

Dear sisters and brothers,

As many of you know I spent a month in Kenya last October as part of my study leave. One of the highlights of my time there was worshipping with the students at St Andrew's College Kabare. The college trains ordinands and also students studying secretarial and business courses. Part of the vision for the foundation of the college was that it would train people for various ministries in the church and wider community, including those with administrative gifts and talents. It is testimony to the faith of the students and the ethos of the college that I couldn't always tell who were the ordinands and who the other students; all were seeking to study and live their lives as disciples of Christ.



The chapel at the college is above the library and it was built with funds from Chelmsford Diocese. In the chapel there are large banners with the college motto at the front and back so you couldn't miss them, and the motto was also referred to in the worship and in a particular song the community sings when thanking visiting preachers and other guests. I have a video of them singing me this song which I may show at St Mary's at some point. The motto is:

***'The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it'. 1 Thessalonians 5:24.***

The question I found myself asking when I looked at the banner was what is the 'it' being referred to? In the previous verse (24) Paul refers to God making us into the holy people he calls us to be, set apart to serve him and living pure and blameless lives in anticipation of the Lord's return. It doesn't take long to realise we can't do this in our own strength, it depends on the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Paul reminds us that God keeps his promises and he will enable us to do what we can't do for ourselves. I think this is a tremendous promise to hold on to whatever God calls us to be and do for him. God is faithful and if we are willing to respond to his call, we can trust he will fulfil his purposes in and through us. Let us hold on to this promise as we enter 2019.

*Heavenly Father, we thank you that you are faithful. Help us to respond to your Son's call on our lives, confident that we can trust you for all that we need to fulfil that calling in the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.*

With love and prayers  
Philip, Team Rector

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## **'Keep the Banner Flying High'**

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***'Keep the Banner Flying High' –  
An evening with Graham Kendrick***

***Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2019  
at St. Mary's Great Baddow.***

Following his latest song releases and having penned some of the world's best-known worship songs, 'Keep The Banner Flying High' sees Graham encouraging us all to stay firm to our commitment.



Combining some of his classic songs of worship together with the newest, such as 'Holy Overshadowing' and 'Give me this Mountain' the event will also include songs in the performance style that first brought appreciation for his music. If you have ever heard 'Thorns in the Straw', 'Crucified Man, or 'How much do you think you are Worth', you will know that Graham Kendrick has a whole other side to his music – songs that tell stories, paint scenes on the imagination and feed the spirit with hope.

Performed with passion by the man who authored them, in the style that suits them best, these songs make up a very special concert of worship and reflection.

Graham will be performing at St. Mary's on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April. Further details will be available in due course but please put the date in your diary now for this not to be missed evening!

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## **Thank you from St Mary's**

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Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard in ensuring that our services and events have gone so well over the Christmas period.



It was again a great joy to see so many people visit us at St. Mary's and we continue to pray that they will experience and respond to the message '#Follow The Star' in the coming year.

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## **Focus on Christingle & the Children's Society**

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The annual family Christingle service will be on **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2019**.

As usual, we will be collecting for the Children's Society. Children in Powerhouse will be given collecting pots 2 weeks before the service on 13<sup>th</sup> January and asked to bring them back on the day.

Please come and join the fun! You can find out more about the Children's Society work on their website:  
<http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-we-do>



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## **Tiny Church**

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# Tiny Church

**Tiny Church meeting FORTNIGHTLY!**

For pre-school children, our fortnightly meetings in January will be:

**Thursdays 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

in the Church Centre between 1.45pm and 2.45pm

for a time of singing, Bible story, craft activity and refreshments  
all aimed at pre-school children.

If you would like to find out more about coming along or helping,  
please speak to Sue Finch (473143) or Kirsty Houghton (475724).

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## **Breakfast & Bibles**

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Meetings: **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019** 9.30am – 11.30am

A very informal group for women, meeting in each other's homes to share breakfast together and study the Bible.

Children are very welcome and lots of toys are available to share. No previous Bible knowledge necessary.



Please ring Dot Cumming for further information and meeting venue on: 07971 808170. We look forward to welcoming you.

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## **CAP money: Course**

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Do you find it difficult sometimes to manage your money?

A CAP (Christians Against Poverty) money course is starting on: **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019** for three weekly sessions, at St Paul's Church, Loftin Way, 10.00am – 12.00pm run by Revd Phil Sheldrake.



This is a free course to help you manage your money better and learn to budget, save and spend well.



To book your place, please telephone 01245 269026.

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## Meadgate Church Bible Teach-In

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Back by popular demand(!), Pat Kennett will be leading a new teaching series in the New Year, called "The Early Kings".

This 8-part series will cover highlights from the lives of Samuel, Saul, David and Solomon.

Please note that these will take place on **THURSDAY mornings**, starting promptly at 9:30am, in the Main Church Hall at the Orchards.

Dates are:

**January 24th, January 31st, February 7th, February 14th, March 7th, March 14th, March 21st and March 28<sup>th</sup>.**

Please sign up as soon as possible with Pat Kennett.

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## Visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury

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**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 3.30pm, Chelmsford Cathedral.**

Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury is coming to preach at Evensong here at Chelmsford Cathedral on **Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 3.30 pm.**

His theme will be 'Making Better Lives'.

The service will last about an hour and will be followed by a reception hosted by the Cathedral and the Mayor of Chelmsford.

Everybody is warmly invited to come and to hear the Archbishop preach.

In a sense this will simply be a normal Sunday Evensong - and it happens that it is the day when the Calendar celebrates the Baptism of Christ, so the readings and prayers will already invite us to think about our response to the Gospel as followers of Jesus. And although the Archbishop is coming, we are keeping the ceremonial simple, so it will not be an occasion for long processions of robed people!

It would be great to welcome people from across the Chelmsford Deaneries on the day to share in this celebration and respond to Archbishop Justin's message. There is no need to RSVP.

*Nicholas Henshall, Dean of Chelmsford*

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## **Broomfield Hospital, Ward Chaplaincy**

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Mid Essex Hospital Services   
NHS Trust

**YOU CALLED TO VISIT THE SICK?**  
**With faith equipped you to help Care for the Spirit**  
**of patients, staff and visitors?**

The Chaplaincy Team at Broomfield Hospital has training opportunities for volunteers to join them in providing care to those of all Faiths

### **Ward Chaplaincy**

- become part of a ward staff team and visit weekly, to help give spiritual care to people of all faiths; listening, accompanying, encouraging and empowering.

### **For further information**

- about hospital volunteering, selection, training and support for both roles, or to arrange an informal visit, the Chaplaincy team would be pleased to hear from you.

### **Contact us on**

01245 515244 or [MEHT.Chaplain@meht.nhs.uk](mailto:MEHT.Chaplain@meht.nhs.uk)

or by post to: The Spiritual Care and Chaplaincy Team, Faith Centre A209,  
Broomfield Hospital, Chelmsford, CM1 7ET

Further details along with an application form and a role description form are available in the Welcome Corner.

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## **Church Diary for January 2019**

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Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00am	Café Club in Church
	11.30am	Church open until 2.00pm
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	7.30pm	Bellringing in Church
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January – The First Sunday after Epiphany</b>		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Holy Communion with Powerhouse
	6.30pm	Meditative Service
	6.30pm	Pathfinders re-starts in Bell St Hall
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer re-starts in Prayer Chapel
	9.30am	Breakfast & Bibles. Please confirm venue with Dot Cumming
	10.00am	MAC pack in Bell St Hall
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
	8.00pm	Pathfinders in Church
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	11.30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	1.45pm	Tiny Church in Church Centre
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	11:30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	7.30pm	Bellringing in Church
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January – The Second Sunday of Epiphany</b>		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Morning Praise
	6:30pm	Encounter...with Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Pathfinders meet in Bell St Hall
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9.30am	SYM meeting in Bell St Hall
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
	8.00pm	PCC meeting in Bell St Hall
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
	7.30pm	Book Club in Church
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10.00am	Café Club in Church

	11:30am	Church Open until <b>12.45pm</b>
	1.30pm	Funeral of Sheila Dennis
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	11:30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	7.45pm	Choir practice in Church
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January – The Third Sunday of Epiphany</b>		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Encounter...
	6.30pm	Pathfinders meet in Bell St Hall
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9.30am	Breakfast and Bibles. Please confirm venue with Dot Cumming
	9.30am	SYM meeting in Bell St Hall
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
	8.00pm	MLT meeting
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	11:30am	Church Open until 2:00pm
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Church Open until 2:00pm
	7.30pm	Bellringing in Church
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Fist Aid training in Bell St Hall
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January – The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany</b>		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Christingle Family Service
	6.30pm	Encounter...with Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Pathfinders meet in Bell St Hall
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10.00am	MAC pack in Bell St Hall
	11.00am	Little Spring Wonders Day Nursery in Church
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10.00am	Café Club in Church
	11:30am	Church Open until 2:00pm

A series of short courses running across the diocese between the last week in **February and Good Friday 2019.**



Courses cost between £7.50 & £40 and themes include:

**Last Things - The Great Divorce;**

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**Church History – Christians and Moslems;**

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**Pastoral Care – Practical insights from Psychology;**

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**Christ Pictured;**

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**Being Christian Beyond Church;**

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**An in-depth study of the Fourth Gospel;**

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**The Development of Holy Communion;**

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**Spiritual Companionship and the Big Life Questions;**

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**Introduction to Icons;**

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**The Wondrous Cross;**

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**Journeying the Emmaus Road with people with additional needs and dementia;**

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**The nature and character of God – an exploration of the Trinity**

For further information, brochures, and booking forms  
please contact:

Diane Hardy at the Diocesan Office: Tel: 01245 294449

Email: [dhardy@chelmsford.anglican.org](mailto:dhardy@chelmsford.anglican.org) or download from

[www.chelmsford.anglican.org](http://www.chelmsford.anglican.org)

Alternatively,

please speak to Jacqui in the Church Office,  
who will be able to download the forms for you.

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## **The Church Office**

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### **Hours of Opening:**

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday: 9:30am to 12:30pm, 1:45pm to 3:00pm

Wednesday & Friday 9:30am to 12:30pm

Tuesday evenings 7:00pm to 8:00pm

(wedding enquiries by appointment only)

01245 477501

Email: [stmaryschurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryschurchoffice@gmail.com)

Website: [www.stmarysgreatbaddow.org.uk](http://www.stmarysgreatbaddow.org.uk)

