

SERVICES

THIS WEEK—13th September

9:00am, Holy Communion, St. Mark's
9:00am, Morning Worship, St. Luke's
10:45am, Zoom Worship
12:00pm, Zoom Communion

NEXT WEEK—20th September

9:00am, Holy Communion, St. Mark's
10:30am, Family Worship, St. Michael's
10:45am, Zoom Worship
12:00pm, Zoom Communion

Zoom Login Details

ID—588 877 574

By Phone—Dial 0203 481 5240 enter the above ID when prompted followed by the # key

Please pray for the grieving families and friends of:

Ann Rosemary Sumner,

Church Office: Mandy Marler - 514774
stmarks.oultonbroad@gmail.com
Mon-Fri 9:00am to 1:00pm

www.stmarksob.org
<http://facebook.com/stmarksob>
<http://twitter.com/stmarksob>

DIARY

Mon 14th

Tues 15th

2-3pm, Church open for private prayer,
St. Michael's

Wed 16th

8:30am, Quiet Time, St. Mark's
9.30am, Holy Communion, St. Mark's
7:30pm, St. Mark's & St. Luke's PCC
Meeting, St. Mark's

Thurs 17th

Fri 18th

2-3pm, Church open for private prayer,
St. Michael's

Sat 19th

Sun 20th

2-3pm, Church open for private prayer,
St. Luke's

The BROADSHEET

The Weekly Newsletter for the Oulton Broad Team Ministry 13th September, 2020

Alpha Online



Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith. Each week addresses a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha is run all around the world, and everyone is welcome. It runs online, in cafés, churches, universities, homes—to name a few places—and, although no two Alphas look the same, they have three key things in common: hospitality, a talk and good conversation.

We've run Alpha in our Parishes before but not using an online option with the Alpha Film Series. Alpha online means that people can participate from the comfort of their own homes or, if they don't have internet access, join with a friend who does. Alpha is set up for those who are exploring the Christian faith but it can be useful for those who are new to faith or those who wish to deepen their discipleship.

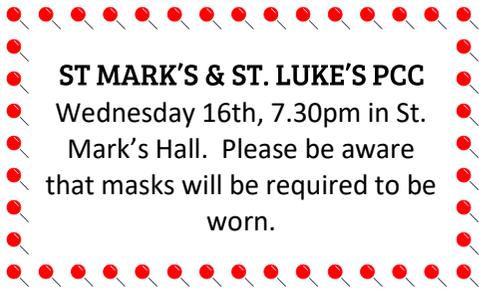
The Oulton Broad Team Ministry Alpha will begin with a taster session on Monday, September 28th, and will then run for nine weeks from October 12th onwards. Each evening will be 7.30-9.30pm with an online introduction, followed by an alpha film and then discussion in small groups. The latter will take place online but there'll also be an option for a face-to-face (or facemask to facemask!) group.

If you'd like to find out more, or if you'd like to get involved (either as a participant or a helper), Helen would be glad to hear from you. Please get in touch via revhelenjary@gmail.com or (01502) 561546.

There's also further info at: <https://www.alpha.org/try-alpha/>



*God's vision for us:
A growing,
Christ-centred community,
led by the Holy Spirit,
worshipping God and
making disciples.*



ST MARK'S & ST. LUKE'S PCC

Wednesday 16th, 7.30pm in St. Mark's Hall. Please be aware that masks will be required to be worn.

DIARY UPDATES

Just a reminder to church group leaders to please let Mandy know if you are planning on resuming or are indefinitely on hold if you haven't done so yet.

CAROL SINGING

Celebrate Norfolk is looking for choirs, church groups and other ad-hoc groups of singers who are willing and able to join the charity's carol singing event in Norwich city centre on Saturday December 19th. Please contact John Betts at johnbetts@celebratenorfolk.co.uk if you would like to sign up or for more information.

HARVEST AND ST. MICHAEL'S DAY AT ST. MICHAEL'S

Sunday 4th October

There will be a harvest service on this day and we will also be celebrating the feast of St. Michael and all angels with a Gift Day. Everyone is encouraged to bring tinned and long shelf life items to donate to the Lowestoft Foodbank for harvest and consider making a financial donation towards the work of the church in honour of St. Michael.

WEEKLY PRAYER FROM TONY HILDER

Give us, our Father, a sense of your presence as we worship you with prayer. Grant us gratitude as we remember your goodness, penitence as we remember our sins, and joy as we remember your love; and enable us to lift up our hearts in humble prayer and fervent praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We thank you, Lord, for all those good things which are in our world and in our lives through your great love and mercy. Save us from being ungrateful. Save us from magnifying our troubles and forgetting our blessings. Give us strength of spirit to rise into joyfulness of heart; and by your help may we learn to live as those who have trusted in the promises of good which are incarnate in Jesus, and who know that in the end love must conquer all.

Heavenly Father we thank you for our friends, and especially those who have shared our troubles and sorrows in times past and have supported in life's dark valleys.

Help us to value our friends and to regard each one as a gift and token of your love. And make us ready to extend friendship to others around us and to remember the lonely, the housebound, and those who need a friend's helping hand; for Jesus Christ sake.

Merciful Father accept these Prayers for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen

'PEARLESS'

(Due to crossed wires, Lis and David's reflection for the final newsletter sadly didn't make it to the office in time for printing so has been included in this week's Broadsheet.)

Being 'Pearless' is a gardening condition. Over the years, our 'Williams' and 'Conference' trees have never produced a pear big enough to eat. After weeding and mulching we've admired the flowers and the small fruit developing but then, after returning from holiday, no pears at all. 'Lockdown' has given us much more time in the garden. We have discovered the culprits who are squirrels which hold their annual convention in the woods of the old rectory behind our garden and, without use of satnav or road signs, directly leap from trees straight onto our pear trees. Despite one layer of netting and strings this was not going to put them off, as we discovered one evening. A born leader squirrel had chewed its way through and invited its gang who managed to strip most of one side of the tree in a few hours. That evening was a mammoth and exhausting task of double netting; involving concrete blocks and rocks, heavier duty netting, copious amounts of string and even old curtain netting. Our defences held and our photo shows some of the harvest results of our hard work.

The writer to the Hebrews (10v19f) has a great message of encouragement for Christians to 'draw near to God' who is faithful to us but also he writes, 'Let us consider how we may spur one another

on towards love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another.' In chapter 3v13 he writes, 'encourage one another daily.' Our secular society is very much a 'me first' society. One day, we trust, God will show us all how dangerous this is from lack of care for the environment to relationships in families and churches. We had pears this year because we put ourselves out. We went the extra mile. The 'lockdown' has brought out the best in some people and the worst in others.

But what about us as a church as we move to a slightly more normal way of meeting and worshipping. Will we be 'me first' in what we want to see? How can we step up a gear or two in how we encourage each other and be a blessing to our wider community? We only had the pears because we put ourselves out and did not give up. What practical things can we do in praying for and caring for each other?

David and Lis Hayden

MITRES USES DURING A PANDEMIC

