



South Cotswold Team Ministry

Sunday 29th March

Clergy

Vicar: Rev'd Caroline Symcox – 01285 712467

Curate: Rev'd Vicky Falvey – 07356 234248

Priest – Pastoral Care: Rev'd Canon Denise Hyde
01285 713285

carolinesymcox@googlemail.com

revvickyfalvey@gmail.com

denisehyde15@gmail.com

SERVICES

Sunday 29th March – 6th Sunday of Lent

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

10.00am Family Service

Coffee: Kathleen Hall and Sheila Hughes

6.00pm Healing Service with Holy Communion

Monday to Wednesday 30th March to 1st April

6.00pm Compline

Maundy Thursday 2nd April

NO 10.30am HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

7.30pm Holy Communion with foot washing

Good Friday 3rd April

12 noon Walk of Witness

2.00pm Holy Hour

Saturday 4th April

8.00pm Service of Light

Sunday 5th April – Easter Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Common Worship Holy Communion

Sidespeople: Andy Wilkinson

Readings: Meg Ralph

Intercessions: Val Trafford

Offertory: Heather Gorton

Prayer Rota: Michelle Harris and Ruth Blackwell

6.00pm Prayer & Praise

From Rev'd Vicky – revvickyfalvey@gmail.com

Palm Sunday Reflection: Matthew 21: 1-11

Palm Sunday, as told in Matthew's Gospel, is a moment of gathering, celebration, and joyful expectation. Crowds line the streets, waving branches and shouting "Hosanna!" as Jesus enters Jerusalem. It is a scene full of hope and anticipation—but it also invites us to ask an important question: was Jesus the King they were expecting?

The people longed for a ruler who would bring immediate change, strength, and victory. Yet Jesus came in humility, riding on a donkey, embodying a very different kind of kingship—one marked by peace, sacrifice, and love.

Palm Sunday is both a celebration and a threshold. On this same day, in church, we will also hear the Passion story, reminding us that the road ahead leads not only through praise, but through suffering. Holy Week holds together deep contrasts: shared meals with friends, the pain of betrayal, the anguish of the cross, and the silence of the tomb.

It can be tempting to move quickly from the joy of Palm Sunday to the triumph of Easter morning. But in doing so, we risk missing the depth and richness of the journey in between.

This week invites us to walk more closely with Jesus—to be present in both the highs and the lows. Whether by attending services or through personal reflection, may we take time to enter fully into this sacred story.

As we cry "Hosanna" and look toward "Alleluia," may we be a people who journey faithfully through it all.

Rev'd Vicky Falvey
Curate, St Mary's Fairford

Join us for Morning Prayer via Zoom on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday at 9am every week. Click below for the week starting 30th March.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83312075380?pwd=BGcC4Cu6Ff066Js2wgLWr0VW0gYOJd.1>

Meeting ID: 833 1207 5380

Passcode: 730151

From Heather - fairfordpcc@gmail.com or heathergorton31@gmail.com

Office: 01285 712611 or home 01285 712428

My office hours are 10.00 to 1.00 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. I am also continuing to work from home so you can contact me at either the office or home. The office is closed on Mondays and Michelle will be in on Fridays from 10.00 to 12.00.

If you are sending in your articles, photos etc. for the bumper copy at the end of the month I will need them by 12 noon on the last Wednesday of the month. For the weekly newsletter I would still like articles in by Wednesday midday.

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Please remember the following in your prayers:

Those who are ill: Grace Slack, Hannah, David and Glynnis Langley, Tabi Berry, Jean Griffiths, Christine Stephens.

Those who have died: Martin Lee-Browne, Barbara Cobbett

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Community Prayers

All are welcome to come and pray together for the world, the nation and our community along with any prayer requests that are placed in our prayer box in the Lady Chapel. We meet every Monday at 5pm for 30 minutes in the Chancel. Please use the north door.

(Please also note we do not always meet on Bank Holidays, please check notices above for clarification)

For further details contact Rev'd Canon Denise Hyde denisehyde15@gmail.com

Lent Groups

Lent is with us, and as always we are offering Lent Groups to help us study and reflect through this special season of preparation. They are:

- Wednesday afternoons – contact Rev'd Denise for more information.
- Thursdays 4pm via Zoom – reading the Archbishop's Book for Lent: "Dancing to the Heartbeat of God". The book is available via Kindle or in hard copy, and we can source copies if required. Contact Rev'd Caroline for more information.
- Fridays 10.30am starting 27th February in the Church Room, led by Rev'd Vicky, and studying Paula Gooder's 'Lentwise' course for five weeks.

Prayer/Thought for the Week

You are a new creation!

The moment you accept God's forgiveness you no longer have a dark past, you have a brighter future.

Heavenly Father, guide us to live in the same way as your son Jesus, showed us. Help us to focus on humbly serving others to bring glory to you. Help us to refrain from making quick judgements, instead help us to be more empathetic and loving towards others, open up and show us opportunities where we can be a blessing to those around us.

Thank you Lord, we pray in Jesus name. AMEN

NOTICES

Easter Flowers

We will be arranging the flowers in the church for Easter on Saturday 4th April from 10.00 am. If you have any flowers and/or greenery that you could let us have we would be very grateful. Please either leave in the church before Saturday or phone me and I will arrange for them to be collected. Many thanks

Heather

Stewards

Please remember that the clocks go forward this weekend and closing time for the church will now be 5.00pm. If you are the last person on duty you might like to arrange with the person before you to extend their hour so that you do not have a two hour shift.

With many thanks for all the help that you as Stewards give to our much treasured church.

Alison and Sally.

Church Cleaning.

I am giving up organising the cleaning rota at the end of March.

Is there anyone who would like to take on this much appreciated task?

Carol Thompson

Tea Towels – We are short of tea towels. Have you washed tea towels from an event in the Community Centre (CC). Would you please return any you may have to the Kitchen. Also any donations of tea towels would be gratefully received. This is an ongoing request as they seem to vanish more quickly than ever as use of the CC increases over the year. Thank you. Helen Evans.

The King's Men in Concert

St Mary's Church, Fairford, Saturday 25th April 7pm

Expect a vibrant evening of music as the King's Men, the renowned a cappella group from King's College Cambridge perform live at St Mary's Church on the 25th of April 2026 at 7:00 PM

Expect rich harmonies, playful arrangements, and the unmistakable charm that has made The King's men one of the UK's most beloved vocal ensemble.

Set in the beautiful acoustic of St Mary's this one-night concert promises and uplifting blend of contemporary hits, choral favourites and irresistible energy - a perfect spring night out for music lovers of all ages.

Tickets £25/£20/£12.50 from [Eventbrite](#) or in cash at Fairford Opticians 01285 713313

Music at St Mary's

A new menu item - Music at St Mary's has been added to the website. By clicking on this you will see the home page for the Music at St Mary's project. By clicking on the links on this page you will find more details about the individual concerts.

Doug Crowley

From Fairford History Society

Wilts and Glos Standard 12 April 1890

Easter: On Easter day the usual festive services were held at the parish church, which was beautifully decorated. There were large congregations. Appropriately sermons were preached in the morning by the Rev R H Wilmot, and in the evening by the Vicar. A new pulpit cloth, exquisitely wrought in gold braid and coloured silk needlework, on white corded silk and bookmarkers for the lectern. Also, offertory bags to match, were being used for the first time, the gift of members of the Vicar's family. The collections during the day will be devoted to the fund for restoration of the organ. The bells rang out merrily during the day, and the St George's ensign again floated out from its point of vantage on the tower.

Easter Vestry: The annual vestry for the appointment of churchwardens and for passing the churchwardens' accounts was held on Easter Tuesday, when besides the Vicar and Churchwardens and Mr A Hitchman Iles, vestry clerk, only two ratepayers were present. The Church Lands' Charity accounts were submitted for inspection, and a list of persons who have received parochial relief during the year. The Churchwardens' accounts, embodying a gross amount of under £10, were agreed to, and the Vicar then had pleasure in again nominating Lieut. Colonel Archer as Vicar's warden, at the same time expressing his indebtedness to the churchwardens for their valuable assistance during the past year, saying that the post was more than usually

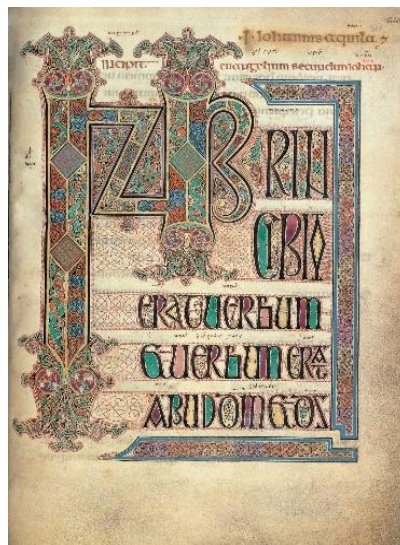
arduous owing to the restoration work that was going on. Mr Alexander Iles was re-appointed as parish Churchwarden, and the meeting terminated.

The Fairford Gospels: If you would like to be involved, please contact Katie Blake on 07480 235066 or ekatie.blake@gmail.com.

On Friday March 27th we will need people to make soup. If you can help, please contact Katie as above for more details. Many thanks!

The Fairford Gospels

Fridays during Lent
at St Thomas's Church in Horcott



- ❖ Listen to all or part of the gospel
- ❖ Enjoy a Soup Lunch (Feb 27th refreshments only)
- ❖ Come when you can, stay as long as you are able

March 20 th	12 noon	Luke's Gospel
March 27 th	12 noon	John's Gospel

Churches Together Around Fairford





A Rocha is a Christian Environmental charity which helps in many ways to care for God's earth through a variety of vital conservation efforts on every continent of the world. They run Eco Church – a learning community open to all Church denominations. Here at St Mary's, Fairford, we have achieved the Bronze and Silver awards and soon we will be 'going for Gold'.

The international A Rocha story began with Cruzinha, a Christian nature study centre in Portugal, founded by Peter and Miranda Harris in the 1980s. Inspired by visits to Cruzinha, it was Dave and Anne Bookless who got things started in the UK, back in 2001. The aim is to have Flourishing Nature and Flourishing People

You can learn more at <https://arocha.org.uk>

Fairford & District Choral Society
SPRING CONCERT

MOZART REQUIEM

AVE VERUM • TE DEUM

Saturday 28 March 7pm
St Mary's Church, Fairford

Musical Director: Nia Llewelyn Jones

Organist: Ian Crabbe

with professional soloists

TICKETS: £15 (£5 for under 18s)

From:

- Fairford Opticians
01285 713313 (cash only)
- Choir Contact
07770 638227
- Available on the night
(cash/card)





A Series of Five Talks from Fairfordians



“What A Difference



A DNA Makes”



A heart-warming story about living without parents, the family ancestry tree, and game-changing DNA surprises.



by Peter Howlett



7.15pm Friday 10th April



Fairford Community Centre



Light Refreshments Served



Retiring Donations to  **High Five Children's Charities Project 2026**
The Magic Breakfast. Glos Young Carers.
The Rainbow Trust. Smile Train. Home Start Cotswolds &



Registered Charity No: 298627



SPRING CONCERT

with Blue Notes
& Coln Choir

Friday 24th April, 7.30 p.m.



All Hallows, Church Lane,
South Cerney, GL7 5TT

Bar

Retiring Collection

Raffle

COLN
choir

MOORE ALLEN
& INNOCENT

blue
notes

MUSIC

• AT ST MARY'S •



THE KING'S MEN IN CONCERT

Photo by Martin Bond

Church of St Mary the Virgin Fairford
7PM Saturday 25th April 2026

Tickets £25 | £20 | £12.50 for Students & Under 18's
www.eventbrite.co.uk (fees apply)
or Fairford opticians from 9th March 01285 713313


St Mary's Church
• FAIRFORD •

**SATURDAY
MAY 9TH**

7.30pm

Doors 7pm



"A simply fantastic show: surprising, hilarious, and moving. Get a ticket at all costs - a great evening out."

STEPHEN GOSS



A Pocket Opera
Carmenco

Join Carmen in her boudoir as she tells her own story in words and music.

Concert • Theatre • Comedy

"A playful and well-crafted performance with a depth of exceptional musical talent that audiences both respect and adore."

ED O'DRISCOLL - (AIR IN G)

TICKETS: £20

available from
Coln Community Stores
or
swanibatemvillagehall@gmail.com

**QUENINGTON
VILLAGE HALL
GL7 5BS**

with location
@swanibatemvillagehall



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FREE

- **THURSDAY 16TH APRIL**
- **THURSDAY 23RD APRIL**
- **THURSDAY 30TH APRIL**
- **THURSDAY 7TH MAY**

🕒 **TIME: 10AM - 12:30 PM**

📍 **LOCATION: FAIRFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE**



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THE **KITCHEN** CLUB
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**Major Churches
Network**



Great St Mary's
THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH CAMBRIDGE

The Inaugural **Major Churches Music Conference**

for Church Musicians and Clergy

Saturday 13 June 2026

at Great St Mary's
The University Church
Cambridge

Keynote speaker:
Carl Jackson MVO
*"Why music in major parish
churches matters"*

Panel discussions:
Choir Recruitment
Fundraising

Vocal workshop:
Vocal health for
young and old

Ending with
Choral Evensong
sung by all delegates

Scan the QR code
to find out more
& book your place



QR code here

<https://www.greatstmarys.org/major-churches-music-conference>

Local Digital Support Group



**Wednesday
11th March 10:30am-12pm**

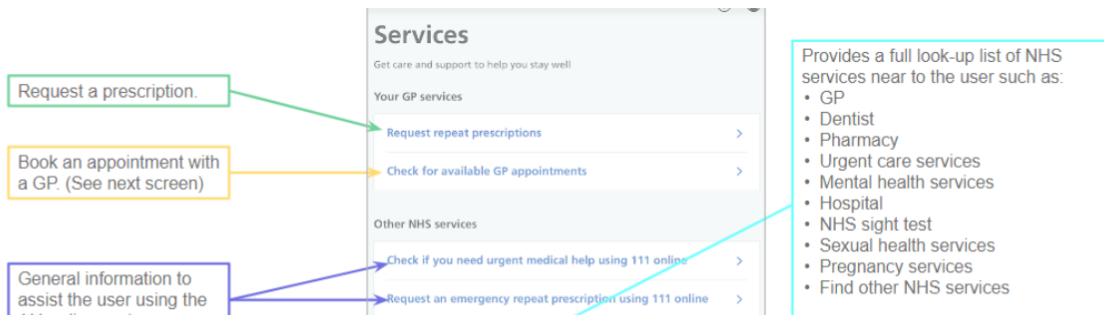
NHS APP Support!



Signing up for the NHS app



Requesting repeat prescriptions



Services
Get care and support to help you stay well

Your GP services

- Request repeat prescriptions
- Check for available GP appointments

Other NHS services

- Check if you need urgent medical help using 111 online
- Request an emergency repeat prescription using 111 online

Provides a full look-up list of NHS services near to the user such as:

- GP
- Dentist
- Pharmacy
- Urgent care services
- Mental health services
- Hospital
- NHS sight test
- Sexual health services
- Pregnancy services
- Find other NHS services

Request a prescription. (points to 'Request repeat prescriptions')

Book an appointment with a GP. (See next screen) (points to 'Check for available GP appointments')

General information to assist the user using the 111 online system. (points to 'Check if you need urgent medical help using 111 online' and 'Request an emergency repeat prescription using 111 online')

**Fairford Community Centre, High Street,
Fairford, GL7 4AF**



For more information please contact our Digital Triage line on 07454 066116 or email us at digital@grcc.org.uk



@daisi_project

Useful Contacts in Fairford

Dentists: M Milnthorpe and S. Steer,
White Cottage, London Street 01285 713993
Doctors' Surgery: Keble Lawns, 01285 712377
Fairford Community Centre: High Street, 01285 711571
Fairford & District Choral Society:
James Chute, Chair. 07870 383682
Fairford Firecrackers Womens Institute:
President – Beth Bruce-Gardner 07791 841201
Secretary – Hayley Evans 07866 518830
Fairford History Society: Alison Hobson 01285 711768
Lechlade and Fairford Mothers' Union:
Kathleen Hall 01285 712583
Fairford Hospital (Day Centre): The Croft, 0300 4216470
Fairford Pre-School: Leafield Road 01285 713176
Fairford Primary School: Leafield Road, 01285 712543
Fairford Sports Centre 01285 713786
Fairford United Church 01285 712586
Farmor's School: The Park 01285 712228/712302
Flying Start Nursery School 01285 711711
Friends of Fairford Church:
Simon Mumford simonmumford@outlook.com
Friends of Fairford Hospital dmin@friendsoffairford.org.uk
Library: London Street 01285 712599
Palmer Hall (Bookings): London Street. 01285 712189/711657
Patients Participation Group: Chairperson: Emma Saxby
emmasaxby.coach@gmail.com
St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Church 01285712586
Theatre-goers: David & Alison Watkins-Nash 01285 713182
- bookingftg@btinternet.com
Town Council Offices, Community Centre, 01285 712344
U3A: Sue Snell membershipsec@fairfordu3a.org.uk
Wellbeing coordinator-Mary Ann Dibbs -
coordinator@working4wellbeing.org Mobile 07555738138

If any changes are made to the above please contact the Parish Office with the details. Thank you