is not required

There is no charge, but donations to help cover costs would be gratefully received






**Come along to our very own Songs of Praise Event in the spring - including**



**your chosen favourite hymns and songs, followed by tea and cake.  
With the Church Choir and Special Guests**

**Fill in the Hymn Choice Form in the Church by 31<sup>st</sup> January**

**Donations for:**

 ***High Five Project 2026 Fundraising for Children's Charities***  
**The Magic Breakfast      Glos Young Carers      The Rainbow Trust**  
**Smile Train      Home Start Cotswolds**

