



'But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God"' is a favourite verse of mine; often quoted and meaning that everyone - including children - are welcomed into the kingdom of God. It is because of this open invitation and love of Jesus that I find myself writing this article today. I am Helen Norman, the new children and families minister for St Nicholas Marston. I have just completed a busy month in my new role, in which I have tried to get to know as many people as I can: if I have not spoken to you, please forgive me and say hello if you see me around the parish.



I would like to say what a warm and loving welcome I have received; I have enjoyed meeting so many people in different groups and activities. I am looking forward to serving the community and making new connections and initiatives.

Here is a little about me. I was born in a small town in Derbyshire called Belper (famous for the first fireproof cotton mill and

important in the industrial revolution), went to Leicester for my first degree and Nottingham Trent for my PGCE. I taught in Derbyshire until 2014 when I came to Oxford. Husband Luke studied theology here while I have continued to teach in Oxford schools. I have two children aged 11 and 15 and a big black German shepherd dog named Nox. I have worked with children aged 3-11 and have volunteered in toy libraries, baby & toddler groups, youth groups and run parent support and Bible study groups. As well as having a stint on a PTA I have also been a governor. My church background is varied: granddaughter of a Methodist lay preacher, member of a teenage C of E youth group and then as a young leader member of a URC church whilst at university. My husband is serving his curacy in the Anglo-Catholic church of St. Andrews

Headington. As a teacher for almost twenty-five years I was surprised and excited to find myself resigning from full time teaching and subsequently applying and being appointed in this Parish. 'For I know the plans I have for you...plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and future' says Jeremiah. This verse could equally be written for all the young



people who, for one reason or another are connected to Marston, whether this is in the Toddler Group, Youth choir, Messy and Junior Church, Pulse (the Youth group), via the schools or in one of the many and varied church services. In a world of worry and anxiety, whether about financial hardship, social media, exams, parenting and climate change there are plans of a hope and a future. We are living in a country where a quarter of young people have mental health



difficulties, over four million children are living in poverty and where a sandwich generation is looking after grandchildren and

elderly parents. A paper from the General Synod stated a few years ago 'our engagement with young people is limited. Most churches have no or very few young people under 16'.

As a community we need to be looking at ways that we can give our young people hope that things can change and support all those involved in the care and upbringing of our young people here in Marston. I cannot do this alone: it requires the community to look at what we can do. We must continue to work together, engaging with the future of faith and the church today. If you have suggestions or would like to help, please contact me! I look forward to meeting you and seeing the positive role we can all play in the life of our young people.

familyminister@stnicholasmarston.org.uk



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.

On Wednesdays at 9:30am we have Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church.

St Nicholas Church Building will be closed 26th of June to the 11th of August for Refurbishment only Mondays-Fridays

Sunday 4th - TRINITY 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** at St Nicholas Church

Sunday 11th - Trinity 1

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 18th - Trinity 2

8am BCP Communion Service at St Nicholas Church.

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

6pm HYMNS & PIMMS (Songs of Praise) at St Thomas in Elsfield

Sunday 25th - Trinity 3

8am BCP Communion Service at St Nicholas Church

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

6pm Eat, Pray, Love (Cafe Service) at St Nicholas Church Hall

A Church For Everyone

St Nicholas Church has joined Inclusive Church Network.



What to quote in June?

The Soote Season* by Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey (c1517-1547)

The soote season, that bud and blome furth brings,
With grene hath clad the hill and eke the vale:

The nightingale with fethers new she singes:

The turtle to her make hath tolde her tale:

Somer is come, for euery spray nowe springes,

The hart hath hong his olde hed on the pale:

The buck in brake his winter cote he flinges:

The fishes flote with newe repaired scale:

The adder all her sloughe awaye she slinges:

The swift swallow pursueth the flyes smale:

The busy bee her honye now she minges:

Winter is worne that was the flowers bale:

And thus I see among these pleasant thinges

Eche care decayes, and yet my sorow springes.

*Soote = sweet

Nature notes: What to see and hear in June?



June belongs to the swifts, which can often be seen overhead in fast-moving screaming parties, particularly at dusk. These iconic crescent-shaped migrants usher in summer with their unique soundtrack. They spend most of their lives on the wing, even sleeping in flight. Incredibly, in its lifetime a swift may fly a distance of some 4 million miles. Look out for the pale pink flowers of dog rose in the hedgerows and closer to the ground the purple sweet pea-like flowers of common vetch. June can be a hot month so do keep a shallow bowl of water in your garden for visiting wildlife.

What to make in June

Best ever chocolate sauce



Ingredients

180g light brown muscavado sugar
(or any sugar you have in the cupboard)

100g cocoa powder

300ml milk or non-dairy substitute

15g butter or non-dairy substitute

1tsp vanilla essence (optional)

Method

Place all the ingredients in a pan and mix well.

Simmer slowly and stir all the time until the mixture bubbles round the edges and becomes thick. It will thicken more when cool. Great with ice cream or waffles.

Bereavement Support Group

The Bereavement Support Group will next meet on Fri 9 June from 10-11.15am. in the Church Hall. For more details please contact Eileen Palayiwa on 01865 725423.

WI

Our next meeting will be on Tue 13 June at 7.30pm in the Church Hall. There will be a crime author, Peter Tickler, who sets his plots in and around Oxford. Please come and help solve his latest mystery! New members always welcomed.

Coffee Pot

Coffee Pot will be held on Mon 19 June from 10.30am to 12 noon. We welcome all who would like to meet more people. Please contact Eileen Palayiwa via eileen.palaiyiwa@yahoo.com or 01865 725423 for details.

Lunch Club



Our next lunch will be on Fri 30 June at 12.30 in the Church Hall: all welcome. A £4 donation is requested. To book ring Debbie (our administrator) on 580354. Rumour has it that seasonal rhubarb may be on the menu...

Baptism Sunday - Save the date!

The 10 o'clock service on Sun 3 Sept will be a double celebration: of our baptisms at St Nicholas church and of Skye's return from sabbatical. The short family service will be followed by refreshments, lunch and family friendly activities in the vicarage garden. Save the date and plan to join in St Nicholas Church family fun.

Do we want a Community Centre in Marston?

Results of this recent survey can be found on Marston Mums; hard copies are also available in the Eco Hub and the library.

Our Vicar, Revd Skye Denno is on sabbatical, and away from parish work from the 29th May until the 30th of August 2023.

Sunday services will continue as normal during this time so do look at our monthly posters for details or our Website.
From the 26th of June to 11th of August St Nicholas Church building will be closed during the week (Monday-Friday) for refurbishments.

Here is a list of people and their roles

Church Wardens at St Nicholas:

Judith Piggott	01865 764693
Jan Lawrie	01865 250862

Family & Children Minister:

Helen Norman	07852 213974
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Pastoral Care Officer:

Eileen Palayiwa	01865 725423
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Funeral Officiate:

Geoff Hale	01865 248260
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Church Wardens at St Thomas (Elsfield)

James Plunket	07507 885169
Justine McCool	07426 463119

Parish Administrator:

Debbie Bailey	01865 580354
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Hours that Debbie is in the Office are: Tues & Thurs 9:30-2:30pm.

stnicholasmarston.org.uk

St Nicholas Music



FLUTE CONCERT

With Harp & Piano

FLAUTIST:
JANE COULCHER



SATURDAY
17TH JUNE
6-7PM

ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH
MARSTON, OXFORD OX3 0PR

Retiring Collection with proceeds to: Jane Coulcher & St Nicholas Music

Twitter: #StNicholasMusi1

INSTRUMENTS
of TIME & TRUTH

VIVALDI
GLORIA
HÄNDEL
DIXIT DOMINUS

and Buxtehude | *Der Herr ist mit mir*

Sunday 2 July 6.00pm

SHELDONIAN THEATRE

Oxford Pro Musica Singers
Instruments of Time and Truth
Conductor | Mark Jordan



Tickets
£15-£40

(50% discount for under 25s),
available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/oxfordpromusica,
via the QR code or on the door.



WANT TO JOIN A
PILATES CLASS
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oxPhysio
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Monday mornings	10.00am
Monday evenings	7pm & 8pm
Tuesday mornings	10.00am
Tuesday evenings	7pm & 8pm

Contact us for more details
Tel: 01865 764613
Email: info@oxphysio.co.uk
Web: www.oxphysio.co.uk

Old Marston Library volunteers

A team of volunteers helps to keep Old Marston library open by each giving 1½ hours of their time every month. This ensures that we can let people borrow books on a Tuesday evening or a Friday afternoon or a Saturday morning. We work in teams of two and training is given. Does this sound like fun? If so, email me and I'll tell you what to do next.
janlawrie@btinternet.com



The Giving Garage/Loaves & Fishes

The Giving Garage, including Loaves and Fishes, will be closed during June and July. The Sesi refill station will remain open, but please do not leave any items for the Giving Garage during this time.



Messy Church at St Nicholas, Marston
Church Hall, Elsfield Road
Sunday 10 – 11.30am

June 18th '23
July 16th '23
No August Meeting
September 17th '23

Crafts, Bible Stories, Singing,
Prayer, Breakfast

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



Old Marston Library: children's Book Club

Are you 8 – 11 years old? Do you enjoy stories, cartoons, reading & writing? Come along to our book club to meet friends, play games, enjoy chats and borrow books free from the library. Every 2nd Monday of the month: 4.15pm – 5.15pm
Next session: Mon 12 June.
To book a place, email
oldmarston.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk



A welcoming Youth Group for 11+
2nd & 4th Sats 7-9pm
If you want to know more contact
administrator@stnicholasmarston.org.uk



EAT PRAY LOVE
(OXFORD)
A CHRISTIAN
GATHERING FOR ALL

A café style meeting place
Conversations with the gospels
Contemporary worship
Reflections on living for Christ

6.00pm to 7.15pm
3rd Sundays of the month
(February to October)
St Nicholas' Parish Hall Room,
Elsfield Road OX3 0PR

[EatPrayLoveOxford
.Wordpress.Com](http://EatPrayLoveOxford.Wordpress.Com)



Bellringers' report

Our merry band of bellringers has finally been able to return to outings after the disruption caused by pandemic lockdowns. The first outing, in April, saw 22 ringers of all ages and abilities venture to the towers of Chearsley (6), Thame (8), and Great Haseley (6). These numbers represent how many bells are in each tower. As you might guess, this provides an opportunity for the St Nicholas church (6 bells) ringers to try their hand in other towers, where each set of bells behaves differently. To ring eight bells is another challenge too. Some of our outings take us further afield, such as recent ones to Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

The Marston ringers often travel across the county to support other bands, creating a full complement of ringers for services and special events, where there would otherwise not be enough. Important occasions that we have rung for recently include a quarter-peal (45 minutes of non-stop ringing) for St George's Day, the King's Coronation, and May Day: the first time a quarter-peal has been rung at St Nicholas' on May morning for 12 years.

Our handbell ringers worked hard at expanding their repertoire to provide entertainment at the Earth Day event. Having played a selection of tunes, we spoke to many interested people and invited them to venture up the tower for a chance to ring a bell. There was much interest and we've been asked by two local youth organisations if we could take the handbells along for the children to play.

Would you like us to bring handbells to you? Perhaps you fancy trying your hand at ringing a church bell? We're always looking for new members of our small, but very friendly group. Do get in touch by contacting Roy (07788 746 157) or Hugh (01865 247 574) or pop up to the tower on a Friday from 7.30pm.

Marston Coronation celebrations

There was a great turn out for the Coronation street party with around 250 people attending. The weather was brilliant and everyone enjoyed wonderful food and the opportunity to meet different people from the area. A big thank you to those who gave their time and energy to organise such a wonderful community event. Also to those who generously brought the food (everyone I think!) and most of all to those who had the thankless task of cleaning up afterwards. There were also some lovely floral decorations in the church to enjoy.



Old Marston Parish Council report

At the May annual Parish Council meeting the council re-elected Duncan Hatfield as chairman and Pat Hall as vice-chair. It also reviewed the councillors serving on our various committees and external organisations, as well as its policies and delegated arrangements.

The Parish Council looked at planning applications from 6 Harlow Way, 31 Beechey Avenue, amended plans for Court Place Farm Pavilion in Marsh Lane and a retrospective application for 45 Arlington Drive. The PC had no concerns with any of the applications.

The PC will have a stall at the Love Marston, Love Life event on Sun 21 May in the Mortimer Hall Recreation Ground.

Old Marston Parish Council meets the criteria of having two thirds elected councillors and a qualified clerk, so at the annual meeting adopted the General Powers of Competence. This essentially means it can do anything an individual can do if it is legal. In the past the PC has been restricted by certain laws and regulations.

The PC is sending out a 'Community Needs' Survey to find out residents' feelings, thoughts and views on various local issues and facilities. Please do complete and return the survey. The more responses received the better, as this will give a true local picture and the PC will be more informed in its service to the local community. It will be delivered to homes and is available from the website to download. Once completed return it by email (<mailto:clerk@oldmarston-pc.gov.uk>) or in the box provided in Old Marston Library or St Nicholas church. Please return by 31 July.

Full PC meetings are scheduled for 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



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
Hugh Deam, Tower Captain 01865 247574
Roy Peach, Secretary 07788 746157

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:

OXSRAD 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 OSJ 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

Debbie Bailey, Parish Office 01865 580354

Women's Institute

Meetings at 7.30 second Tue of each month - new members welcome!
President, Judy Young judithyoung732@gmail.com
Secretary, Jennie Burrow jennie.burrow@gmail.com

Trade Directory

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 0NP 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 Reflexology: relaxation, stress-relief and rebalance
www.oxfordreflexology.co.uk 07726 312719

Holistic Therapies with Dr Paola Bisicchia: Massage, Reiki, 07722 474735
Chakra Reading, Life Coaching email: info@yourawakeningpath.com

Dog grooming in your own home by Tania (NVQ level 3)
20 Harlow Way, Oxford OX3 OQS 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 OSH 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

Homewood Funerals (Family-owned and managed)

14 Cherwell Drive, Marston OX3 4LY 01865 570000

Garden & small machinery service/repair taylorandannyuk@yahoo.co.uk
Danny Taylor, 5 Ouseley Close, Marston OX3 OJS 07796 573319

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

Plumbing, Heating & Gas

Lemmarsh 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

