

St Mary's Northchurch Newsletter



Parish Room Bookings:
Emily Millar
Mobile: 07929934367

March 2017

Church enquiries to:
Revd Jonathan Gordon
01442 871547

Dethroning Mammon: Making money serve Grace

This year Lent begins on March 1st with Ash Wednesday and through the following weeks on Thursday evenings (starting on March 2nd) at 8.00pm in the Parish Room there will be a Lent Course. Everyone is welcome and the theme will be the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book "Dethroning Mammon: making Money Serve Grace." The course is a chance for some Bible Study, sharing of thoughts and experiences, so that we can reflect together on the journey of Jesus to the cross and resurrection.

In the foreword to the book there is a reference to someone who had no religious faith asking what was Lent all about? The reply was that it was a time to think about all the poor and lonely people of the world, refugees and the elderly, prisoners and those controlled by addiction. It is a time for addressing the barriers that divide us from one another. The person responded if that was the case it was a good idea.

The Archbishop's book does focus on the divide between the poor and the rich, and suggests that this has become so deep and wide that we have lost sight of what life is like for millions who don't have many of the things that we can easily take for granted. Yet, in the modern world many of the decisions about how we live as consumers has a resounding effect upon everyone in the planet. The book asks the question of what are the forces that control how we live. Mammon is the name given by Jesus to the power held over individuals by economics, by money and the flow of finance. The more we let ourselves be

governed by Mammon, the more power it has and the more the vulnerable suffer.

The book and course will explore the contrast between following Jesus and following Mammon. The author argues that money plays a part in many human crises, in particular debt and a desire for things that can enslave us. At a national and international level, "every crisis seems to end in talk about economics – not economics as a tool in the service of human flourishing, but as an end in itself." When finances are in good order, at a personal or national level, then the focus tends not to see this as a means to improve people's lives, "but as the goal in the pursuit of a good life." This approach the author argues is incompatible with serving Christ.

You may think that is true or total nonsense. A Lent Group is a great way to share ideas in a place where viewpoints are respected and valued. The room and welcome will be warm and refreshments will be provided.

Rev Jonathan Gordon

St Mary's Northchurch

Every Wednesday from March 1st to April 12th 14:00-16:00 in the church



Take something up for Lent.

Come and join us for a cuppa and a piece of cake. A relaxing chat and some puzzles.

GEMINI ADVERT

PHYSIOTHERAPY

*Joint aches and pains?
Visit an experienced practitioner
in central Berkhamsted*

To book an assessment call
07834 599 225
or email info@banksphysio.com


**EMILY BANKS
PHYSIOTHERAPY**
Emily Banks MSc MMACP MCSP HPC
Member of the Health Professions Council


**Carmenta
Life**
Banks Physio is based at
Carmenta Life, Berkhamsted
www.banksphysio.com

DE LISLE limited MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

.....for **ALL** your vehicle needs

- SERVICING
- MOT REPAIRS • TYRES
- EXHAUSTS
- DIAGNOSTICS
- LOCAL COLLECTION

& DELIVERY SERVICE

01442 872711

Site 2, Unit 2, Northbridge Road
Berkhamsted, Herts, HP4 1EH



PURPOSE BUILT DRY STORAGE WAREHOUSE
CONTAINERISED STORAGE

DOCUMENT/ARCHIVE STORAGE & DATA
SHREDDING TO CATER FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS



S. Dell & Sons LIMITED
THE PROFESSIONAL REMOVERS

SILVERDALE HOUSE NORTHBRIDGE ROAD BERKHAMSTED HP4 1EG

T: (01442) 863959 F: (01442) 862163

E: sdellandsons@btconnect.com W: www.sdellandsons.com



BEES ELECTRICAL

**Guaranteed, Qualified, Insured
ALL jobs welcome**

- >Sockets and lighting
- >Energy saving LED lighting
- >Alarms, phones, smart phone control
- > Fault finding and testing
- >Free fixed price quotes

Contact Mike Smith:

Tel 01442 876416

(M) 07790 885189

beeselectrical@gmail.com



BERKHAMSTED ELECTRIC AND ELECTRONIC SERVICES LTD
ELECTRA REGISTERED No EPP36075

hate cleaning? we love it!

Let us take care of your cleaning chores

- same reliable cleaner each week
- from £13 per hr inc. weekly domestic cleaning
- police checked
- matched to your requirements
- professional local service
- insured
- no hidden costs
- all cleaners fully vetted

MAID OF HERTS
DOMESTIC CLEANING

Typically from
£13
per hr

**Call Amanda on 01442 540085
today to make an appointment
www.maidofherts.com**

• Carpet • Vinyl • Laminate • Antico • Wood



We can supply and fit new flooring or
adapt your existing carpets or tiles.

Call now for a **FREE** quote:

07912 104 815

01442 863 488 / floor2flooruk.co.uk



Professional and reliable WINDOW CLEANING

Ladderless, pure water window cleaning

Your privacy guaranteed

- Hard to reach windows
- Conservatories
- Facias
- Guttering
- Soffits
- Solar panels

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER

£5 DISCOUNT ON YOUR FIRST CLEAN
Limited time only

bhpropertyservices.co.uk

Call us now on

07731 047439 | 01442 380287

Gentle & Therapeutic Yoga

Beginners
Welcome

Relax Mind & Body

Relaxation, de-stressing and gentle stretching. It's not a strong physical workout and is very suitable for beginners or those who do not want a strenuous class

St John Ambulance Hall, Northchurch
Wed 7.00pm to 8.15pm

The Vyne—Berkhamsted Arts Centre
**Mon 6.45pm to 8.00pm &
8.15pm to 9.30pm**

BAYoga Studio, Berkhamsted High St.
Thurs 11am to 12.30pm

I am a qualified Yoga Teacher with the Yoga for Health Foundation

Tel: 07775 531502

Email: john@johngrimesyoga.co.uk

www.johngrimesyoga.co.uk

St Albans Bach Choir

Stabat Mater

Saturday 1st April 7.30pm
St Albans Cathedral

Music Director Andrew Lucas
Sinfonia Verdi

Soloists:

Eleanor Dennis *soprano*

Alison Kettlewell *mezzo soprano*

Sam Furness *tenor*

Martin Robson *bass*

Tickets £30 to £12 from:

St Albans Cathedral gift shop

Over the phone: 01727 890217

online at:

www.stalbanscathedral.org/whatson/music

There IS a God!

The first chapter of Genesis is a poetic description of creation. It is amazing that there are real beings who live in the midst of indescribable diversity - animals, birds, reptiles, fishes are just a small part of this creation. There are vast numbers of different species of all the 'animal kingdom'. It is said that if you weighed all the insects in the world the weight would be higher than if you weighed all the animals.

It is overwhelming to look at the stars and planets filling immeasurable space: 'The heavens tell out the glory of God'. There are millions of these orbs, and God, according to the early chapters of the Bible, created them all and continues to maintain the whole system.

The Bible says that this creator has a plan, the result of which is that the earth will be the dwelling place for many human beings who will all have received an invitation to

become a family in which God can experience a relationship. It has not worked out smoothly - and has been the scene of much human horror, as well as natural disasters.

But God promises to put it right, and make the earth a fit place for himself and his family to share love. It seems hard to believe that we can look forward to unending life in the service of the immortal God and his Son.

There are two general views on how creation came about. One says it just happened - everything just made itself. The second view believes that a Being - a creator - is responsible for it all. The two views both present difficulties: there will always be some lack of comprehension in our mortal minds, but to me the view of a Creator behind it all makes more sense.

Edgar Wille

Challenge, celebration and thanksgiving

Bells can do all of these things – though not necessarily all at the same time!

You will have heard some solo bongs from the bells at odd times during the past 3 months. If I can fit the dummies on before our 2 new learner-ringers come for practice, you don't hear a thing! But if the bells are up, it would be dangerous to work among the bells. It doesn't take a lot of pull to tip an 'up' bell off its balance – and even our lightest bell (a quarter of a ton) could not possibly be stopped in its flight. Learning to ring presents lots of challenges Many physical activities look easy when you watch people who are practised in the skill, and bellringing is no exception. St Mary's is grateful for your patience – and for your prayers of encouragement.

Bellringers enjoy ringing for both the challenge and the fun. But they enjoy their ringing all the more if it is with a purpose. And so it was during the middle of last month.

The first quarter peal was rung in celebration of the 85th birthdays of 2 faithful members of the church. Cath lives within earshot of the bells and listened to every bong (all 10,000 of them), her door open on a chill evening! Anne lives just too far away to hear the music of the bells. There was a bit of extra challenge involved too: I was attempting a particular pattern of ringing the treble, called treble bob, amongst the seven other bells which were ringing their own pattern called Yorkshire Surprise Major. The success of the quarter peal made it a 'first' for me.

More friends and bellringers came on a second evening to ring in thanksgiving for the life of the Rev Dr Donald Gordon, who had died recently. None of the ringers had known Donald, but they were pleased that St Mary's bells were able to pay tribute to the father of Jonathan, our Rector.

Valerie Clark, Tower Captain

Computer Help and Tuition that comes to YOU!



Friendly help to build
your confidence with your
PC, iPhone or iPad, and
support on technical issues

Call Karen on 01442 388537
Email: karen@reeboot.co.uk
Web: www.reeboot.co.uk

REEBOOT

Do you need help

with all your odd jobs around your home?
I can offer a reliable service
with many years experience
Also decorating and phone points etc
at a reasonable rate.

Call Phil Your 50+ Handiman
07802 906 870

Professional local help at reasonable prices

Probate & Estates Wills Powers of Attorney

Did you know there is no legal requirement to employ a firm of solicitors, typically at £200 or more per hour, to apply for a Grant of Probate and administer an Estate?

I have 28 years' experience, mainly with Central London solicitors, and can assist you with all aspects of the process, all for around 1/4 of normal solicitors' fees.

I can also prepare Wills and Powers of Attorney at very competitive rates
(£90 for a simple Will and £90 for a Power of Attorney)

Home visits at no extra charge

Please call for a free no-obligation discussion and quote
www.probateandestates.co.uk
david@probateandestates.co.uk

Computer Consultancy and Repairs

Getting your PC up and running again

Software installation & configuration

Basic and intermediate level training Specialising in anti-virus, security & hardware upgrades

Andy Robinson

36 Trevelyan Way
Berkhamsted HP4 1JH
Mobile: 07885 966570

AndyRobinson2010@gmail.com



For a friendly, personal
and professional service

Landscaping

Planting
Decking
Driveways
Turfing
Fencing
Paths & Patios
Brick Work
Ground Clearance

Tree Care

Fully Qualified & Insured
Tree Removal/Felling
Tree Shaping
Deadwood Removal
Reduction/Lifting/Thinning
Stump Grinding
Tree House Construction
Fire Wood for Sale



Contact: Rian Murphy

For a free consultation and
quote for your next project

Tel/Fax: 01442 825176
Mobile: 07900 006246

www.silverleaf-landscaping.co.uk

LOGS FOR SALE

astropelogs.co.uk



Seasoned, dry and split logs. Free local delivery.

Bulk Bag £75.00 (approx. 0.6m³)

Truck load £100.00 (approx. 1.1m³)

Sack of logs £9 (approx. 20kg. Min delivery 10 sacks)

Barrowing & stacking service available, please ask for details.

We also provide tree &, hedge cutting services, fencing, pressure washing and grass cutting.

Please contact Glenn on 07951 126534

L.L.Heating

Family business over 30 years serving Tring, Berkhamsted, Villages
Gas Central Heating, Boilers, Fires & AGAs,
Servicing, Repairs & Upgrades,
Power Flushing, Landlords Certificates,
Plumbing & Energy Saving Controls

Tel: 01442 890750

service@llheating.co.uk
Rocamora House, Woodrow,
Wigginton, Tring HP23 6HT.
www.llheating.co.uk



This Month In March 1874

Early one Monday morning in March 1874, a scene took place in an empty Berkhamsted High Street which would be unheard of today. On that morning, an agricultural labourer called George Randall, the 20-year-old son of James Randall of New Road in Northchurch, the Sexton and a bellringer at St Mary's church, was driving two oxen down the High Street towards Northchurch. They both belonged to Mrs Ann Ashby, the Northchurch butcher who had her shop in the High Street. It was not long before some local boys saw the approaching oxen and, in search of some fun, removed their brightly-coloured handkerchiefs from their pockets and started waving them in an attempt to frighten the oxen. The result was predictable; in an agitated state, one of the oxen panicked and George Randall lost control. The ox started to run off, knocking over a small boy who was on his way to school. Attempting to save the boy from further injury George Randall himself fell over and hit his head heavily on a stone. Had not a man named Cook come onto the scene at this crucial time and pulled George Randall away he might have been killed. Eventually other men managed to capture the ox and secured it in Lane's nursery. The Ox was then taken to the meadow by Lagley House in Gossoms End where it was killed. Although severely injured by his fall, George Randall subsequently made a full recovery.

Richard North

The Chiltern Sinfonietta

Leader: Lesley Pearce

Conductor: David Moore

Spring Concert

In aid of The Hospice of St Francis and
St. Mary's Raise the Roof Campaign

Saturday 4th March 2017 7.30pm
St Mary's Church, Northchurch, HP4 3QW

Leos Janacek	Suite for Strings
Michael Haydn	Symphony in D Major P21
Paul Hindemith	Five Pieces for Strings
Joseph Haydn	Symphony No 64

Tickets are FREE and will be available on the door
or can be booked in advance by visiting
www.chilternsinfonietta.com
or telephoning 07771 822078

There will be a retiring collection in aid of
St Mary's Raise the Roof Campaign &
The Hospice of St Francis

RAISING THE ROOF

The construction of the model of St Mary's Northchurch has now progressed to the stage where it has internal lighting to shine through the stained glass windows. By the end of March we hope to have the outside finished and the bell installed in the tower. Then work starts on the inside!

Sponsorship for the model towards the roof repair fund has now exceeded £18,000 in just one year. Many thanks to the sponsors for their generous support, without which we would risk rather damp services in years to come and strange noises from a rain sodden organ!

If you wish to see the model it will be on display at the 10am service on Sunday 5th March.

Please continue sponsoring bricks at £3 each by completing a yellow envelope at the back of the church and putting it into the money box in church. Or come and see me in church, if you wish to discuss sponsorship or contact Andrew Dobbie,

1 Shootersway Lane, Berkhamsted HP43NP,
andrew@gameplaneurope.com

tel: 07775 560363



Northchurch and Berkhamsted U3A

We meet at Northchurch Social Centre, Bell Lane on the first or second Tuesday of the month between 10am and 12 noon. The meetings include a visiting speaker and refreshments. It is an ideal opportunity for retired or semi-retired people to join in various activities, learn new skills, outings and making new friends.

For more information, please contact Chris on 01442 8711591 or go to our website:
www.northchurchandberkhamstedu3a.co.uk



Appledown Rescue's Dog of the Month

This lovely lass is Jodie, a terrier cross born 2006/7. She may be a more mature lady but she still has a spring in her step and a lot of love to give! Jodie still enjoys her walks and would be ideal for an active retired person/couple. She could probably live with another dog pending introductions. Jodie cannot live in Luton.

If you can offer Jodie or any of our other dogs a loving and secure home, please call in at the kennels any day between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. or phone us for more details. Please note that there are restrictions on rehoming dogs to families with children under seven years of age. Full details of the rehoming process can be found on our website, or please contact the kennels.

**Appledown Rescue
and Rehoming Kennels,
Harling Road, Eaton Bray,
Beds LU6 1QY**

01525220383

appledown.kennels@btinternet.com
www.appledownrescue.co.uk



MOTECHE TUNING

**ENHANCE THAT DRIVING EXPERIENCE WITH OUR
LATEST ADVANCED VEHICLE REMAPPING TO BRING
YOU ULTIMATE PERFORMANCE AND MONEY SAVING
FUEL ECONOMY... COUPLED WITH OUR TERRACLEAN
INTERNAL ENGINE CLEANSING SYSTEM FOR EVEN
MORE FUEL ECONOMY!!!**

PLUS!

- LATEST DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT •
- SERVICING OF ALL MAKES •
- RECOVERY • CAR & TRUCK MOT'S •
- WELDING AND FABRICATION •
- TYRES • EXHAUSTS •
- PROFESSIONAL WINDOW TINTING •
- AIR CONDITIONING SERVICING •

TERRACLEAN

**Mot's
£35
SPECIAL
OFFER**

MOTECHE

**WOODVIEW FARM
INDUSTRIAL EST
HOG LANE
HP5 3NX**

01442 870 500

follow us MOTECHE

www.motechcars.co.uk

The Monday Club

March 20th Uke Rhythmic.
Performance by a Ukelele Group.

2.00pm in the Parish Rooms.

For more information please contact:
Joan Downhill on 865821 or
Barbara Lloyd on 865059.

DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL GARDEN MAINTENANCE, FENCING
AND LANDSCAPING CONTRACTOR

Greenscapes

Regular Maintenance Garden Tidy-Up & Clearances Hedge & Grass Cutting Turfing
All types of Fencing Sheds Gates Tree Work Pressure Washing

A friendly and reliable local business that will deliver exactly what you want.
We have many happy customers in the local area.

To make an enquiry please call **Darren Porter-Hough** on **07986 708673**
www.greenscapes.org.uk

A local food cooperative at the heart of the community.

Every Saturday morning for over 50 years a group of home bakers, growers and jam makers have been selling homemade baked goods and preserves as well as home grown fruit ,vegetables and plants from a stall on Berkhamsted market. You may have seen them on the High Street.

The Country Markets network is an offshoot of the Women's Institute, which has a glorious tradition dating back to the First World War. Its original purpose was to enable women widowed by the Great War, to earn money while at the same time helping to increase the supply of food to the war-torn nation. This became even more vital



during the Second World War when rationing had to be introduced and the young Mary Berry was deployed to make sure that jam recipes conformed to government standards.

Of course, they have continued to adapt, responding to changes in the way people cook and eat. Now they even have bakers and growers who are men! Today the stall carries an ever evolving range of foods from gluten-free cakes to curries and soups. The team say that customers appreciate the fact that their food is fresh, locally produced and contains no added preservatives. Many people are looking for an ethical and wholesome alternative to mass produced ready meals. Some of the regulars even enjoy being teased by bossy women as they deliberate over the vast choice of teatime treats!

If you would like to join the team and become one of the regular producers, or if you would like to know more, pop along to the stall or contact them on

Email: countrymarket@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone: Chairman: 01442 255862

Facebook: Find us at Berkhamsted-Country Market.

HANDYMAN WITH VAN

LOCAL SEMI-RETIRED BUILDER

40 YEARS EXPERIENCE

DECORATING AND
GENERAL REPAIRS

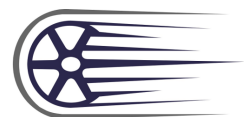
LAWNS AND HEDGES CUT

GARDENS TIDIED

LIGHT REMOVALS

REFERENCES AVAILABLE

PLEASE CALL MICK
0775 393 8180



THE TYRE CHANGERS 07746 903095

HAVE YOUR NEW TYRES
FITTED AT HOME OR
YOUR PLACE OF WORK.

Local and convenient low cost tyres
fitted at a time and place that suits
you.

Budget, mid-range and premium
tyres supplied at the best prices.

info@thetyrechangers.co.uk
thetyrechangers.co.uk



We are a family run Child
care Provider meeting all
your Children's needs
Since 1995.

Before and after
School clubs for St
Mary's, Westfield
and Bridgewater.



Holiday club open to all
Children from reception
To year 6.



Full and Sessional
Daycare at
Northchurch
Cricket Pavilion.

Wrap around care
for all local
Nursery classes.

Home from Home Kindergarten

01442 862638

info@homefromhomekinder.co.uk

www.homefromhomekinder.co.uk

DOUBLE GLAZING DOCTOR

Window and door repairs

GLASS REPLACEMENT

Handles * Hinges * Letterboxes
Locks * Cat flaps * Door adjustment

25 years experience

Contact Rob

07909 443010

The Northchurch Accountant

'your local accountant'

Friendly, professional help and advice

- ✓ Business and individual accounts
- ✓ Startup to limited companies
- ✓ Payroll and business planning
- ✓ Bookkeeping and VAT

Pop in for a free no obligation chat
and a nice coffee!

Between Tesco and the chippy in Northchurch



BAS Associates, 131 High Street South

01442 560050 info@basassociates.co.uk

www.basassociates.co.uk

GREEN GARDENING

PLEASE CALL NICK

M: 077 08 04 02 85

H: 01442 872 577

LAWN MAINTENANCE

ONE OFF OR REGULAR VISITS

GARDEN TIDY UPS (JUNGLES A SPECIALITY)

HEDGE CUTTING

FENCING AND PATIOS

POWER WASHING

NO JOB TOO SMALL

Services at St Mary's

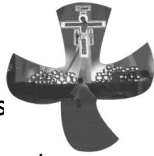


5th March

Lent 1

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am Parish Eucharist
6.00pm Taize Service

*The Taize Service is a quiet meditation s
chants and silence.
Tea/coffee and cake to be served afterwards.
All welcome.*



12th March

Lent 2

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am All Age Service
6.00pm Youth Group Service

19th March

Lent 3

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am Parish Eucharist
6.00pm Evening Prayer

26th March *Lent 4 (Mothering Sunday)*

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am Family Eucharist
6.00pm Evening Prayer

Contacts for the Newsletter

Distribution to Valerie Clark, 862613

Advertising & editorial by email to the Editor, Jill Hipson
jill.hipson@live.co.uk

Next issue: April 2017.

All advertisements must be paid for before they can be
published.

Copy date is 15th of each month.

Parish Registers: February 2017

Funerals

February 15th

Christopher Pocock

The Berkhamsted Bluebell Walk 2017

Join the 49th Berkhamsted Walk on Sunday 14th May 2017 to raise money for The Children's Society and help change children's stories. In Britain today there are still many children and young people suffering hardship, abuse and neglect. Too often their problems are ignored and their voices unheard. Help us to make a difference to the lives of these vulnerable young people by taking part in the Berkhamsted Walk and raising sponsorship to support the work of The Children's Society.

Now is the time to dig out your walking boots and ask your family, friends and work colleagues for sponsorship, or even to join you on the walk. Come along and walk with us on well-marked paths through Ashridge and enjoy the bluebells and beech trees this Spring.

Choose between the following walks:

- * **The Fun Walk** – a 6 mile gentle stroll suitable for all ages, particularly families with younger children, (note the route is not buggy-friendly)
- * **The Bluebell Walk – 12 miles**
- * **The Challenge – 18 miles.** This route is for fit and frequent walkers.

The 12 and 18 mile walks start from the Court House next to St Peter's Church in Berkhamsted High Street HP4 2AX between 10 and 11.30 am and the 6 mile walk starts at Ashridge College HP4 1NS (free parking) between 11am and 2pm. A prize will be awarded for the highest amount raised through sponsorship.

To find out more visit www.berkhamstedwalk.com and download sponsor forms or collect one from St Peter's Church, The Complete Outdoors, Berkhamsted Library or phone 01442 864968 to speak to Ann Browning.

All church enquiries to:
Rev'd Jonathan Gordon
St Mary's Church

E-mail: revjagordon@googlemail.com
Phone 01442 871547 Mobile 0775 2261679

Parish Room Bookings:
Emily Millar 07929 934367

Please visit our website www.stmarysnorthchurch.org.uk