

**The Parish Church of St Mary's  
Hilton with Marston-on-Dove**

**February 2019**



**NOTICES AND  
SERVICES**

# Services in February

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**

**11.00am Holy Communion (BCP)**

**With 'Good News Crew'**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February**

**11.00am Holy Communion at Percy Wood Close**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February**

**9.30am Holy Communion**

**11.00am Family Service**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February**

**11.00am Morning Prayer**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

**11.00am Family Communion**



Currently we are awaiting a new vicar as Reverend Andy Murphie has relocated to a parish in the Lake District. All services, baptisms and wedding bookings are proceeding as normal.

For up to date information on services please see

**[www.stmaryshilton.org](http://www.stmaryshilton.org)**

email: [admin@stmaryshilton.org](mailto:admin@stmaryshilton.org)

phone: **01283 808408**

facebook: [@stmaryshiltonandmarston](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryshiltonandmarston)

## **CHURCH NOTICES:**



**Flowers in Church** You would be very welcome to put flowers in Church or give a donation for flowers to remember a special occasion or anniversary. If you would like to do this please speak to Sue Hibbert.

Thank you.



Raise free funds for the Church via the [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) website/app and search for St Mary's Hilton with Marston-on-Dove

**Stamp collection** There is a collecting box for used postage stamps in the Church porch for 'Oxfam'.

## **Parochial Church Council**

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7.30pm, in the Schoolroom

**PCC Members:** Mrs. S. Aiton; Mrs. E. Barber (Churchwarden); Mrs. H. Brown (Hon. Treasurer); Mr. A. Hibbert (Churchwarden); Mr. S. Johnson; Mr. B. Keane; Mrs W. Morris; Mr. J. Murphie (Hon. Secretary); Miss C. Owen; Mrs. L. Rees-Jones; Mrs. P. Roberts; Mrs. H. Stone; Mr. P. Walton-Knight; Mr N Brown

## DIY Bible Study

In our DIY Bible Study this month, we look at Luke 2: 39-52. The thoughts and questions are adapted from the book '100 Stand-Alone Bible Studies' by Penelope Wilcock.

### His home at Nazareth: Luke2:39-52

When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. After the festival was over, whilst his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they travelled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

### Commentary

Though we have so little information about this period of Jesus' life, the inspiration we can glean from what we do know is very precious. Jesus grew up in the home of Joseph, who is remarkable not least because he plays so vital a role yet we do not know of a single word he said. Perhaps Joseph shows us that the living Word is nurtured and protected by silence, and grows to maturity in the company of silence. This leads us to consider the role of silence on modest means. This speaks to us of the humility of God's grace, but suggests also that simplicity, making do for ourselves, honest work, and the labour of our hands are all part of a spiritual environment.

Joseph and Mary lost Jesus on their pilgrimage to the Temple because they assumed someone else was looking after him. That speaks volumes about the society in which they lived – where anyone's child was everyone's child, and all children were welcomed and loved. Jesus grew up knowing the meaning of community.

When they found their lost child, they expected an explanation, but treated him with gentleness. He had caused great inconvenience and anxiety and they told him so- but there were no angry scenes. Nobody hit him. Jesus grew up with gentleness, and this helped him to mature into what he was meant to be.

### Questions

- What was your childhood home like? Whose life introduced you to Jesus, and showed you the path of grace?
- Think honestly, now. If Jesus had been your child, and you had lost him in the crowd and taken three days to find him, what would have happened?
- Joseph was a quiet man and we read of Mary "treasuring" or "pondering" things that happen, in her heart. In your own life and home, what priority is given to quiet reflection? Is there space to think things through, or is life very busy and active? Would you describe the emphasis in your home as "being" or "doing"?

### Prayer

Patient and gentle God, you watch in wisdom and love over our homes and families. So direct our feet in the way of grace that we are fit travelling companions for Jesus. May his light so shine among us that gradually we are changed to become like him. Help us, good Lord, not only to sing about him and talk about him, but really to live with him. May Jesus abide among us as a member of our family, and may the family likeness grow more evident day by day. For we ask it in his holy name; Amen.