

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



and welcome to our services today

1st June, 2025

Seventh Sunday of Easter

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

Monday

9.15-10.45 Little Bears at St Benedict's
10.00 -12.00 Working Party at St Mary's
8 – 9.30pm Bellringing practice at St Mary's

Tuesday

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

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 Foodbank & Community Café at St Mary's
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 8th June

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's
11.15am NO Parish Eucharist at St Benedict's

Christ's Ascension into heaven is celebrated on the 7th Sunday after Easter. Eastertide concludes at Pentecost, where Jesus sends the Holy Spirit upon the apostles to spread the Gospel to all nations.

The next season, of Ordinary Time, explores Christ's mission and message through the Gospels.

Sunday's Collect and Readings (Year C)

The Collect

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is
gone before,
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 Acts of the Apostles

16.16-34

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, 'These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.' She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, 'I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.' And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market-place before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, 'These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.' The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, 'Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.' The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, 'Sirs, what must I do to be saved?' They answered, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.' They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

A reading from

the Revelation 22.12-14, 16-17, 20-end

'See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.'

Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

'It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.'

The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.'

And let everyone who hears say, 'Come.'

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

The one who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.'

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Hear the Gospel

According to John

17.20-end

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

'Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Thursday's Readings (Year C) – Ascension Day

A reading from Acts 22.30; 23.6-11

30 Since he wanted to find out what Paul was being accused of by the Jews, the next day he released him and ordered the chief priests and the entire council to meet. He brought Paul down and had him stand before them.

6 When Paul noticed that some were Sadducees and others were Pharisees, he called out in the council, "Brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees. I am on trial concerning the hope of the resurrection of the dead."

7 When he said this, a dissension began between the Pharisees and the Sadducees, and the assembly was divided.

8 (The Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, or angel, or spirit; but the Pharisees acknowledge all three.)

9 Then a great clamour arose, and certain scribes of the Pharisees' group stood up and contended, "We find nothing wrong with this man. What if a spirit or an angel has spoken to him?"

10 When the dissension became violent, the tribune, fearing that they would tear Paul to pieces, ordered the soldiers to go down, take him by force, and bring him into the barracks.

11 That night the Lord stood near him and said, "Keep up your courage! For just as you have testified for me in Jerusalem, so you must bear witness also in Rome."

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Psalm 16.1, 5-end

1 Preserve me, O God, for in you have I taken refuge; ♦

I have said to the Lord, 'You are my lord, all my good depends on you.'

5 My share has fallen in a fair land; ♦ indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

6 I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel, ♦ and in the night watches he instructs my heart.

7 I have set the Lord always before me; ♦ he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.

8 Wherefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; ♦ my flesh also shall rest secure.

9 For you will not abandon my soul to Death, ♦ nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.

10 You will show me the path of life; in your presence is the fullness of joy ♦ and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Hear the Gospel

According to John

17.20-end

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

20 "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word,

21 that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

22 The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one,

23 I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

24 Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

25 "Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me.

26 I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Contact Information

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General Enquiries: Please contact the Benefice Office
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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.

Sunday 15th June at 4.30pm at All Saints Pimms & Pipes

Join All Saints for a musical social celebrating Music Sunday. Includes organ playing, vocal quartet and solos with summer refreshments. Donations gratefully received.

Saturday 5th July 2pm-5pm St Mary's Garden Party

Refreshments, plant stall, other stalls, raffle and games.

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
Fridays All Saints - 9am MP, 9.30am HC

Friday Coffee Morning 10.30 - 11.45am

Come join us on the second and fourth Fridays of the month in the refectory at St Mary's. This activity runs alongside the working party and is open to all. There will be the opportunity to chat, have a cuppa and biscuits, play simple games eg dominoes, discuss issues or whatever the group would like. Any questions, please ask Joy West

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 – Harry G-B 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.



Foodbanks at St Mary's and St B's

St Mary's foodbank is open 12.30-2.30 on Tuesdays and 10-12 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.

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!

St Mary's WhatsApp group is used for quick questions and messages. If you are a member of St Mary's and not already a member of this group, do consider joining it by contacting any of the admins (Katherine Harper, Laura G-Brown, Harry G-Brown and Rachel Woods) Janet Wright

Alice's farewell service: 27th July at 3pm

All are invited to join us for this Team eucharist - followed by refreshments! - as we say goodbye to Alice and Coral. It will be lovely to see you there for this celebration of the last 3 years together. This will be the only eucharist on that day. However, at St Mary's there will be a lay led service at 9.30 am.

Dates for your diary

Sat 5th July 2pm St Mary's Garden Party in Churchyard
Fri 11th July 7pm Pudding and Plonk at St Mary's
Sat 19th July 2pm Games Afternoon at St Mary's
Sun 27th July 3pm Farewell Eucharist at St Mary's
Sept 27th & 28th Scarecrow Festival

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

	1 st June	8 th June
	9.30 Parish Eucharist	9.30 Parish Eucharist
Music	Ian Hope	Ian Hope
Warden	Sylvia Low	Dan Shirley
Sides duty		Colin Rivett
Welcomer	Peter Bladon	Fiona Shirley
Reader	Fiona Shirley	Susan Rivett
Prayers/ Intercessions	Dan Shirley	Ian Dixon
Offertory	Harry G-B Laura G-B	Melanie Henley Viv Hagel
Chalice/ 1st Counter	Peter Bladon	
2nd Counter	Jim Aylott	Viv Hagel
Refreshments	Jeanie & David Agg	Ann Wiggins Lillian Hepwood
Sunday School		Maria McKenna