

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



and welcome to our services today

27th July, 2025

Sixth 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

9.30am	Morning Prayer at St Mary's
11.15am	NO Parish Eucharist at St Benedict's
2.30pm	Bellringing at St Mary's
3pm	Farewell Eucharist Service at St Mary's

Monday

9.15-10.45	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

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	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.
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Saturday

10.00 -12.00	Saturday Community Café at St Mary's
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Sunday 3rd August

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



Dear All,

By next Sunday our Churches will once again be in limbo with no full-time vicar but on Thursday there will be an interview for this post for both Churches; many serendipitous events have led to this event which if everyone is satisfied and in particular the representatives from both Churches it is quite possible that the period of vacancy will be of a much shorter duration than would normally be the case!

Of course, it is because Alice has been called to do God's work elsewhere that we find ourselves in this position. She will be missed by all of us but life, like paths we follow through the woods, do not always run the way we expect. I know from my own experience that I when I moved to Hemel Hempstead twenty years ago the last thing I would have predicted or even thought of for myself would be being a Churchwarden in St Mary's; the reason I ended up here was because of my daughter. A daughter that I was so fortunate to have after so much heartache; how different things would have been had I not had her...

Our landscape is changing, people are moving on different paths in their lives but the one constant thing in all of this is our belief in God; a God who is everywhere. Therefore, no matter where any of us are we will always be linked by this intangible thread of belief. A belief that winds it way all over the world and through time.

Thus, good luck to Alice and Coral on the next chapter in their adventure. All our good wishes, love and prayers go with them as they start the next exciting thing in their lives.

Have a good week everyone. Alos, please remember the team of people that are involved with the interview on Thursday in your prayers so that they are given the strength and wisdom to do what is right for both St Mary's and St Benedict's.

Best wishes,
Sylvia

Sunday's Collect and Readings (Year C)

The Collect

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
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 Genesis

18.20-32

20 Then the Lord said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin!
21 I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."
22 So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord.
23 Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?
24 Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it?
25 Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?"
26 And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake."
27 Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes.
28 Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there."
29 Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it."
30 Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there."
31 He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it."
32 Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians

2.6-15

6 As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him,
7 rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.
8 See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human

tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ.

9 For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,
10 and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority.

11 In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ;

12 when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

13 And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses,

14 erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross.
15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

This is the word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke

11.1-13

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

1 He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."

2 He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come.

3 Give us each day our daily bread.

4 And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."

5 And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread;

6 for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.'

7 And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.'

8 I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

9 "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.

10 For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

11 Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish?

12 Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion?

13 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Thursday's Readings (Year C)

A Reading from Exodus 40.16-21, 34-end

16 Moses did everything just as the Lord had commanded him.

17 In the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was set up.

18 Moses set up the tabernacle; he laid its bases, and set up its frames, and put in its poles, and raised up its pillars;

19 and he spread the tent over the tabernacle, and put the covering of the tent over it; as the Lord had commanded Moses.

20 He took the covenant and put it into the ark, and put the poles on the ark, and set the mercy seat above the ark;

21 and he brought the ark into the tabernacle, and set up the curtain for screening, and screened the ark of the covenant; as the Lord had commanded Moses.

34 Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

35 Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled upon it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

36 Whenever the cloud was taken up from the tabernacle, the Israelites would set out on each stage of their journey;

37 but if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out until the day that it was taken up.

38 For the cloud of the Lord was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in the cloud by night, before the eyes of all the house of Israel at each stage of their journey.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Psalm 84.1-6

1 How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! ♦ My soul has a desire and longing to enter the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: ♦ at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

3 Blessed are they who dwell in your house: ♦ they will always be praising you.

4 Blessed are those whose strength is in you, ♦ in whose heart are the highways to Zion,

5 Who going through the barren valley find there a spring, ♦ and the early rains will clothe it with blessing.

6 They will go from strength to strength ♦ and appear before God in Zion

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew 13.47-53

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

47 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind;

48 when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad.

49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous

50 and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

51 "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes."

52 And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

53 When Jesus had finished these parables, he left that place.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Contact Information

Vicar: Mother Alice Jolley ☎ 01442 615246

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

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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.

Pray Hemel,

2nd August - Pray Hemel is the now traditional prayer walk through the Marlowes praying for the Town Centre; especially its businesses, those employed in them, their success, integrity, etc.

We meet for an 8.30 am start in Bank Court, either in the seating area outside Liberty Tea Rooms (LTR) or, under the nearby covered area. Refreshments are not included. LTR will be open at 9.30 to serve you after the prayer time. Watch you have booked enough parking time; the short stay near LTR has a limit of 2 hours.

Bob, pp your PH team

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

Sponsorship for our organists at St Mary's



Our organist today, Mark Terry, 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
 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

	27 th July	3 rd August
	3pm Farewell Eucharist	Morning Prayer
Music	Mark Terry	Ian Hope
Warden	Sue Jakeman	Sylvia Low
Sides duty	Pauline Buck	Janet Wright
Welcomer	Dan Shirley	Pauline Buck
Reader	Fiona Shirley	Sue Jakeman
Prayers/ Intercessions	Fiona Shirley	Dan Shirley
Offertory	Viv Hagel Melanie Henley	N/A
Chalice/ 1st Counter	Janet Wright Susan Rivett	Sue Jakeman
2nd Counter	Sylvia Low	Fiona Shirley
Refreshments	Harry G-B Laura G-B	Colin and Susan Rivett
Sunday School	Marina McKenna Laura GB	TBC

Sue Bassett 25/07/2025