

Welcome to St Mary's Apsley



and welcome to our service today

19th May, 2024
Day of Pentecost

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 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 26th May

9.00am Bellringing
9.30am Morning Service



Dear All,
What lovely weather we have had recently? A vast improvement on what seems like endless days of rain. Sunshine really does have a positive impact on all aspects of life; from my own viewpoint it makes me smile. All the leaves have sprouted shades of green, and with them are flowers of all kinds, exposing a vibrant variety of colours, dancing in the sunshine; everything is verdant, lush and aromatic. Modern life can mean that we are all too busy or too inward looking that we can miss all that nature has to offer; we can often fail to appreciate the little positive things in life like bees collecting nectar or rose buds unfurling to reveal splendid blooms with amazing scent! Hence, I propose that our Church and surrounding community can be likened to a garden where we are the flowers. Different personalities and different contributions but together, we help our garden bloom and thrive. So even if you are a dainty daisy, or a superb sunflower, or anything in between, every flower makes a garden. We should appreciate all our efforts to help maintain our community, no matter how big or small. One small positive act can be a catalyst to so much more... Therefore, I am pleased to say that because of people being willing to do "their bit" for our garden the gaps in the rota have been filled and our PCC no longer has any vacancies. Thank you. Have a good week whatever you end up doing. I wonder what little thing will make you feel like smiling.
Best wishes,
Sylvia

Sunday's Collect and Readings (Year B)

The Collect

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:
grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, 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 2.1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

"In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans 8.22-27

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

'When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them.

'I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, "Where are you going?" But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Thursday's Readings (Year B)

A reading from James 5.1-6

Come now, you rich people, weep and wail for the miseries that are coming to you. Your riches have rotted, and your clothes are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evidence against you, and it will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure for the last days. Listen! The wages of the labourers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on the earth in luxury and in pleasure; you have fattened your hearts on a day of slaughter. You have condemned and murdered the righteous one, who does not resist you.

This is the word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalms 49 12-20

12 Those who have honour, but lack understanding, are like the beasts that perish.

13 Such is the way of those who boast in themselves, the end of those who delight in their own words.

14 Like a flock of sheep they are destined to die; death is their shepherd; they go down straight to the Pit.

15 Their beauty shall waste away, and the land of the dead shall be their dwelling.

16 But God shall ransom my soul; from the grasp of death will he take me.

17 Be not afraid if some grow rich and the glory of their house increases,

18 For they will carry nothing away when they die, nor will their glory follow after them.

19 Though they count themselves happy while they live and praise you for your success,

20 They shall enter the company of their ancestors who will nevermore see the light.

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark 9.41-end

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell., And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

'For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Contact Information

Vicar:	Mthr Alice Jolley	01442 615246	mthr.Alice.Jolley@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@fiscali.co.uk
Facebook:	St Mary's Apsley End	Twitter:	@StMarys1871
Churchwardens:	Sylvia Low	07742 610932	SylviaLow@gmail.com
	Harry Graham-Brown	07918 071542	Harry.GB63@gmail.com
Safeguarding:	Susan Rivett	07908 644600	SusanRivett55@gmail.com
	Katharine Harper	07881 602024	KatharineHarper23@gmail.com
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.

Family Fun Day

If you are able to help on Saturday 29th June 1pm-4pm there is a sign up sheet at the back of church. We welcome as much help as possible to make this a successful fundraising event for our church. Many thanks
Viv

St. Albans Diocesan Synod 2024-2027 elections

A new Diocesan Synod must be elected this year and will take office on 1st August 2024. Our Deanery is required to elect 3 members to the House of Laity, and any lay person who is an actual communicant of 16 years or upwards and whose name is entered on the electoral roll of any parish in the Deanery is eligible. If you are interested or would like more information, please speak to your clergy or Deanery representative. Nominations are required by Thursday 11th June 2024.

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

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, Bruce Boardman, 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

Sun 19th May Messy Church

Sat 29th June Family Fun Day

Rotas - Who's doing what when		
	19 th May	26 th May
	9.30 Parish Eucharist 3pm Messy Church	9.30 Morning Service
Music	Bruce Boardman	Peter Lipman
Warden	Sylvia Low	Dan Shirley
Sides duty	Colin Rivett	Peter & Rosemary Bladon
Welcomer	Roger & Angela Witts	Sylvia Low
Reading	Joy West	Katharine Harper
Intercessions	Dan Shirley	Fiona Shirley
Offertory	Shirley family	Rosemary & Peter Bladon
Chalice	Peter Bladon	Susan Rivett
2nd Counter	Colin Rivett	Fiona Shirley
Refreshments	Sylvia Low & Ann Wiggins	Susan & Colin Rivett
Sunday School	3pm Messy Church	Laura GB

Sue Bassett 16/05/2024