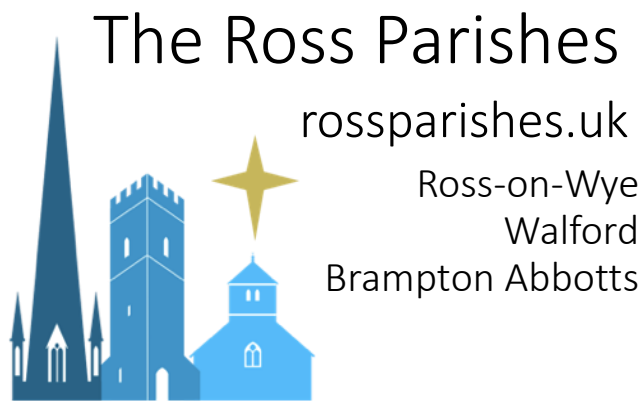




Newsletter

Sunday 16th August
The Feast of the Blessed
Virgin Mary

*A very warm welcome to
worship in the benefice today*



growing inclusive, intergenerational churches that inspire faith, hope and love

Today's services

Sunday 16th August

8.00am Said Communion, St Mary's

9.30am Festival Eucharist, St Mary's

9.30am Festival Communion, Walford

Music for today's services

9.30am Festival Eucharist, St Mary's

Introit: 394 Tell out, my soul

Gradual: 314 Her virgin eyes

Offertory: 318 Ye who own the faith

P Com: 315 Sing we of the blessed mother

9.30am Festival Communion, Walford

631 Tell out, my soul

77 Blest are the pure in heart

177 For all the saints vv. 1, 2, 7, 8

534 O praise ye the Lord

Prayer & readings for today

Collect Almighty God, who looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary and chose her to be the mother of your only Son: grant that we who are redeemed by his blood may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

First Reading *Reader: A reading from St Paul's Letter to the Galatians.*

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So, you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

[Galatians 4:4-7]

Reader: This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown

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strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.’

[Luke 1:46-55]

For our prayers

Those whose banns are being read today: Clare Bailey & Joe Worgan (St Mary’s, third reading), Megan Jones & Harry Porter (St Mary’s, third reading), and Rose Bartlett & Githen Panickar (Walford, second reading).

Those who are ill: Jamanda Hobson, Alison Virgo, David Walshaw, Rene Keogh, Rosie Taylor, Duncan, and all who are living with long term illnesses or health problems.

Those who mourn and those who have died, including Christopher Hodges, Paul Middleton, and Janet Weyman.

News from the Ross Parishes

News from the Spire in Peril Team We are delighted to let you know that our application for a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund has been successful. We will be able to start work de-risking and diagnosing the problems with the four pinnacles on the tower very soon. More details on the project will appear in the Spire in Peril section of the St Mary's website as the project progresses. We would particularly like to thank all who have helped with the initial fund-raising which has enabled us to get to this stage. Jane Rothery

Bottle Stall A few weeks ago, in a moment of excessive enthusiasm, I volunteered to run a Tombola/Bottle Stall for the Church Fete on 29th August. I have cajoled friends and colleagues to assist in manning the Stall. What I now need is BOTTLES. Can you help? I will be in Church at the 8.00am and 9.30am services on 16th and 23rd August to receive donations. Any bottles will be warmly appreciated – shampoo, soft drinks, wine, beer, spirits, etc. I can collect donations - call 07970 315630 to arrange collection. Many thanks. Paul Cummings

Confirmation Preparation There will be a diocesan Confirmation Service on 10th October. Preparation classes will run throughout September for those wishing to be confirmed, and anyone else over the age of 11 who wishes to attend is welcome. If you would like to know more, please speak to a member of the Clergy Team. Please register before 1st September.

Short Pilgrimage Walk and Picnic 11.30 am on 22nd August. Many of us have enjoyed the summer social walks and meals in previous years. This year we are invited to join our friends at Stow Caple Benefice who are launching the Stow Caple section of the Wye Churches Pilgrimage, a deanery project which has involved several members of St Mary's. Meet at Sellack Church (car share if possible) for a circular mile-long guided pilgrimage followed by lunch with Bishop Richard. If you would like to walk further, other parts of the route are being followed during the day – see <https://stowcaplechurches.co.uk/launch-event> or just come for the picnic! If you would like to come and have a sandwich lunch made for you at Stow Caple, please let Jane Rothery (jane@rossparishes.uk) or Rachel Lewis know by Wednesday 19th - otherwise just turn up but bring your own lunch.

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Flower Festival Refreshments - We will need six people per session, if possible, especially on Saturday when the Garden Fete takes place. If you can help, please sign the rota sheet next to the Welcome Desk. It is difficult to predict how many cakes are needed, so any cake contributions would be greatly appreciated, particularly for Saturday. We will be offering light lunches of quiche, salad and coleslaw, so please sign up or let Jean Brown know if you can contribute to these. Thank you. Jean@rossparishes.uk

Flower Festival Fete We're still looking for someone to help with the plants and garden stall. There are plenty of other stalls too, so please start gathering up the items you wish to donate ready to bring. Please keep them at home for now as we don't have storage space. Thank you.

Donations for the Flower festival If you would like to sponsor a flower arrangement in memory of a loved one, or give a donation, please have a word with Sue Jones.

h.Art Week Sat 5th-Sun 13th September St Mary's Church will be host again this year, providing refreshments and light lunches. If you can help in any way, it will be very much appreciated. We will need three people per session, and the rota sheet is next to the Welcome Desk or let Jean Brown know. Donations of cake will also be very much appreciated. We may be offering soup, depending on the weather and will let you know nearer the time. Thank you. jean@rossparishes.uk

Ross Open Gardens 29th and 30th May 2027 The search is on to find gardeners willing to open their gardens for this important biennial fundraiser, run by the Friends of St Mary's. If you can help or if you need some reassurance first, please have a word with Mark Sanderson. We will be delighted to include you and your garden.

Articles for the Newsletter We welcome short articles to include in the Newsletter when space allows. If you organise or are involved in a group that uses the church or helps with its day-to-day running, please write a brief article 100-150 words long about what you do. Or if you are involved in something, e.g. fundraising, that you think will interest the church community, please tell us about it. Articles should be sent to Catherine at administrator@rossparishes.uk.

Life in the Ross Parishes

Bible Study The Bible is central to Christianity. It is the source of our knowledge about the beginnings and character of the Christian faith, and of all our reflection about its meaning. I lead two groups who meet regularly in my house to read the Bible and think about it together. We have just finished looking at Kings and Chronicles, the great history books of the Old Testament, considering why they were written, among other things. Perhaps the writer of the Books of Kings wanted to show what a stupid idea it was for the people of Israel to ask for a human king rather than looking to God; perhaps the writer of the Books of Chronicles wanted to show that human kings may come and go but the worship of God, centred on the Temple in Jerusalem, continued.

Next, we will be looking at the Gospel of Matthew with the help of the Bible Study Guide written by the leading scholar, Tom Wright. We will be asking ourselves why it was written and discussing whether we have sympathy with this scholar's opinions.

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Come and join us on alternative Mondays (afternoon or evening) starting on 7th September. Just get in touch with me to know the place and times of the sessions. Colin Leggate, colin@rossparishes.uk

This week in the Ross Parishes

Every day	9.00am Morning Prayer via Zoom, rossparishes.uk/morning-prayer
Sun 16th Aug	9.00pm Compline via Zoom. Use the same link as for Morning Prayer
Mon 17th Aug	Ross Photo Club Exhibition (all day until 24 th August) St Mary's 9.30am Mental Health Group, St Mary's 9.00pm Compline, St Mary's
Tue 18th Aug	9.00am Community Larder and Tea & Toast, St Mary's Hall
Wed 19th Aug	11.00am Ponder and Pray via Zoom 1.00pm Lunchtime talk: Rustie Baker – Florence from a bookseller's perspective, St Mary's 1.30pm Contemplative prayer, Freda Davies' home, freda@rossparishes.uk 9.00pm Compline, St Mary's
Thu 20th Aug	10.00am Said Communion, St Mary's

Further ahead

Sat 29th Aug	Flower Festival Weekend, St Mary's
Sat 5th Sept	h.Art until 13 th September, St Mary's
Thu 10th Sept	7.00pm Book talk: 'Churchcrawling' by Rachel Morley, St Mary's
Wed 16th Sept	1.00pm Lunchtime talk: 'The Great Fire of Warwick' by Gillian White, St Mary's
Sat 19th Sept	7.00pm Concert: Border Belles with Drybrook Brass Band, St Mary's

Contacts

Rector: Revd Prebendary Kelvin Price	kelvin@rossparishes.uk	
Curate: Revd Dr Owen Pembery	owen@rossparishes.uk	
Revd Prebendary Caroline Pascoe	caroline@rossparishes.uk	
Revd Colin Leggate	colin@rossparishes.uk	
Revd Canon Professor David Thomas	david@rossparishes.uk	
Very Revd Dr John Davies	john.davies102@icloud.com	
Reader: Canon Freda Davies	freda@rossparishes.uk	
Reader: Dr Derek Glover	derek@rossparishes.uk	
Church Office: Catherine Lewis	administrator@rossparishes.uk 01989 562175	

Use the QR Code to go to the website for full details of who's who

Office opening hours: Wednesday 9.00am-3.00pm, Thursday and Friday 9.00am-2.00pm. Catherine can also be contacted via email on Monday mornings.

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