



FACE PAINTING, CRAFT & EASTER EGGS

FREE
no booking required

EASTER AT EASTROP

(starting near the boating lake in Eastrop Park)

Meet characters from the Easter story as you follow the Easter Trail

2.30–4.30 pm
SATURDAY 4 APRIL

stmarys-basingstoke.org.uk



Spring is finally breaking through!



Tom Woodbridge
Associate Minister

I don't know about you, but for me it's felt like this winter has been a long one! First there was the freezing cold, then there was what felt like the never-ending rain—is there an end in sight?!

But as I write this, the first signs of spring seem to be arriving! The daffodils are coming out, the mornings are getting lighter, the sun appears to be breaking through, and it's starting to feel, dare I say it... warmer!

I love this time of year when the warmth and light of spring break into the cold and dark of winter.

Sadly, at the moment, it doesn't feel like it's just the winter that is cold and dark. As we look around our world, it can feel like quite a cold, dark place, with news of conflict, division and unrest. We can often find ourselves longing for the warmth and light of some kind of hope to break into the cold and darkness of the world around us.

For Christians, one of the highlights of spring is Easter. At its heart, Easter is about hope. We celebrate God coming into the world in the person of Jesus Christ, and through his death on Good Friday and his coming back to life again on Easter Sunday, he brings hope and light into the darkness of this world. And this hope is on offer to every single person.

We'd love to share more about this message of hope coming into the darkness with you this Easter time. You can find out more about some of the things that are happening at St Mary's in the rest of this Parish News and you'd be very welcome to join us at any of our Easter services and events.

I wish you a hope-filled Easter, Woody



St Mary's
BASINGSTOKE

Hope
in the darkness

JOIN US FOR
EASTER 2026

EASTER 2026

THU 2 APR

Maundy Thursday

Church Family meal at **7pm** followed by
Holy Communion service at **8pm**.

FRI 3 APR

Good Friday

A reflective service with groups for children
aged 0-14 years at **10am**.

SAT 4 APR

Easter at Eastrop Park

Meet characters from the Easter story as you follow the
Easter trail. Fun for all the family. Easter Saturday afternoon,
2.30-4.30pm.

SUN 5 APR

Easter Sunday

10am all-age service. **6pm** Holy Communion Service.

stmarys-basingstoke.org.uk



Regular Sunday Services

10am

Our regular morning service with children's groups (0-14) and our Treasure Box group, for adults and children who may have additional needs.

6pm

Our relaxed evening service, sometimes with Q&A, followed by youth group (14-18s) and a chance for adults to chat over coffee or a bite to eat.

Want to find out more?

As well as our services, we run regular courses for those who want to explore the Christian faith.

Contact us for more details of our next courses at:

info@stmarys-basingstoke.org.uk.

Want to watch online?

Scan the QR code or visit

www.youtube.com/StMarysBasingstoke



Term Time at St Mary's

Welcome Space

Weekdays 9:30am-12:30pm

Drop in for a free drink, a slice of cake and a chat, or enjoy a quiet space to work or rest.

Parents & Toddlers (0-5 Years)

Tuesdays 10-11:30am

A relaxed, fun space for play, singing, and stories from the Bible. For parents and grandparents with young children. (£2.50 suggested donation)

Lunch Club (Over 60s)

Wednesdays 12-2pm (fortnightly)

A delicious lunch, a short Bible talk, and a fun activity. (Small charge)

Children's Groups (Years R-6)

Thursdays & Fridays

Join us for games, crafts, and a true Bible story!

- Whizz Kidz (years R-2) Thu 4-5pm (60p)
- ACE (years 3-6) Fri 5.20-6.30pm (70p)

Youth Groups (Years 7-13)

Fridays

Enjoy fun, games, hanging out with friends, and a chance to find out more about who Jesus is!

- Engage (years 7-9) Fri 6.30-8.15pm (£1)
- Unite (years 10-13) Fri 8:15-10pm (Free)