

St Nicholas, Marston and St Thomas of Canterbury, Elsfield

MARSTON TIMES

March 2023 stnicholasmarston.org.uk Donations welcome

One Body



I think we would all agree that working together with a common vision leads to the most productive outcomes. I know joined-up thinking has underpinned a lot of community initiatives over the past few years. The Community Larder is based at the Giving Garage at the Eco Hub (OX3 OPR). No one person alone could have made it happen, but by working as a collective, we have achieved something! It started with people sharing concerns with me about the rising cost of living; at the same time the team at the Eco Hub from the Marston Community Gardeners was seeking to minimise waste in our throwaway society; a couple attending St Nicholas Church wanted to help; Oxford



Sharing surplus,
reducing waste

Food Hub offered to give us perishable food and Old Marston Charities Trust offered to help fund the Community larder. Now a wonderful team of volunteers appears every Saturday 9-11am to open the Giving Garage and extend a warm welcome to all. So many different individuals and groups come together with a shared vision to care and show love to both people and planet. This is what makes the Community Larder happen.

The image of people working together as the parts of One Body is found in 1 Corinthians 12: 12-26. Paul is writing to a church whose members are pulling in different directions. He uses the metaphor of a body to show that all gifts and positions in a church are equally valuable. No role is greater than another: respect and value are shared by all its members. When one group is excluded, then the rest of the body feels the impact of the loss. This illustration of One Body can be used as a model for a healthy, inclusive and vibrant church, but can also be applied to a community working together. Body parts are interconnected: one body part needs the other to function. An ear cannot be an eye. I like to understand this interconnection as

a network of relationships; it is joined-up thinking, putting our differences aside and working together to make Marston a kinder and more loving place.

A team of us from Marston Community Gardeners and St Nicholas are planning an Earth Day Event on 22 April 2-5pm: for your diary! This will bring us together to share local resources, hear talks, sing, willow weave, eat wonderful food prepared by the Oxford Hindu community and deepen our relationships with the common vision of helping our planet.

At St Nicholas church, we are embracing and exploring a shared vision of being a Church for Everyone. Of *course* Church should be for everyone, with no small print or clauses, but not everyone has had a positive experience of church: for those of you who read this and relate to it, my deepest apologies to you.

St Nicholas church is beginning a journey. Recognising that we still have much distance to travel, we have joined Inclusive Church, a network of churches, groups and individuals uniting around a shared vision: 'We believe in inclusive church – a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate'. We need to be in this together, as a community, as a family, which is why many of us find gathering together on Sundays helpful. From March we shall make sure there will always be a 10am service at St Nicholas. So if you - like me - forget what Sunday it is and turn up at 10am, there will be a service happening that you will be always welcome to join. On the first Sunday of every month at 10am there will be our Celebration service, exploring our theme of Church for Everyone, and I am enthusiastically encouraging everyone to come!

Lent takes up the month of March, but this isn't always the easiest festival with which to engage. Perhaps Easter will be one you may want to celebrate: come to one of our Holy Week or Easter Day services (check out our posters) and whether you have been before or want to visit for the first time, a warm welcome awaits you from us and from God who loves you and has called you by name - just as you are, this is a Church for you, for all.

Love Skye

BENEFICE OF MARSTON & ELSFIELD



Welcome to St Nicholas & St Thomas.
Further details can be found on our
website - stnicholasmarston.org.uk
Or call the office on 01865 580354.

Every Wednesday at 9:30am we have Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church.

Every Thursday **during Lent we have Compline** at 8pm at St Thomas Church in
Elsfield

Sunday 5th - 2nd Sunday of Lent

10am - **Community Celebration Service with Holy Communion**
with Jr choirs/choir & Worship band at St Nicholas Church.
The service is **LIVE streamed straight onto YouTube**

6pm - BCP **Choral Evensong** with Holy Trinity (Headington Quarry) Choir joining ours.

Sunday 12th - 3rd Sunday of Lent - Safe Guarding Sunday

8am BCP Communion Service at St Nicholas Church

10am Holy Communion Service at St Nicholas Church
The service is **LIVE streamed straight onto YouTube**

Sunday 19th - 4th Sunday of Lent - Mothering Sunday

8am BCP Communion Service at St Nicholas Church.

10am CW Morning Prayer at St Nicholas Church
10am Messy Church in St Nicholas Church Hall

10am Benefice Mothering Sunday Service at St Thomas in Elsfield
with Jr choirs/choir from St Nicholas Marston

Sunday 26th - 5th Sunday of Lent - Passion Sunday

8am BCP Communion Service at St Nicholas Church

10am Holy Communion Service at St Nicholas Church *with The Passion Reading*
The service is **LIVE streamed straight onto YouTube**

6pm-7pm Lent Meditation - Following Jesus at St Nicholas Church

A Church For Everyone

St Nicholas Church has joined Inclusive Church Network.



What to quote in March?

March by Douglas Malloch

In what a travail is our Springtime born!—
'Mid leaden skies and garmenture of gloom.
Wild waves of cloud the drifting stars consume
And shipless seas of heaven greet the morn.
The forest trees stand sad and tempest-torn,
Memorials of Summer's ended bloom;
For unto March, the sister most forlorn,
No roses come her pathway to illumine.
Yet 'tis the month the Winter northward flies
With one last trumpeting of savage might.
Now stirs the earth of green that underlies
This other earth enwrapped in garb of white.
And while poor March, grown weary, droops and dies
The little Springtime opens wide its eyes.

Nature notes: What to see and hear in March?

Spring has arrived. The days are getting longer and after the spring equinox on 20 March there will be more day than night. Winter thrushes depart our shores and early migrants appear. Listen for the



distinctive song of arriving chiff chaffs (a type of warbler) in parks, gardens and wooded areas. On sunny days you may see butterflies emerging from hibernation, including the distinctive butter-yellow brimstone. Spring flowers to spot this month include lesser celandine, dandelion, common dog violet and primrose. These early flowers are an important source of pollen and nectar for emerging queen bumble bees and honeybees.

What to cook in March?

Corn fritters (serves 3/4)

Ingredients

300g sweet corn (you can use tinned or frozen, but do defrost them)
3 spring onions, very finely chopped
3 eggs
1 tbsp milk
75g plain flour
½ tsp sweet curry powder
vegetable oil for frying
salt and black pepper

Method

Put the sweet corn and spring onions in a bowl. Beat the eggs with the milk and pour over the sweet corn, mixing well. Season with salt and pepper. Stir the flour and curry powder into the sweet corn mixture.

Add the oil to a large frying pan, making sure the base of the pan is well covered. Heat the oil until it spits when batter is added. Using a small ladle or measuring cup, carefully drop about 2 tbsp batter onto the oil. You should be able to fry 4–5 at any one time. Fry for a couple of minutes on one side until light brown then turn over and cook for a further minute.

Turn out onto kitchen paper to remove any excess oil



and keep warm in a low oven. Continue until you have used all the batter.

Serve for brunch with bacon, cooked chicken or avocado or all three!

WI

Our next meeting will be the AGM on Tue 14 Mar at 7.30pm in the Church Hall. New members welcomed!

Coffee Pot

Coffee Pot will be held on Mon 20 Mar from 10.30am to 12 noon. We welcome all who would like to meet more people. Please contact Eileen Palayiwa on 01865 725423 or eileenpalayiwa@yahoo.com for details.

Lunch Club

Our next lunch will be on Fri 31 Mar at 12.30 in the Church Hall: all welcome. A £4 donation is requested.

Bereavement Support Group

Our Bereavement Support group meets in the Church Hall on the second Friday of each month from 10 - 11.15am (10 March will be the next). This is a small, informal group, most likely to benefit those who have been bereaved in the last two years but may also be suitable for others. If you are interested please contact Eileen Palayiwa on 01865 725423

Marston Times delivery person needed URGENTLY

We need somebody to deliver the Marston Times to Cumberlege Close & Bradlands. Printed issues of the MT appear quarterly (Mar, Jun, Sept & Dec). If you could do this, please let Colin Harris know via colinharris31@gmail.com

Coronation Street lunch on 7 May

A street lunch in Marston village on Sunday 7 May is being planned to mark the Coronation of King Charles III. The invitation is open to all residents of Old Marston Parish, so please save the date and more details will follow.



BENEFICE OF MARSTON & ELSFIELD



A Church For All

1st Sunday

10am - Community Celebration Service with Holy Communion
with Jr choirs/choir & Worship band at St Nicholas Church.
The service is **LIVE** streamed straight onto YouTube

6pm - BCP Evensong

2nd Sunday

8am BCP Communion Service at St Nicholas Church

10am CW Holy Communion Service at St Nicholas Church
The service is **LIVE** streamed straight onto YouTube

Third Sunday

8am BCP Communion Service at St Nicholas Church.

10am CW Morning Prayer at St Nicholas Church
10am Messy Church in the St Nicholas Church Hall

10am BCP Matins/CW Holy Communion at St Thomas in Elsfield

Fourth Sunday

8am BCP Communion Service at St Nicholas Church

10am CW Holy Communion Service at St Nicholas Church *with Guest Speakers*
The service is **LIVE** streamed straight onto YouTube

The 6pm Contemporary Service at St Nicholas Church Hall.
(In April, June, September, November, February)

Fifth Sunday - 4/5 Sundays a year

8am BCP Communion Service at St Nicholas Church

10am Green Church - starting in the church for simple celtic worship.
10:30am Community Green activity ending with refreshments at the Eco Hub

6pm - Healing Service with Holy Communion

Choral Evensong

With the Combined Choirs of St Nicholas and Holy Trinity



Holy Trinity, Headington Quarry Choir



All welcome to join us for these contemplative renewing services with well-loved words and worshipful music

St Nicholas, Old Marston Choir



Sunday 5th March 2023
St Nicholas Church
Old Marston @ 6pm

Preacher:
Revd Emily Hockliffe Essex

For more information email:

music@hthq.uk

musicdirector@stnicholasmarston.org.uk



Messy Church at St Nicholas, Marston
Spring 2023 on the following Sundays

12th February
19th March
16th April

10 - 11.30am, Church Hall, Elsfield Road

Crafts, Bible Stories, Singing,
Prayer, Breakfast

All ages welcome
(children need to bring an adult with them)



BENEFICE OF MARSTON & ELSFIELD

stnicholasmarston.org.uk

Benefice Mothering Sunday Service



19th March At 10am

Featuring the Jr Choir
from St Nicholas

At St Thomas Church, Elsfield

Benefice of Marston & Elsfield

stnicholasmarston.org.uk

Holy Week & Easter

Wednesday - 5th April
6:30pm Franciscan Stations of the Cross
at St Nicholas Church

Maundy Thursday - 6th April
6:30pm Agape Fish n' Chips Supper at St Thomas Church
in Elsfield (booking essential)

Good Friday - 7th April
10am Good Friday Liturgy at St Nicholas Church
followed by Hotcross Buns
11:30am Walk of Witness with the Cross
starting at St Nicholas Church

EASTER DAY - 9th April
6am Sunrise Service followed
by Breakfast in St Nicholas
Church Hall
10am Celebration Communion
at St Nicholas Church
10am BCP Holy Communion at
St Thomas Church





Marston & Elsfield

Compline (Evening Prayer)
returns at
St Thomas Church, Elsfield
on **Thursdays at 8pm.**

**2nd March, 9th March,
16th March, 23rd March,
& 30th March**

EVERYONE is welcome



TeaBooks at Northway Community Centre

Do you enjoy reading?

Would you like to hear and share thoughts on books within a small, friendly book group? Come along!

11.00 am – 12.00 noon

23rd January

27th February

27th March

24th April

TeaBooks is an Oxfordshire-wide project organising social book groups for the over-60s, helping older people to share a love of books and reading and to make new friends.

Only £1 per session, first session free.



Northway Community Centre
45 Dora Carr Close, Northway, Oxford, OX3 9RF

To learn more about TeaBooks, please get in touch:
teabooks@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk or 0345 450 1276
www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire/our-services/teabooks/

Age UK Oxfordshire registered charity number: 109529
Northway District Community Association registered charity number: 304344

AGE OF CREATIVITY

**BACH | Singet dem Herrn
Komm, Jesu, komm**

MENDELSSOHN | Psalms

**RHEINBERGER | Cantus Missae
for Double Choir**



**Saturday 4 March 2023
7.30 pm
Exeter College Chapel**

Oxford Pro Musica Singers
Conductor | Mark Jordan

Tickets from www.ticketsource.co.uk
and on the door

**£12 advance tickets
£15 on the door**

(£5 under 25s)



HOLY GROUND Gatherings to mark the CELTIC YEAR

Prayers and Reflections are from David Cole's book
"The Celtic Year"



Always starting at 6:30pm
1st of November 2022 - Winter Season
21st of December 2022 - Winter Solstice
1st of February 2023 - Spring Season
21st of March 2023 - Spring Equinox
1st of May 2023 - Summer Season
22nd of June 2023 - Summer Solstice
1st of August 2023 - Autumn Season
21st of September 2023 - Autumn Equinox

Meet around a fire pit outside Marston Eco Hub OX3 0PR
Bring something to share, a chair and a blanket if it's cold.
ALL ARE WELCOME



**A welcoming Youth Group for 11+
2nd & 4th Sats 7-9pm
If you want to know more contact
skye.joskso@yahoo.co.uk**

Loaves & Fishes

MARSTON COMMUNITY LARDER

Along with essential items there will be fresh produce (bread & veg, fruit etc) which will be left out in the SEB refill area over the weekend after the Giving Garage hours.

Marston Community Larder is supported by Old Marston Charity Trust

THE GIVING GARAGE

Marston Eco Hub - OX3 0PR

OPEN EVERY SATURDAY

9-11am

Pick up or drop off FREE plant pots, vases, mugs, wellies and other garden/ household items, and BORROW garden equipment (rakes & spades, ladders, strimmers, wheelbarrows, lawn mowers, leaf blowers, bike rack etc).

Further details email skye.joskso@yahoo.co.uk or call 01865 202988



Love Marston Love Life

We hope, with your help, that the next 'Love Marston Love Life' will be bigger and better than before. With entertainment from a professional magician, local choirs, bouncy castles, refreshments and stalls from community groups, there should be something for everyone to enjoy. Make sure you have it in your diary!



If you can help on the day in any way or are a member of a group which can bring a stall or a game to advertise your activities, please get in touch as soon as possible. You can call St Nicholas church office on 01865 580354 and leave a message with your name and phone or email, or find out more and contact us via the web site: lovemarstonlovelife.wordpress.com Love Marston Love Life is organised by Churches Together in Marston and Northway by kind permission of Old Marston Parish Council and support from local charities.

Old Marston Parish Council report

At the February meeting the PC had no concerns about planning applications from 3 Ewin Close and 73 Cherwell Drive. However, councillors are concerned with a planning application received from 86 Arlington Drive and have asked for it to be called in, meaning that it will be considered by the city council planning committee.

There is a consultation out on the development of the land north of Bayswater Brook. Although outside the parish, the plan for over 1,500 dwellings could have a massive impact on Old Marston. Please do go onto the Oxford City Council planning portal and search under 22/03049/FUL to add your comments. Parish councillors are asking to meet planning officers from the County and City councils to express their concerns.

The PC agreed that the Mortimer Hall Recreation Ground be used for the Churches Together Love Marston, Love Life event on 21 May.



Please join us for OxClean on Sat 4 March, meeting outside Mortimer Hall at 10am. Make a difference to our community. This will be our 16th annual litterpick: bags and pickers are provided.

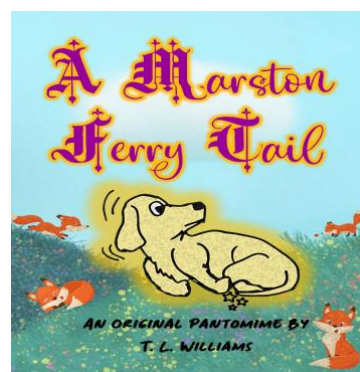
Full PC meetings are scheduled for 6 Mar, 3 Apr, 15 May, 5 June, 3 July, 4 Sep, 2 Oct, 6 Nov & 4 Dec at 7pm at Mortimer Hall. Other committees meet there on the last Monday of each month at 6pm.

The clerk, Tim Cann, can be contacted by phone (203139) Mon to Wed from 9am until 1pm.

Otherwise a message can be left or emailed via:

clerk@oldmarston-pc.gov.uk

For information and agendas go to www.oldmarston-pc.gov.uk, Facebook or Twitter



Saturday 25th March @ 7pm,

Scout Hall, Marston Road, OX3 0EJ

Sunday 26th March @ 3pm,

Mortimer Hall, Old Marston, OX3 0PH

£6.50 adult; 10-18yrs £3.50; under 10s free

Reserve tickets: marstonpanto@gmail.com

Parish Organisations

Allotments Associations

Court Place Farm, Boults Lane. Chair: Jane Wilson
membership@cpf-allotments.org.uk

Sunday mornings 8.30 am – 11.00 am 07530 068977

Mill Lane Chairman: Dr. M. Unkovskaya 07771 702548

Treasurer Dana Vlad 07919 493580

Secretary Christine Mitchell 07789 991051

Baby and Toddler Club Weds 10-11.30 term time in Parish Hall

Gill Hale, 64 Arlington Drive 01865 248260

Bellringers:

Practice Friday 7.30pm Learners welcome

Anthony Hughes, 2, Oxford Road 01865 244570

Choirs and Musicians at St Nicholas

Junior Choir, SATB Choir, Music Group

Practices at various times.

Neil Barker musicdirector@stnicholasmarston.org.uk

Coffee Pot

Coffee morning, monthly, Monday

Eileen Palayiwa, 27 Ouseley Close 01865 725423

Rainbow, Brownie, Guide and Ranger Units

Evenings throughout the week. Adult volunteers as well as girls welcomed!

District Commissioner, Lesley Dentry, 07765 418067

Leisure:

OXSAD Sports and Leisure Centre,

Court Place Farm, Marsh Lane 01865 741336

Library (next to Mortimer Hall) opening hours

Tuesday 2-5pm; 5.30-7pm

Thursday 2-5pm; 5.30-7pm

Friday 10-12noon; 2-5pm

Saturday 9.30-12.30pm 01865 726823

Hedena Health Medical Centre 01865 597023

Marston Community Gardening

Alistair Morris 01865 724081

Kate Robinson 01865 766620

Marston Saints Football Club

John Page www.msfc.org.uk

Mortimer Hall (Village Hall)

Chris Crane, 2 Raymund Road 01865 727995

Oxford City Council (Marston Representatives)

Mary Clarkson, 8 Dunstan Road, Oxford OX3 9BY 01865 751493

Alistair Morris, 55 Arlington Drive, Oxford OX3 0SL 07804 847285

Oxfordshire County Council (Marston Representative)

Mark Lygo 07765 665 726

Oxford Preservation Trust, Marston Area

Lucy Hughes, Cross Farm. 01865 244570

Parentline

Confidential helpline for parents 01865 726600

Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Tim Cann, 8 Nicholas Avenue 01865 203139

(Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9.00 am – 1.00 pm)

Chairman: Duncan Hatfield 07706 998224

Pre-school at Mortimer Hall

open 9 sessions a week 07818 236348

Royal British Legion Club Hall:

Steward 01865 243991

Schools

Friends of St Nicholas School 01865 242838

Scouts — 43rd Oxford (St. Nicholas) Scout Group, Boults Lane

Group Scout Leader, Tim Greaves tim.greaves@keble.oxon.org

Beaver Scout Leader, Sue Springett 01865 251515

Cub Scout Leader, Rachel Vallance vallance.whanau@gmail.com

Scouts Leader, Linda Phillips 07804 925705

St. Nicholas Church Hall and Committee Room

Alison Gray, Parish Office 01865 580354

Women's Institute

Meetings at 7.30 second Tue of each month - new members welcome!

President, Sue Hawes 01865 247106

Secretary

Trade Directory

Airport transfers

Colin Dobson (taxi to anywhere) 07429 349187

MJM Airport transfers 07983 225474

Architectural services for Planning Permissions/ Building Regulations

Digby Architectural: 4 Broughton Close 07979 756918

Building/Builders Services

Colin Simpson: High Class painting, decorating and coving etc:

10 Dent's Close OX3 ONP 01865 742842

Trevor Dines: No job too small - plumbing, complete bathrooms

from fitting a door to building an extension. Free estimates.

8, Raymund Road 01865 452851, 07889 263140

Daniel Kelly: Painting and decorating services: 07917 607949

Cleaning Carpets & Upholstery

Grimebusters: Quality carpet, rug & upholstery cleaning at competitive

rates. Free estimates 01865 726983

Complementary Medicine

Oxford Therapies: Pain relief, stress management & more

www.oxford-therapies.com 07913 503257

Frances Valentine: Reflexologist – massage to reflex points in feet

for relaxation, stress-relief and re-balance 07726 312719

Lotus Energy Healing: Massage, Reiki, Quantum Touch Energy Healing

Dr Paola Bisicchia www.lotusenergyhealing.com 07722 474735

Dog grooming in your own home by Tania (NVQ level 3)

20 Harlow Way, Oxford OX3 0QS 07877 183281

Electricians

Brian Turner: Registered NICEIC domestic installer 01865 728729

All work guaranteed 33, Salford Road 07538 382683

..... brian.r.turner@ntlworld.com

Craig Holloway Electrical Ltd: 07868 706392

12 Arlington Dr, Marston OX3 0SH enquiries@craigholloway.co.uk

Elderly wellbeing

Foot Clinic

Oxfordshire Foot Clinic: We provide fast & efficient foot treatments,

including nail cutting and corn/callus removal. We visit you at home.

Appointments 07742 964282

Funeral Directors

C S Boswell Independent funeral services 01865 553737

D L Hancock Ltd (Independent family-run firm)

Personal 24-hour service 7 days a week 01865 767780

126 London Road, Headington OX3 9ED www.dlhancock.co.uk.

Homewood Funerals (Family-owned and managed)

14 Cherwell Drive, Marston OX3 4LY 01865 570000

Hair and Beauty

Fiona's Hair Salon:

Salford Road, Old Marston OX3 0RX 01865 241632

Home decluttering & organising: Marie Kondo certified 07877 183281

Monumental Mason

Reeves Memorials: New memorials, removal for burials, added

inscriptions & renovations.

147A Magdalen Rd, Oxford. OX4 1RL 01865 251231

Pharmacy

Marston Pharmacy: 11 Old Marston Road. 01865 243824

Plumbing, Heating & Gas

Lemarsh Building Services – plumbing and heating

22 Marsh Lane 01865 761896, 07484 274331

S. J. Moore: Installation and servicing for all gas appliances.

Gas Safe Reg. 146337.

76, Arlington Drive. 01865 724037, 07970 470176

Andrew Job Plumbing & Heating Ltd:

Gas Safe Registered Engineer 125206 .. 01865 761896, 07710 390980

Tree Surgery, Fruit Tree Pruning

R. Timms: 80 Oxford Road 01865 244608

Window Cleaning - MRF Window Cleaning Services

Mick Fry: 37, Green Hill Oxford OX4 7UD. Fully insured member of the

Federation of Master Window Cleaners.. 01865 777889, 07887 515168

**Copy deadline for June's (print) issue is
Thursday 18 May**