

Welcome to St Mary's Apsley



and welcome to our service today

24th March, 2024
Palm Sunday

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 Bellringing
9.30am Parish Eucharist
3.00pm Messy Church

Monday

10.00 -12.00 Working Party
8.00pm NO Bellringing practice

Tuesday

9.30am Buzzy Bees
12.30-2.30pm Foodbank and Community Café

Wednesday

7pm Lent Discussion Group in the Vicarage

Thursday

9.30 - 3.30 Church open for private prayer
10.00 - 12.00 Foodbank and Community Café
7.30 – 10.00 Eucharist with Foot-Washing followed by The Watch of the Passion until 10pm

Friday

11.30 Family Worship
2.00 Hour before the Cross

Saturday

10.00 -12.00 Saturday Community Café
10.00-12.00 Spring Cleaning

Sunday 31st March – Easter Day

6.00am Dawn Eucharist followed by breakfast
9.00am Bellringing
9.30am Parish Eucharist followed by Egg Hunt

HOLY WEEK & EASTER AT ST MARY'S AND ST BENEDICT'S

Wednesday: St Benedict's

7.30pm Contemplative Prayer
to conclude Lent course

Maundy Thursday: St Mary's

(11.30am Chrism Eucharist at St Albans
Abbey).

7.30pm Eucharist with foot-washing,
followed by the watch of the Passion
until 10pm.

Good Friday

11.30am Family Workshop: St Mary's
2pm Hour before the Cross: St Mary's
2pm: Family Workshop: St Benedict's

Holy Saturday

10am-12pm Spring Cleaning: St Mary's
3pm- 4pm Spring Cleaning:
St Benedict's

Easter Sunday

6:00am Dawn Eucharist followed by
Breakfast in the refectory: St Mary's
9:30am Eucharist: St Mary's
**Free Community Lunch **: St Mary's
11:15am Eucharist: St Benedict's

Easter Egg hunts after both 9.30am and 11.15am

Dear Friends

Today the drama of Holy Week begins with Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey to the excitement of the crowds and the annoyance and anger of the authorities. At our eucharist this morning we have the dramatic reading of the Gospel, with the parts played by us, in our ordinary clothes, standing in our ordinary places. I always worry that this will feel staged and perfunctory - how can we possibly recreate the scene? I am sometimes jealous of other churches with their big processions and live donkeys! But usually something of the moment catches me and says "catch yourself on".

Holy Week isn't about recreating the scenes like-for-like, we can't do that and it's foolish to try. Holy Week is about entering into the moment, in our ordinary clothes, in our ordinary lives, where the moment finds us right now, today. With whatever is going on for us. Maybe we are getting ready to retire and move house. Maybe a loved one has just died. Maybe we are rejoicing at some new opportunity. Maybe we are standing at a crossroads of discernment, wondering which road to take next. There is a moment in Holy Week for all of those emotions, there is a place for all of those feelings to find a home.

Ultimately, our task is to lay down what binds us, what weighs us down, at the foot of the cross, confident that somehow it will be transformed and transfused with light on Easter morning. Let God do the work.

Yours in Christ
Mother Alice

Sunday's Collect and Readings (Year B)

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human
race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his
patience and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
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 Isaiah 50.4-9a

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a
teacher, that I may know how to sustain the
weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens— wakens my
ear to listen as those who are taught.
The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not
rebellious, I did not turn backwards.
I gave my back to those who struck me, and my
cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.
The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not
been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know
that I shall not be put to shame; he who
vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me? Let us stand up
together.
Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.
It is the Lord God who helps me; who will
declare me guilty?
All of them will wear out like a garment; the
moth will eat them up.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from the Letter to the Philippians

2.5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God, did not
regard equality with God as something to be
exploited, but emptied
himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in
human likeness.

And being found in human form, he humbled
himself and became obedient to the point of
death— even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him
the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should
bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is
Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

11.1-11

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at
Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives,
he sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into
the village ahead of you, and immediately as you
enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never
been ridden; untie it and bring it. If
anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say
this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here
immediately." ' They went away and found a colt
tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were
untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What
are you doing, untying the colt?' They told them what
Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take
it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their
cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread
their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy
branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those
who went ahead and those who followed were
shouting,
'Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor
David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple;
and when he had looked around at everything, as it
was already late, he went out to Bethany with the
twelve.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Thursday's Readings (Year B)

A reading from the
book of Exodus

12. 1-4, 11-14

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

This is the word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

1 Corinthians

11. 23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John 13. 1-17, 31b – 35

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' Jesus said to him, 'One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.' For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.'

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

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	07503 950315 or SaintsKL2@tiscali.co.uk
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Website/calendar:	www.BeneficeofLangelei.org.uk/StMarys		

Notices

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

Breakfast!

After the 6am and before the 9.30am services on Easter Sunday breakfast will be served! Bacon rolls, croissants, fruit juice, tea and coffee. Special dietary requirements catered for on request. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of church. No charge, any donations gratefully received on the day.
Colin Rivett.

30th March - Spring Clean Saturday

Come and join in with giving the church a Spring Clean! There will be lots of different jobs available.

Easter Monday Pilgrimage

If you are planning to come on the Easter Monday Pilgrimage to St Albans, we will be leaving St Mary's at 9.am for the short walk up to Holy Trinity for breakfast!! Details concerning the walk can be found on the poster or speak to Peter Bladon.

Welcome Boxes for Nascent House

Thank you to everyone that has made contributions to our Welcome Box scheme for Oxygen Recovery (Nascent House) recently. We have donated 13 boxes since January which is incredible. This does mean that we are low on stock for a number of items. We are in need of toothpaste, sweets (small packets) individual bars of soap, notelets, ball point pens, body wash, shampoo 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

Sponsorship for our organists



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

Safeguarding Administrator (0.6) - The Diocese of St Albans (stalbandsdiocese.org)

For more information visit:
www.stalbandsdiocese.org/vacancies/safeguarding-administrator/
Deadline for applications are 12pm on 8th April 2024.

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 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 speak to Mother Alice.

Dates for your diary

Thur 28th Mar 7.30pm Eucharist with Foot Washing followed by the watch of the Passion until 10pm
Fri 29th Mar Good Friday
11.30am Family Workshop
2pm Hour before the Cross
Sat 30th Mar Spring Clean Saturday
Sun 31st Mar Easter Sunday
6am Dawn Eucharist followed by Breakfast
9.30am Family Eucharist followed by Egg Hunt
Mon 1st Apr Pilgrimage to St Albans Cathedral
Sun 21st Apr Messy Church
Sun 28th Apr Lizzie's Farewell Service 3pm Holy Trinity

Rotas - Who's doing what when

	24 th March	31 st March – Easter Day
	9.30 Eucharist	9.30 Eucharist
Music	Ian Hope	Peter Lipman
Warden	Dan Shirley	Harry GB
Sides duty	Sylvia Low	Colin Rivett & Pauline Buck
Welcomer	Colin Rivett	Sylvia Low
Reading	Passion enactment	Dan Shirley
Intercessions	Fiona Shirley	Viv Hagel
Offertory	Fiona Ellison & Melanie Henley	Shirley family
Chalice	Peter Bladon	Susan Rivett & Katharine Harper
2nd Counter	Fiona Shirley	Susan Rivett & Katharine Harper
Refreshments	Harry GB	Viv Hagel & Melanie Henley
Sunday School	Hazel Pritchard	Lilian Hepwood

Sue Bassett 21/03/2024