



**CHRISTMAS  
2018**

# a little**MORE** conversation

## Your church, Our community

No 006

# Here for all seasons... not just for Christmas!

Everything is now in place for the Newman Meeting Place, the building project of our church. We've got the permissions and a contractor, so 'all' that is left to do is to find the rest of the funds...We're aiming to be at the half-way point by the end of this year, so that we can go to the large funders to match what we've already raised. So please help us get to that half-way point so that the building work can start, hopefully some time in 2019.



## Food for thought

But we are not going to wait until the changes have been made, we've started a Community Breakfast in anticipation! During the school holidays this is every morning from 9 – 10am. During term time it's on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Every Monday & Wednesday  
& weekdays during school holidays

**★ FREE ★**

**COMMUNITY  
BREAKFAST**

**FAMILY FRIENDLY & OPEN TO ALL**

**OPEN 9 - 10am**  
MON & WED & school holiday weekdays

St Mary & St Nicholas Church, Littlemore

The demand has been incredible – obviously just what everyone has been waiting for. That means that we're looking for volunteers to help. Would you like to work with us? Let us know!  
Otherwise why not just come for breakfast, great conversation and ... er, no: alas, no toilet (yet..!)

## Our Season of Concerts

We have been holding a number of concerts again this year. In total the concerts have raised over £3,000 for the project! Here's a group of young guitarists from The Netherlands who joined the Oxford Guitar Society for a concert in May. Look out for future concerts, normally on the last Sunday of the month at 3pm, with delicious tea and cakes. Are you musical? Would you like to perform in one of our concerts? Let us know!



## Thank you!

We had two very successful fundraising events at the Thames Hotel and The George Pub. Together they raised over £3,500. Thank you Thames Hotel and all at The George!



*The George fayre: photograph by Oxford Mail*



*Splat the rat: photograph by Jonathan Self; www.jonathanself.co.uk*

# Sponsor a chair



Why not sponsor a chair to commemorate a baptism, wedding or deceased loved one? They cost £200 each, and will last for generations to come. We will list all the names in whose name the chair is sponsored. Chair forms are available from the vicarage or if you contact Rev Margreet then we can email or send you one.

## Thank you for any donations to the project fund!

- **Cheques** made payable to 'Littlemore PCC Appeal Account';
- **Online** through the donation page on our website: [www.newmanmeetingplace.org.uk](http://www.newmanmeetingplace.org.uk);
- **Bank transfer** to Barclays Bank, sort code: 20-65-18, account number: 80559261, name: 'Littlemore PCC Appeal Account'

# Seasons

Our theme for our creative work this year will be 'Seasons', of life, of the year, of places.

This is part of a poem that our Sufi friend Jay Rumi wrote:

*'Yet Littlemore has a sun that does not set  
Shining and warm in every season  
A beautiful sun you never forget*

*The sun of caring, sun of compassion  
In its peoples' hearts, rays of emotion*

*I know this for sure  
I lived in Littlemore.'*



Detail of reredos, photograph by Tom Bower

# Prayers Please

The building project is of course not really about a building.... it's about the people who will enter it, or who will be able to see inside from the road. It'll be a place of beauty, peace and comfort, a beacon of hope open for everyone in our community. We would value your prayers as much as any other gifts.

Would you be willing please to pray regularly our Littlemore Parish Prayer and our Project Prayer as we are continuing to approach large funders for the remainder of the funds?

## Parish prayer:

*Loving Lord, may your shining light  
fill the hearts of all who live, work  
and worship here in Littlemore.  
Amen.*



## Project prayer:

*Generous God, lead us with your  
kindly light along the path of faith  
and trust, as we pray for your help  
and resources to complete our  
building project, to your glory.  
Amen.*

Please also do let us know if you would like us to pray for you, your family or anyone else, we'd love to pray with you or for you.

# Church is not just for Christmas

- **Christmas Bazaar:** 1<sup>st</sup> December, 12noon – 3pm at the Village Hall
- **St Nicholas Lantern Festival:** 6<sup>th</sup> December, 4pm at the Community Centre
- **Christingle Service:** 9<sup>th</sup> December, 5pm at the Church
- **Community Carol Service:** 18<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm at the Church
- **Crib Service:** 24<sup>th</sup> December, 5pm at the Church
- **Carol Singing:** 24<sup>th</sup> December, 11pm at the Church
- **Midnight Mass:** 24<sup>th</sup> December, 11.30pm at the Church
- **Christmas Family Eucharist:** Christmas Day, 10am at the Church
- **Littlemore Community Christmas Day Lunch:** To book your place at the Christmas Day Lunch in the John Henry Newman Academy call Caroline Gale on 01235 819499 or Margreet Armitstead

