

The Ross Parishes

rossparishes.uk

Ross-on-Wye

Walford

Brampton Abbots



Newsletter

Sunday 13th September

Holy Cross Sunday

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



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

Today's services

Sunday 13th September

8.00am Said Communion, St Mary's

9.30am Sung Eucharist, St Mary's

9.30am Parish Communion, Walford

Music for today's services

9.30am Sung Eucharist, St Mary's

Setting: A People's Mass - *Greening*

Introit: 766 Praise, my soul, the King

Gradual: 149 O love how deep

Offertory: 176 As royal banners

Comm: When I survey - *Chilcot*

P Com: 227 Crown him with many crowns

9.30 Parish Communion, Walford

657 There is a green hill far away

738 When I survey the wondrous cross

174 Firmly I believe and truly

252 Guide me, O thou great redeemer

Prayer & readings for today

Collect Almighty God, who in the passion of your blessed Son made an instrument of painful death to be for us the means of life and peace: grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer for his sake; 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 Philippians.*

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father [Philippians 2:5-11]

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

Gospel Jesus said: No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the

Please ensure your mobile phone is switched to silent or off before worship.

Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

[John 3:13-17]

For our prayers

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 Alison Edgington and Rose Willetts.

News from the Ross Parishes

Sacred meets Secular St Mary's is a remarkably versatile building. It is a place where people come to worship on Sundays and in the week, to reflect on life, pour out their hearts in joy and grief, say their prayers and sit in meditative silence. People also come for concerts, recitals, lectures, book talks and exhibitions. Here is where God's presence is found, and also where local and world events are debated and art in many forms is enjoyed. The sacred and secular mingle here daily and weekly.

The tension between preserving St Mary's as sacred space and permitting its use for public enjoyment was keenly felt this week when it became a stop on the annual h.Art trail. This presented the PCC with difficult questions: should the whole building be used as exhibition space; should any area be kept apart? The PCC agreed that the chancel should not be used for exhibits, though exhibits were allowed in the Markye Chapel, with the result a change of time to the Thursday morning Communion. This is just one of the challenges that arise in a building that serves many purposes. It will surely not be the last if St Mary's continues as a place where the worshipping community come to meet God in prayer and sacrament and also where all are openly welcomed. The PCC and I will be holding a review of events through the year to see how the building has performed as both a church and a venue for other events held here.

Kelvin Price

What a wonderful world We may not have seen a display of flowers like those which filled our church 2 weeks ago, and I am sure it may take some years before we do again. if ever. The purpose of this short letter is to say thank you to all those who spent many hours, or should I say days, putting together the displays of such wonderful shapes and sizes. The gasps of amazement were many whether someone was looking down or gazing up at the pillars. The sizes so varied and the colours were so vibrant, the like of which I cannot recall seeing before. They ranged from those which were so calming and restful to those which were so strident, magnificent and powerful. Thank you to all those who spent hours designing and creating such masterpieces. To the teams who kept the refreshments flowing all day and every day for the 4 days. Only to do so again for the following for the "H art" week. You earned your just rewards.

Philip Dazeley

Confirmation Preparation continues today at 11.00am. There will be two sessions running – adults will be in the church hall and younger candidates will be upstairs in the Elephant Room. Refreshments will be available in St Mary's following the 9.30am service.

Please ensure your mobile phone is switched to silent or off before worship.

Safeguarding Training On Thursday 24th September there will be a Domestic Violence Awareness Safeguarding Course taking place in St Mary's from 11am-2pm. This course is now mandatory for Local Lay Ministers; everyone working with children, young people and vulnerable adults, including Pastoral Visitors, and recommended for all Church Officers and PCC members. Please try to attend if you can, although the course is also available on-line. Refreshments will be provided. Judith Wiggins

Michael Lunts Concert Michael, who many people in the benefice will know, is returning to St Mary's at 3.00pm on Sunday, 20th September. He will be performing 'The Enigma of Edward Elgar', a one-man show with music, which tells the story of how Elgar came to compose the Enigma Variations. Tickets are £15.00, available on the door and from createross.co.uk/events.html.

Harvest Service at Walford There will be a Benefice Harvest Festival Service at Walford at 9.30am on Sunday 27th September. Everyone is welcome to take part in this celebration and to hear a report on the 2026 harvest.

Do you like figures? Could you spare about three hours a week to help St Mary's? If so, we would love to hear from you. We are looking for a treasurer for the church. This is a vital role but not as daunting as it might sound as there are plenty of people who help. To find out more, pick up a leaflet or speak to Roy or Kelvin.

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 150-200 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

Sunday Kids This Sunday marks the start of a new year of 'Sunday Kids', our group for young children that meets in the room at the back of St Mary's during the service. It is run by Anne, Katherine, Sue and me through each month. We usually have four to six children, but sometimes ten or more aged from two to eight years crowd in! We follow the same structure each week, first turning on our tealight to remind us that Jesus is with us and singing our welcome song, then looking at a Bible story. Where appropriate, we mirror the adults, but if what they're doing is too complicated we also have a separate theme: last term, the Old Testament Patriarchs, this term the Parables of Jesus. We might read from the children's Bible, act it out with puppets, or watch a video. Then we do a craft activity linked to the story – the children bring out what they have made to show the adults at the end of the service. People often think this is the hardest part to prepare but we have the internet or ideas from previous experiences, and inevitably we find something! Finally, we recap the story, say some prayers, and turn off our tealight in time to join the adults for communion. It's a privilege to help build strong Christian foundations in our youngsters and to see how they grow in faith over the years. Helen Lewis.

This week in the Ross Parishes

Every day 9.00am Morning Prayer via Zoom, rossparishes.uk/morning-prayer

Please ensure your mobile phone is switched to silent or off before worship.

Sun 13th Sept	11.00am Confirmation Preparation, St Mary's Hall 9.00pm Compline via Zoom. Use the same link as for Morning Prayer
Mon 14th Sept	9.30am Mental Health Group, St Mary's 10.00am Tots in Tune, St Mary's Hall 9.00pm Compline, St Mary's
Tue 15th Sept	9.00am Community Larder and Tea & Toast, St Mary's Hall 7.00pm PCC Meeting, St Mary's
Wed 16th Sept	8.45am Toast & Toddle, St Mary's 11.00am Ponder and Pray via Zoom, contact Freda on freda@rossparishes.uk 1.00pm Lunchtime talk: 'The Great Fire of Warwick' by Gillian White, St Mary's 1.30pm Contemplative Prayer, contact Freda on freda@rossparishes.uk 3.30pm Connect Club and Youth Choir practice, St Mary's Hall, St Mary's 9.00pm Compline, St Mary's
Thu 17th Sept	10.00am Said Communion, St Mary's
Fri 18th Sept	7.15pm Adult Choir practice, St Mary's
Sat 19th Sept	7.00pm Concert: Border Belles with Drybrook Brass Band, St Mary's

Further ahead

Sun 20th Sept	3.00pm Michael Lunts Concert: The Enigma of Edward Elgar, St Mary's
Sun 27th Sept	8.00am Holy Communion, St Mary's 9.30am Benefice Harvest Festival Service, Walford 4.00pm Rehearsal for Come & Sing & Sup for Harvest, St Mary's 6.00pm Evensong for Harvest (Come and Sing & Sup), St Mary's
Fri 2nd Oct	Photography Exhibition U3A Shutterbugs, St Mary's (every day until 9 th October)
Sat 3rd Oct	10.30am Coffee and Sgwrs, St Mary's
Wed 7th Oct	1.00pm Lunchtime concert: Ruth Cartledge, Harp. 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.

Please ensure your mobile phone is switched to silent or off before worship.