

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



and welcome to our services today

23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2025  
Second Sunday before Lent

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.

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## 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  
3pm Messy Church at St Mary's

### Monday

9.15-10.45am Little Bears at St Benedict's  
10.00 -12.00 Working Party at St Mary's  
8.00pm Bellringing practice at St Mary's

### Tuesday

9.30am Buzzy Bees at St Mary's  
12.30-2.30pm St Mary's Foodbank and Community Café

### Wednesday

9.30-11.30am Foodbank at St Benedict's

### Thursday

9.30 - 3.30 St Mary's Church open for private prayer  
9.30am Eucharist at St Mary's  
10.00 - 12.00 St Mary's Foodbank & Community Café  
10.15am Study Group in St Mary's Vestry  
8pm Home Study Group

### Friday

10.00 -12.00 Coffee Morning in Refectory and Working Party in St Mary's Church & Churchyard

### Saturday

10.00 -12.00 Saturday Community Café at St Mary's

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

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



Dear All,

I am aware that this is half-term for some of us and I have to say I am enjoying being up in Scotland visiting my family; this time I have seen a lot more of them too as last weekend we had a surprise party for my Dad.

This party was many months in planning, by my sister, with caterers booked, wine ordered, glassware etc hired. I had my bit to do too but this ended up being much more than any of us had envisaged as the caterer pulled out the week before...not what we really needed. However, after much running around we ended up having a great party with lots of food and great conversation. My Dad was suitably surprised as the majority of my extended family were able to be there.

It is amazing what any of us can do when we are faced with an unforeseen issue. This is also a great reminder of how teamwork, communication and playing to people's strengths can achieve so much.

I hope this week has been good for all of you. As I write I am still in Scotland but due to travel back at the weekend.

Best wishes,  
Sylvia

# Sunday's Collect and Readings (Year C)

## The Collect

Almighty God,  
you have created the heavens and the earth  
and made us in your own image:  
teach us to discern your hand in all your works  
and your likeness in all your children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over  
all things,  
now and for ever.

**Amen**

## A reading from the book of Genesis 2.4b-9, 15-end

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.'

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

## A reading from Revelations

**4**

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal.

Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing,

'Holy, holy, holy,  
the Lord God the Almighty,

who was and is and is to come.'

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,

'You are worthy, our Lord and God,  
to receive glory and honour and power,  
for you created all things,

and by your will they existed and were created.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

## Hear the Gospel According to Luke GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

**8.22-25**

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!**

## Thursday's Readings (Year C)

### A reading from Malachi

2.5-7

My covenant with him was a covenant of life and well-being, which I gave him; this called for reverence, and he revered me and stood in awe of my name. True instruction was in his mouth, and no wrong was found on his lips. He walked with me in integrity and uprightness, and he turned many from iniquity. For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts. This is the Word of the Lord.

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

### Psalm 34.1-7

1 I will bless the Lord at all times; ♦  
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.  
2 My soul shall glory in the Lord; ♦  
let the humble hear and be glad.  
3 O magnify the Lord with me; ♦  
let us exalt his name together.  
4 I sought the Lord and he answered me ♦  
and delivered me from all my fears.  
5 Look upon him and be radiant ♦  
and your faces shall not be ashamed.  
6 This poor soul cried, and the Lord heard me ♦  
and saved me from all my troubles.  
7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those  
who fear him ♦  
and delivers them.

### Hear the Gospel

#### According to Matthew

11.25-end

**GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!**

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!**

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### Contact Information

**Vicar:** Mthr Alice Jolley ☎01442 615246

**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

**Twitter:** @StMarys1871

**Churchwardens:** Sylvia Low ☎ 07742 610932  
[SylviayLow@gmail.com](mailto:SylviayLow@gmail.com)

Harry Graham-Brown ☎ 07918 071542  
[Harry.GB63@gmail.com](mailto:Harry.GB63@gmail.com)

**Safeguarding:** Katharine Harper ☎ 07881 602024  
[KatharineHarper23@gmail.com](mailto:KatharineHarper23@gmail.com)

Website/calendar: [www.BeneficeofLangelei.org.uk/StMarys](http://www.BeneficeofLangelei.org.uk/StMarys)

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# Notices

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

## Pray Hemel – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Not sure if it's permissible to say the year is haring along but, as this is about March, maybe it's ok?

**Meet to worship and pray together at, the Liberty Tea Rooms, 12 Bank Court, HP1 1BS** refreshments from 8 am, prayers from 8.30 am.

It is good to meet at that this venue on March 1<sup>st</sup> as it means that any of you who want to attend both PH and the Ladies Day at the [South Hill Centre](#) can do so, they have a relaxed start.

To delight you further, we meet on April 5<sup>th</sup> at St Barnabas, Adeyfield, on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at St Mary & St Joseph, Boxmoor and on June 7<sup>th</sup> at Belmont Road Baptist Church.

Take care all, your PH team

## Pancakes at St Mary's 4<sup>th</sup> March

We will be holding our annual pancake evening in the refectory on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March from 5pm onwards; there will be time to join the Lent group at 7.30 pm. Please come and enjoy freshly made pancakes and great company. Everyone welcome.

## Langelei Lent Course: 3rd March-14th April

This year, there is a Team Lent Course, there will be 4 sessions/locations available each week using the same material each week over the 6 week period: Based on the book The Women of Holy Week.

**Monday** 3.30-5pm at Jos' house in Bedmond

**Tuesday** 7.30-9pm at Alice's house, Bennet's End

**Friday** 10-11.30 at All Saints Church, KL

**Saturday** 10 - 11.30 during café at St Mary's

There is a sign up sheet at the back of Church.

## Sponsorship for our organists



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 – Harry G-B or Sylvia

Low for more information.

## Donate to St Mary's

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



## Foodbanks at St Mary's and St B's

St Mary's foodbank is open 12.30-2.30 on Tuesdays and 10.00 - 12.00 on Thursdays with a community café 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.

Assistance at all foodbanks gratefully received.

If you can help, do come and see us.

## Welcome Boxes for Nascent House

Thank you to everyone who has donated items for the welcome boxes. We are currently in need of packets of sweets, toothbrushes, pocket tissues, bars of soap, nail brushes, notelets, pens and boxes with lids (171 -251). Please note items must not contain alcohol. If you would like further information about this scheme, please speak to Susan or Viv.

## Dates for your diary

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> Mar  | Pancakes at St Mary's from 5pm                 |
| Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> Mar  | Lent Course Week 1 at Vicarage                 |
| Weds 5 <sup>th</sup> Mar  | 8pm Team Ash Wednesday Service at Holy Trinity |
| Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> Mar | Lent Course Week 2 at Vicarage                 |
| Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> Mar  | Coffee Morning at St Mary's                    |
| Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> Mar  | Messy Church                                   |
| Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar | Lent Course Week 3 at Vicarage                 |
| Tues 25 <sup>th</sup> Mar | Lent Course Week 4 at Vicarage                 |
| Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar  | Coffee Morning at St Mary's                    |
| Tues 1 <sup>st</sup> Apr  | Lent Course Week 5 at Vicarage                 |
| Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> Apr  | Lent Course Week 6 at Vicarage                 |

## Rotas - Who's doing what when

|  | 23 <sup>rd</sup> February      | 2 <sup>nd</sup> March         |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|  | 9.30 Morning Prayer            | 9.30 Eucharist                |
| <b>Music</b>                           | Ian Hope                       | Ian Hope                      |
| <b>Warden</b>                          | Sylvia Low                     | Harry G-B                     |
| <b>Sides duty</b>                      | Ann Wiggins                    | Laura G-B                     |
| <b>Welcomer</b>                        | Dan Shirley                    | Peter Bladon                  |
| <b>Reader</b>                          | Sue Jakeman                    | Melanie Henley                |
| <b>Prayers/ Intercessions</b>          | Fiona Shirley                  | Sue Jakeman                   |
| <b>Offertory</b>                       | N/A                            | Alfie Cacciapu<br>Ann Wiggins |
| <b>Chalice/ 1<sup>st</sup> Counter</b> | Janet Wright                   | Jim Aylott                    |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Counter</b>          | Fiona Shirley                  | Fiona Shirley                 |
| <b>Refreshments</b>                    | Alfie Cacciapu &<br>Sylvia Low | Jeanie & David Agg            |
| <b>Sunday School</b>                   |                                |                               |