

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



and welcome to our services today

3rd August, 2025

Seventh 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 Morning Prayer at St Mary's
11.15am 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 Morning Prayer at St Benedict's
9.30am NO Buzzy Bees at St Mary's
Back on 9th September

Wednesday

9.30-11.30am Foodbank at St Benedict's

Thursday

9am Morning Prayer at St Mary's
9.30am Eucharist at St Mary's
10.00 – 12.00 Apsley Community Café at St Mary's Church
10.15am Study Group in St Mary's Vestry
8pm Home Study Group

Friday

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

Saturday

10.00 -12.00 Saturday Community Café at St Mary's

Sunday 10th August

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's
11.15am No Service at St Benedict's



Dear All,

The first thing that needs to be done this week is to thank everyone for their support and help for Alice's farewell service last weekend. In particular, we would like to thank Miriam and her wonderful team at the Apsley Community Café for helping to clear up and for washing all the champagne glasses (saved me doing these at home). In addition, a huge thank you to the wonderful Team St Marys catering team for providing all the delicious refreshments for the farewell party; a great array of food and drink suitable for all! Furthermore, many thanks to the Working Party for having the Church looking so good and to the Bellringers for their fantastic ringing. It was a great team effort so we should all be pleased with what we have achieved.

The farewell service was a wonderful send off for Alice and Coral on their next adventure; there were gifts, cards, speeches and tears with a superb party atmosphere in the refectory after the service. This would not have happened without you so congratulations everyone for doing your bit.

By the time you are all reading this the interview for the potential replacement of Alice as vicar will have happened – lets hope that the outcome will be satisfactory for all...

Have a really fabulous week whatever you are doing.

Best wishes,
Sylvia

Sunday's Collect and Readings (Year C)

The Collect

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
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 Ecclesiastes 1.2, 12-14; 2.18-23

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities!
All is vanity.

I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem,
applied my mind to seek and to search out by
wisdom all that is done under heaven I saw all the
deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is
vanity and a chasing after wind.

I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun,
seeing that I must leave it to those who come after
me—and who knows whether they will be wise or
foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled
and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity.
So I turned and gave my heart up to despair
concerning all the toil of my labours under the sun
because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom
and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed
by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and
a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and
strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their
days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation;
even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians 3.1-11

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things
that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right
hand of God.

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things
that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is
hidden with Christ in God.

When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also
will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly:
fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed
(which is idolatry).

On account of these the wrath of God is coming on
those who are disobedient.

These are the ways you also once followed, when you
were living that life.

But now you must get rid of all such things—anger,
wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from
your mouth.

Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have
stripped off the old self with its practices and have
clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being
renewed in knowledge according to the image of its
creator.

In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew,
circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian,
slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

This is the word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke 12.13-21

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my
brother to divide the family inheritance with me."

But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge
or arbitrator over you?"

And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard
against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not
consist in the abundance of possessions."

Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man
produced abundantly.

And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I
have no place to store my crops?"

Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns
and build larger ones, and there I will store all my
grain and my goods.

And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods
laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'

But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life
is being demanded of you. And the things you have
prepared, whose will they be?"

So it is with those who store up treasures for
themselves but are not rich toward God."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Thursday's Readings (Year C)

A Reading from the Book of Numbers

20.1-13

The Israelites, the whole congregation, came into the wilderness of Zin in the first month, and the people stayed in Kadesh. Miriam died there, and was buried there.

Now there was no water for the congregation; so they gathered together against Moses and against Aaron. The people quarrelled with Moses and said, "Would that we had died when our kindred died before the Lord!

Why have you brought the assembly of the Lord into this wilderness for us and our livestock to die here? Why have you brought us up out of Egypt, to bring us to this wretched place? It is no place for grain, or figs, or vines, or pomegranates; and there is no water to drink."

Then Moses and Aaron went away from the assembly to the entrance of the tent of meeting; they fell on their faces, and the glory of the Lord appeared to them.

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and your brother Aaron, and command the rock before their eyes to yield its water. Thus you shall bring water out of the rock for them; thus you shall provide drink for the congregation and their livestock.

So Moses took the staff from before the Lord, as he had commanded him.

Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them, "Listen, you rebels, shall we bring water for you out of this rock?"

Then Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock twice with his staff; water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their livestock drank.

But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me, to show my holiness before the eyes of the Israelites, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them."

These are the waters of Meribah, where the people of Israel quarrelled with the Lord, and by which he showed his holiness.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Psalm 95.1,8-end

1 O come, let us sing to the Lord; ♦
let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.

8 O that today you would listen to his voice: ♦
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, on that day at Massah in the wilderness,

9 'When your forebears tested me, and put me to the proof, ♦ though they had seen my works.

10 'Forty years long I detested that generation and said, ♦ "This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways."

11 'So I swore in my wrath, ♦ "They shall not enter into my rest."

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew

16.13-23

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.

And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you."

But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

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
susanjakeman@btinternet.com

Safeguarding: Marina McKenna - ☎ 07783173457
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Email: safeguardingapsley@gmail.com

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.

27th & 28th Sept Scarecrow Festival



Save the date!

Let Laura or Sylvia know if you know a group who would like to make a scarecrow for it

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

Sponsorship for our organists at St Mary's



Our organist today, Ian Hope, is sponsored by an anonymous person.

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.

Donate to St Mary's



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

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)

Dates for your diary

Sat 16th Aug 2pm Games Afternoon
 Sun 31st Aug 10.30am Team Service at All Saints
 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

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

	3 rd August	10 th August
	Morning Prayer	Parish Eucharist
Music	Ian Hope	Ian Hope
Warden	Sylvia Low	Harry GB
Sides duty	Janet Wright	Laura GB
Welcomer	Pauline Buck	Peter Baldon
Reader	Sue Jakeman	Melanie Henley
Prayers/ Intercessions	Dan Shirley	Laura GB
Offertory	N/A	Roger and Angela Witts
Chalice/ 1 st Counter	Sue Jakeman	Peter Bladon
2 nd Counter	Fiona Shirley	Roger Witts
Refreshments	Colin and Susan Rivett	Melanie and Ralph Henley
Sunday School	TBC	TBC