

Welcome to St Mary's Apsley & St Benedict's Bennetts End



and welcome to our services today

31st August, 2025

11th Sunday after Trinity

If you need anything during the service, please ask someone sitting nearby, they will be pleased to help. Please stay after the service for refreshments and a chat in the Refectory at the back of the church.

This Week at St Mary's & St B's

Today

9.00am	Bellringing at St Mary's
9.30am	NO Service St Mary's
10.30am	Team Service at All Saints, Kings Langley
11.15am	NO Parish Eucharist at St Benedict's

Monday

9.15-10.45	No Little Bears at St Benedict's
12.30-2.30pm	Apsley Community Café at St Mary's Church
10.00 -12.00	Working Party at St Mary's
8 – 9.30pm	Bellringing practice at St Mary's

Tuesday

9am	NO Morning Prayer at St Benedict's
9.30am	NO Buzzy Bees at St Mary's
	Back on 9 th September

Wednesday

9.30–11.30am	Foodbank at St Benedict's
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Thursday

9.30am	NO Morning Prayer at St Mary's
10.00 – 12.00	Apsley Community Café at St Mary's Church
10.15am	Study Group at St Mary's - Paused
8pm	Home Study Group

Friday

10.00 -12.00	Working Party in St Mary's Church & Churchyard.
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Saturday

10.00 -12.00	Saturday Community Café at St Mary's
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Sunday 7th September

9.30am	Parish Eucharist at St Mary's
11.15am	Service at St Benedict's



Dear All,

By the time you read this I will have returned from visiting my family in Scotland; I always look forward to seeing everyone and look forward to visiting our favourite places. The picture above is one of these places – West Sands (St Andrews) and it was used in Chariots of Fire - a fantastic beach to walk along, build sandcastles, fly kites..; another favourite place is Crail (see below).



However, this year has been a bit different for a variety of reasons the main one being my Dad's health; when we arrived he was back in hospital. He is now out of hospital and recovering but this has meant not travelling too far from him. Also, he is a bit wobbly so we are reluctant to leave him on his own.

Consequently, this resulted in my daughter being an absolute star and doing something really noble; she decided she would stay to look after her Grandpa rather than go to a concert in Edinburgh with her parents, aunt, uncle and cousin. This was a monumental sacrifice as she had been looking forward to it for so long but was insistent that her parents go as it was more important for them. I wonder how many of us would so self-effacing! Needless to say, she has already been rewarded for this action. Have a great week everyone.

Best wishes,
Sylvia

Sunday's Collect and Readings (Year C)

The Collect

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

10.12-18

The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord; the heart has withdrawn from its Maker. For the beginning of pride is sin, and the one who clings to it pours out abominations. Therefore the Lord brings upon them unheard-of calamities, and destroys them completely. The Lord overthrows the thrones of rulers, and enthrones the lowly in their place. The Lord plucks up the roots of the nations, and plants the humble in their place. The Lord lays waste the lands of the nations, and destroys them to the foundations of the earth. He removes some of them and destroys them, and erases the memory of them from the earth. Pride was not created for human beings, or violent anger for those born of women.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

A reading from a Letter to the Hebrews

13.1-8, 15-16

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name.

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

This is the word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke

14.1, 7-14

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable.

"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place.

But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you.

For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid.

But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Thursday's Readings (Year C)

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians 1.9-14

For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God.

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Psalm 98.1-5

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, ♦
for he has done marvellous things.
- 2 His own right hand and his holy arm ♦
have won for him the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his salvation; ♦
his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness
towards the house of Israel, ♦
and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
- 5 Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth; ♦
break into singing and make music.

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke 5.1-11

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets.

He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch."

Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets."

When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break.

So they signalled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink.

But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!"

For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people."

When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Contact Information

Vicar: Vacancy

General Enquiries: Please contact the Benefice Office
Monday – Friday 8.30am – 12.00pm

Administrator/Benefice Office:

Sue Bassett ☎ 01923 266596 or 07503 950315 or
info@beneficeoflangelei.org.uk

Facebook: St Mary's Apsley End

Churchwardens: Sylvia Low ☎ 07742 610932
SylviaLow@gmail.com

Sue Jakeman ☎ 07971 254336
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Website/calendar: www.BeneficeofLangelei.org.uk/StMarys

Notices

Please send any input for next week to Sue in the Benefice office on info@beneficeoflangelei.org.uk by noon on Wednesday and copy it to StMarysApsleyEnd@gmail.com.

The Rev David Jones has been appointed as Team Vicar in the Langelei Team Ministry with special responsibility for St Mary's Apsley End and St Benedict's, Bennetts End. This is subject to completion of the usual legal formalities. David's licensing service will take place on Tuesday 14th October at 7.30pm at St Mary's Apsley End. Please remember David, Janey, Hannah and Autumn in your prayers as they prepare for their move.

27th & 28th Sept Scarecrow Festival



Save the date!

Please contact Laura or Sylvia if you know anyone or group who would like to make a scarecrow.

Rosemary Bladon's funeral service

will be taking place at St Mary's Church
on Wednesday 3rd September at 12.30pm.
All are welcome to come.

Team Confirmation Preparation 2025

Would you like to confirm your promises to God? Fr James, Revd Diana and Revd Jos will be running Confirmation Preparation sessions in the autumn. Please contact one of them to sign up. For adults and young people 12+ in our churches. 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd Oct, 15th Nov visit to St Albans, 20th Nov concluding session. 23rd Nov 6.30pm Confirmation Service at St John's Boxmoor.

Morning services around the team

All are welcome to mid-week Morning Prayer and Holy Communion services

Tuesdays St Benedict's - Paused
Wednesdays Holy Trinity - 9am MP, 10am HC
Thursdays St Mary's - 9am MP, 9.30am HC
Fridays All Saints - 9am MP, 9.30am HC

Thursdays 10.15am Study Group at St Mary's During the Vacancy the Study Group is paused.

Sponsorship for our organists at St Mary's



If you enjoy having the organ accompany our worship you can be a sponsor. You can mark a Birthday, Anniversary or a notable event or just because. Please contact one of the Churchwardens – Sue Jakeman or Sylvia Low for more information.

Apsley Community Foodbank & Café at St Mary's and Foodbank at St B's

St Mary's is open 12.30-2.30 on Mondays and 10-12 on Thursdays for food collection and serving simple hot food. St Benedict's foodbank is open Wednesdays 9.30-11.30. Donations of in date non-perishable, unopened food or household essentials are much appreciated eg LL Milk, Pasta Sauce, Tin Meat/Beans & Sausages or see needs list: either to the church or to Dunelm gratefully received.

Welcome Boxes for Nascent House

Thank you to everyone who has donated items for the welcome boxes. We are currently in need of boxes of tissues, packets of sweets, pens, notelets, notepads and boxes with lids (17-25l). Please note items must not contain alcohol. If you would like further information about this scheme, please speak to Susan or Viv.

You Can Join Our WhatsApp Group!

Used for quick questions and messages. If you are a member of St Mary's, do consider joining by contacting any of the admins (Katharine Harper, Laura G-Brown, Harry G-Brown and Rachel Woods)

Donate to St Mary's

Please support St Mary's by using this QR code to donate. Thank you.



Dates for your diary

Sun 31st Aug 10.30am Team Service at All Saints
Wed 3rd Sept 12.30pm Funeral of Rosemary Bladon
Fri 5th Sep 7pm Pudding and Plonk
Sat 13th Sep Bike 'n' Hike Church open 9am-5pm
Games afternoon
Sun 21st Sep Messy Harvest
Sept 27th & 28th Scarecrow Festival
Tues 14th Oct 7.30pm Licencing of Rev David Jones

St Mary's Rota - Who's doing what when

	31 st August	7 th September
	10.30 Team Eucharist at All Saints	9.30 Parish Eucharist
Music		Mark Terry
Warden		Dan Shirley
Sides duty		Colin Rivett
Welcomer		Ann Wiggins
Reader		Melanie Henley
Prayers/ Intercessions		Viv Hagel
Offertory		Dan Shirley Fiona Shirley
Chalice/ 1 st Counter		Peter Bladon
2nd Counter		Jim Aylott
Refreshments		Melanie Henley Ralph Henley
Sunday School		Lillian Hepwood