

There will be a **Women's World Day of Prayer** service at St Mary's Kingsclere on Friday 2 March at 2pm. The service has been prepared by Christian women in Malaysia. All welcome (men too!).

In May, St Mary's will be running a fundraising venture entitled "**Come Dine with Me**" - it is something all church members can help with. Details to be given on Sun 4 March after 10.30am service.

For your prayers:

- All taking part in the Alpha Course
 - Bob Wateridge; Sheila Thompson
- RIP: Gerald Coventry; Ivor Pearce; Ellen Sprules, formerly of Headley; Joan White, formerly of Kingsclere

This Week:

Mon 20th	Coffee @ St Paul's	9am
	ABC (K*)	9.30 am
Tues 21st	Morning Prayer (K*)	9 am
	Study Group (K*)	10 am
	Alpha Course	7 pm
Wed 22nd	Ash Wednesday	
	Holy Communion (K*)	10 am
	Funeral of Gerald Coventry (K*)	2pm
	St Mary's Guild	2.15pm
	Holy Communion with imposition of ashes (H*)	7.30 pm
Fri 24th	Funeral of Ivor Pearce (K*)	3.30 pm
Sun 26th	Holy Communion (K*)	8am
	All age Worship with Baptism of Dougie & Barney Bonner (AH*)	10.30 am

K = St Mary's Kingsclere; AH = St Paul's Ashford Hill; H = St Peter's Headley

Notices for next week's pewslip should be sent by Wednesday this week to:

lucythirtle@btinternet.com

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www.clerewoodlands.org

The Parishes of Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley

Sunday 19 February 2012

Last before Lent

A warm welcome to all attending worship today. Please take this sheet home for your prayers and information.



Today's services

8 am Holy Communion (Headley)

10.30 am Parish Communion (Kingsclere)

Hymns: 105; 66; 357; 104

Collect of the Day

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading - 2 Kings 2.1-12

¹When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

'Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

⁶Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his

mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' ¹⁰He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 4.3-6

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Gospel - Mark 9.2-9

²Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Post Communion Prayer

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus

Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Notices

Lent is upon us. Ash Wednesday falls this coming week. In view of the Alpha course, we are not intending to put on a full programme of Lent groups. However, Lucy will be offering five sessions each focussing on a different spiritual companion (eg Julian of Norwich, Venerable Bede etc). These will be less of a discussion group than usually and more of an opportunity to learn more. These will be daytime sessions—probably on Tuesday mornings. More details to follow.

A slightly different activity for Lent is to use the "Count your Blessings" resource from Christian Aid. These sheets are designed to help us live more gratefully reminding us of our comparative wealth and blessing compared with those who have much less. The resource sheet suggests an appropriate monetary donation as a way of expressing our gratitude but the resource is a helpful spiritual one even if we are unable to match the suggested giving. Sample sheets at the back of the churches (or downloadable from Christian Aid website).

We are looking ahead to Annual Meetings (Fri 20th April—Kingsclere; Mon 23 April—AHwH). This is a time when individuals are elected to fill certain key roles. However, it is appropriate for all of us to review the part we play in church life, to consider whether we have time and talents to offer—or indeed whether it is time to hand over a baton of responsibility to someone else. If anyone would like to talk anything through with Lucy or Trish, please ask for a word.

Would those responsible for areas of the church's life in both parishes draft a short report to contribute to each parish's annual report. Please keep these **brief** drawing attention only to particular highlights as well as plans for this year. Please send to Emma Rivers by middle February.

Janet Sturgess is collecting in **Childrens' Society** boxes. Bring to church or ring 298079.

St Mary's Guild meets in the Kingsmill Room at 2.15 on Wed 22 Feb. The Handbell Ringing Team from Woolton Hill are coming to introduce us to Handbells and to entertain us.