Welcome to St Mary's Apsley



and welcome to our service today

9th June, 2024 Second 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

Today

9.00am Bellringing9.30am Parish Eucharist

Monday

10.00 -12.00 Working Party 8.00pm Bellringing practice

Tuesday

9.30am Buzzy Bees

12.30-2.30pm Foodbank and Community Café

Thursday

9.30 - 3.30 Church open for private prayer
9.30am Morning Service at St Mary's
10.00 - 12.00 Foodbank and Community Café
10.15am Study Group in the Vestry

8pm Study Group

Friday

10.00 -12.00 Working Party in Church & Churchyard

Saturday

10.00 -12.00 Saturday Community Café

Sunday 16th June

9.00am Bellringing

9.30am Morning Eucharist3pm Messy Church



Dear All,

In theory it is now summer but does it really feel like it? We have had hints of warmth and the tantalising glimpse of balmy evenings where you can sit outside and enjoy a relaxing meal... Unfortunately, summer has not really got its act together yet and there is no sign that this is going to change any time soon which is such a pity. I do like a bit of variety in the weather. As the seasons change there is always something to look forward to; though for some, the prospect of these seasonal changes can be overwhelming. Like in life many of us are not keen on change (or making changes) in whatever form it may take.

Where I work we are about to say goodbye, at the end of term, to our "old" headteacher as she heads off on her retirement alongside our longstanding deputy. They have been so much a part of the school that there are many who are concerned about these changes but many of us are looking forward to seeing what something unknown and alternative may bring especially when it is likely to revitalise many aspects of school life. Change of any sort is often looked at as scary and unwelcome. However, change can be exciting, thought provoking and stimulating; new opportunities can arise and we can end up being somewhere in life that we would never have imagined. To embrace different things is a brave and adventurous thing to do and can be so enabling and liberating.

This week will see Harry and I "sworn in" as your Churchwardens at a service in St Lawrence Bovingdon. This is the third time I have attended such a service and I have found it interesting to visit a Church that I have not been in before. Enjoy whatever you end up doing this week; maybe have an adventure by trying something new or do a normal thing in a different way. You never know what might happen...

Best wishes, Sylvia

Sunday's Collect and Readings (Year B)

The Collect

Lord, you have taught us

that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit

and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love,

the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you.

Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, 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 First book of Moses – Genesis 3.8-15

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' The Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.' This is the Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 4.13-5.1

THANKS BE TO GOD!

But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—'I believed, and so I spoke'—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 3.20-end

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

And the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, 'He has gone out of his mind.' And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, 'He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.' And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, 'How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

'Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin'— for they had said, 'He has an unclean spirit.'

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, 'Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.' And he replied, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' And looking at those who sat around him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Thursday's Readings (Year B)

1 Kings 18.41-end

Elijah said to Ahab, 'Go up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of rushing rain.' So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; there he bowed himself down upon the earth and put his face between his knees. He said to his servant, 'Go up now, look towards the sea.' He went up and looked, and said, 'There is nothing.' Then he said, 'Go again seven times.' At the seventh time he said, 'Look, a little cloud no bigger than a person's hand is rising out of the sea.' Then he said, 'Go and say to Ahab, "Harness your chariot and go down before the rain stops you." 'In a little while the heavens grew black with clouds and wind; there was heavy rain. Ahab rode off and went to Jezreel. But the hand of the Lord was on Elijah; he girded up his loins and ran in front of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

This is the word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 65.8-end

8 You visit the earth and water it; • you make it very plenteous.

9 The river of God is full of water; ◆ you prepare grain for your people, for so you provide for the earth.

10 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;

you soften the ground with showers and bless its increase.

- 11 You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.
- 12 May the pastures of the wilderness flow with goodness ◆

and the hills be girded with joy.

13 May the meadows be clothed with flocks of sheep

♦

and the valleys stand so thick with corn that they shall laugh and sing.

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew

5.20-26

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement." But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!**

Notices

Please send any input for next week to Sue in the Benefice office on SaintsKL2@tiscali.co.uk by noon on Wednesday and copy it to StMarysApsleyEnd@gmail.com.

Family Fun Day – 29th June

Donations required for hamper as a raffle prize and other suitable gifts for prizes. Good quality toys. There is a box for these at the back of church. If anyone has a gazebo we could borrow please let us know. Also plants required to sell on the day.

Please sign up if you are able to provide cakes for the cake stall. We still need volunteers for help on the day to make this a successful fundraising event.

Many thanks

Viv

Pray Hemel

Pray Hemel will be at St B's on Saturday 6th July. If anyone is able to help St B's serve breakfast at 8am before their service please speak to Sylvia or Harry. Thank you.

Children's Society

If you have a Children's Society collection box, they are now due to be given back to Hazel Littlejohns for her to do the annual return. If you are unable to get your box to her, please bring back to church and pass to Peter Bladon.

Welcome Boxes for Nascent House

Thank you so much to everyone that has responded to the Nascent House requests. It has been truly amazing! Our needs are now sweets (small packets), individual bars of soap, notelets/cards, nail brushes, shampoo, large boxes of tissues and boxes with lids (17L to 25L). Please remember that the products must not contain alcohol. If you would like to know more about this scheme, come and have a chat. Susan & Viv

Contact Information

Vicar: Mthr Alice Jolley ☎01442 615246

mthr.AliceJolley@outlook.com

General Enquiries: Please contact the Benefice Office

Monday - Friday 8.30am - 12.30pm

Administrator/Benefice Office:

Sue Bassett 🖀 01923 266596 or 07503 950315 or

<u>SaintsKL2@tiscali.co.uk</u>

Facebook: St Mary's Apsley End

Twitter: @StMarys1871

Churchwardens: Sylvia Low ☎ 07742 610932

SylviayLow@gmail.com

Harry Graham-Brown 2 07918 071542

Harry.GB63@gmail.com

Safeguarding: Katharine Harper ☎ 07881 602024

KatharineHarper23@gmail.com

Website/calendar: www.BeneficeofLangelei.org.uk/StMarys

Working Party Volunteers

Many thanks to the three people who have volunteered to join the working party on either Monday or Friday mornings. Hopefully with their help we can now get the churchyard up to its normal standard!! More help would still be very welcome.

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.

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: https://t.ly/VJUlr either to the church or to Dunelm gratefully received.

Assistance at both foodbanks and at St B's on Wednesday 9.30-12.00 needed. If you can help, do come and see us.

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 too 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.

Dates for your diary

Sat 29th June Family Fun Day

Sat 6th July 8am Pray Hemel at St B's

Sat 13th July 10am Fabric Committee Meetina

Sun 21st July 3pm Messy Church

Sat 17th Aug 10-12.30pm Bellringing Masterclass

Sun 18th Aug 3pm Messy Church

Rotas - Who's doing what when		
	9 th June	16 th June
	9.30 Eucharist	9.30 Eucharist 3pm Messy Church
Music	Ian Hope	Bruce Boardman
Warden	Harry GB	Sylvia Low
Sides duty	Laura GB	Pauline Buck
Welcomer	Roger & Angela Witts	Colin Rivett
Reading	Viv Hagel	Melanie Henley
Intercessions	Dan Shirley	Viv Hagel
Offertory	Susan & Colin Rivett	Sylvia Low & Lilian Hepwood
Chalice	Katharine Harper	Susan Rivett
2nd Counter	Roger Witts	Jim Aylott
Refreshments	Dan & Fiona Shirley	Jeanie Agg & TBA
Sunday School	Peter Bladon	No Sunday School
	•	Sue Bassett 06/06/2024