

NOTICES FOR 29th MARCH



HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME

Monday	10.30am Lent Course in the Wesley Chapel
Tuesday	7.00pm Lent Meditation in the Wesley Chapel
Good Friday	10.00am Craft Morning 2.00pm 'At the foot of the cross, All Saints South Wingfield
Easter Day	10.00am Easter Day Family Communion

WEEKLY ENVELOPES

Would whoever is using **Weekly Envelopes number 22 from 2025** please contact Dennis Hooton (treasurer) 01773 852158; 07801720992; email dennishooton@talktalk.net or treasurer@stmarys.org
Thank you and God bless, Dennis'



GOOD FRIDAY CRAFTS

As has been happening for a number of years our traditional Good Friday Family morning will take place this year ,starting at 10 am and finishing by 12 midday .

This morning has always been well attended end by local families . Last year we had 37 children aged from babies to 9/ 10 year

This year's theme for the crafts is The Cross and The Resurrection

As always we will be serving hot drinks and hot cross buns with squash and biscuits for the children

If anyone would like to be involved, either at a craft table, helping with refreshments or clearing up afterwards that would be welcome. And it's important just to be there to meet parents, grandparents and children and see what's going on.

Rev Jo will lead a short service at 11.15.

If you haven't managed to get to a Good Friday service yet you don't know what you are missing !

EASTER FLOWERS

Good Friday workshop - I am asking, please, for the usual flowers, greenery, moss etc. to enable us to make an Easter garden for the church, but am doing something different to the ones we usually made with the children so they don't involve Oasis.

I should therefore like extra donations of small plants like primroses, viola etc. (not mature ones - the containers won't be deep enough) as well as all you have kindly brought before. I've seen that a lot of my primulas have cast seeds, and there are small plants already flowering, so I'll be digging them up.

Decorating the Church for Easter Day - Jean Gregory was someone who was part of the group of flower arrangers at St Mary's for many years. She always quietly and gently got on with her displays, and then carried on working by helping everyone to clear and tidy up as we finished decorating the church. She was always a faithful worshipper at St Mary's, and she will be greatly missed by all.

I should like us to be able to acknowledge Jean's involvement with the flower arranging by making the church full of the signs of resurrection and new life which Easter brings, and which will remind us that Jean is safe with her Lord, by using flowers and greenery all around us as we celebrate the Risen Christ.

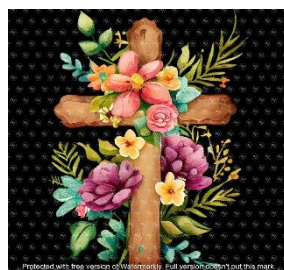
I'm sure you are aware that the group of flower arrangers is now very small, and those of us who are still part of that group are not as strong or fit as we once were. I am therefore appealing to any of you who feel they might be able to help us in some way, to come forward to let us know. You don't have to be a proficient flower arranger - just to love seeing flowers in church to welcome worshippers and visitors alike. So many people have wonderful ideas of how to display flowers in vases, baskets, pots etc. and that is all we need.

There is a monthly rota for each week and we all come together at the main festivals of the Church to decorate more fully. **This year we shall be meeting in Church from 10.30 a.m. to prepare St. Mary's for Easter on Maundy Thursday of Holy Week, 2nd April. Please come along and join us to help us achieve this.** Refreshments will be provided!

However, we need everyone, please, to look out for flowers, shrubs, greenery, branches with new leaves forming, pussy willow etc. from your gardens to donate for us to work with. Hopefully we may still have daffodils, and I hope flowering shrubs like forsythia or ribes will be ready. I shall leave buckets of water in the meeting room at the back of the church for you to leave for us, or bring them on the Thursday morning.

Thanking you all in advance.

Sylvia on behalf of the Flower Arrangers





Carbon Fast

for Lent

Every time we leave our phone charger plugged in, run the tumble dryer instead of hanging washing outside, or keep devices on standby overnight, we are consuming energy. In the UK, home energy accounts for one-fifth of our national carbon footprint¹ - and much of it is entirely avoidable.

This week, we are fasting from energy waste - the unnecessary consumption that drains our wallets, strains our grid, and contributes to global warming.

Recent energy crises have reminded us how vulnerable we are when we rely on fossil fuels. Yet electricity and clean water are not equally available across the world. As we reduce our own consumption, we remember those living in places more vulnerable to climate change.

Seven tips for wasting less energy

1. Unplug appliances not in use and switch off standby mode - devices on standby still draw power
2. Wash clothes at 30°C and air-dry instead of tumble drying where possible - tumble dryers are massive energy users
3. Take showers under 5 minutes
4. Heat the person, not the space - turn down your thermostat by 1-2°C and wear an extra layer. Make use of blankets and hot water bottles.
5. Boil only the water you need in the kettle!
6. Turn off lights in empty rooms
7. Spring clean your emails and cloud storage - data centres use enormous amounts of energy and water

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGES

Choose one of the challenges below:

START SIMPLE

- Switch off standby mode on all devices at night
- [Abstain from producing 'AI Slop'. \(Trivial content for personal entertainment\)](#)
- Air-dry laundry where possible
- Lower the thermostat by 1°C

↑ NEXT LEVEL

- Switch to 100% renewable energy tariff
- Install a smart meter and track energy use
- Hold an unofficial **Big Delete Week**: Clear old emails, photos and cloud storage
- Talk to your church about switching to a renewable energy provider - we are already doing this at St Mary's

🚀 BIG LEAP

- Install solar panels or join a solar co-operative
- Propose and help with a church building energy audit
- Write a persuasive 'Dear CEO' letter to tech companies. Ask for: 100% renewable energy commitments, transparent reporting on energy/water usage and investment in efficient cooling.
- Talk to your church/employer about switching websites to green hosting ([Krystal](#), [GreenGeeks](#), [Kualo](#))

REFLECTION

Our intentional acts of energy conservation can add up. Conserving energy is the wise stewardship of resources entrusted to us by God. We can cherish our resources, remembering the earth does not belong to us but to our Creator and is a gift.

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."

Psalm 24:1 NIV

DON'T FORGET
CLOCKS MOVE FORWARD AN HOUR THIS WEEKEND
WE WOULD HATE YOU TO MISS SUNDAYS SERVICE

