

# Welcome to St Mary's Apsley



and welcome to our service today

15<sup>th</sup> September, 2024  
16<sup>th</sup> 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.

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## This Week at St Mary's

### Today

9.00am Bellringing  
9.30am Parish Eucharist  
3pm Messy Church

### Monday

10.00 -12.00 Working Party  
8.00pm Bellringing practice

### Tuesday

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

### Thursday

9.30 - 3.30 Church open for private prayer  
9.30am Eucharist at St Mary's  
10.00 – 12.00 Foodbank and Community Café  
10.15am Study Group in the Vestry  
8pm Home Study Group

### Friday

10.00 -12.00 Working Party in Church & Churchyard

### Saturday

10.00 -12.00 Saturday Community Café

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September

9.00am Bellringing  
9.30am Parish Eucharist



What good is it for someone to gain  
the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?

Mark 8:36

Dear All,

Although I have been part of St Mary's life for many years (and of course, not as many as many of you) I thought I knew a lot about things within our Church... However, during my recent experience as a verger at a wedding I found out a few "new to me" things about St Mary's; this made me think that although we are very familiar with our surroundings we can still be surprised by things when we view them from a different perspective.

Perhaps a change of context can help us understand our environment, each other and the differences that make life interesting. Experiencing something in a different way may help to prevent the perpetuation of misinformation and even create a situation where things become clearer... Maybe we should all try and see things from an alternate viewpoint as you never know what good can from it!

You may remember that in the early summer I mentioned that we would like everyone to have a look at the St Mary's website to check for out of date information, anything that was missing or anything that needed to be improved. We would still like to hear from all of you as it is your website and your opinion matters; it is how we are viewed by the community outside of our Church family and so it is important that it reflects what we are. We all see things differently so that's why it would be great for all of you to have a look. Please take the time to peruse the website and let me know if you find anything that needs to change or any other comment. Looking forward to hearing from you. Thank you for your help with this. What you share with me can help us ensure the website is what we would like and need it to be for St Mary's.

I am off to a family wedding this weekend and this will also give me and my family a chance to celebrate the new arrival; my oldest nephew and his wife had a baby girl last weekend. Have a great week everyone.

Best wishes,  
Sylvia

## Sunday's Collect and Readings (Year B)

### The Collect

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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 the Prophet 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 awakens—  
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 of James 3.1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

### Hear the Gospel

According to Mark

8.27 - end

**GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!**

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' And they answered him, 'John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' He asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.' And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!**

## Thursday's Readings (Year B)

### The First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

15.1-11

Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

This is the Word of the Lord

**THANKS BE TO GOD**

### Psalm 118.1-2, 17-20

1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; ♦  
his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let Israel now proclaim, ♦  
'His mercy endures for ever.'

17 I shall not die, but live ♦  
and declare the works of the Lord.

18 The Lord has punished me sorely, ♦  
but he has not given me over to death.

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, ♦  
that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

20 This is the gate of the Lord; ♦  
the righteous shall enter through it.

### A reading from the Gospel according to Luke

7.36-end

#### GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, 'If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner.' Jesus spoke up and said to him, 'Simon, I have something to say to you.' 'Teacher,' he replied, 'speak.' 'A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he cancelled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?' Simon answered, 'I suppose the one for whom he cancelled the greater debt.' And Jesus said to him, 'You have judged rightly.' Then turning towards the woman, he said to Simon, 'Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.' Then he said to her, 'Your sins are forgiven.' But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, 'Who is this who even forgives sins?' And he said to the woman, 'Your faith has saved you; go in peace.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!**

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### Contact Information

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**General Enquiries:** Please contact the Benefice Office  
Monday – Friday 8.30am – 12.30pm

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# Notices

Please send any input for next week to Sue in the Benefice office on [info@beneficeoflangelei.org.uk](mailto:info@beneficeoflangelei.org.uk) by noon on Wednesday and copy it to [StMarysApsleyEnd@gmail.com](mailto:StMarysApsleyEnd@gmail.com).

## Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September

The funeral of Bruce Boardman, one of our regular organists will be held at 2.30 pm in the North Chapel, West Herts Crematorium, High Elms Lane, WD25 0JS. Please keep his wife Ruth and family in your prayers.

## Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September

Team Eucharist at 10.30 at All Saints, Kings Langley.  
Make a note in your diary and remember it will be an hour later than our usual service time!

## Thinking about being Confirmed? You are now!

There will be a Team Confirmation service held on 17<sup>th</sup> November, and the Team will be preparing candidates in sessions on the following Wednesdays at 7pm: 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct, 9<sup>th</sup> Oct, 6<sup>th</sup> Nov, 13<sup>th</sup> Nov. We will be running concurrent sessions for youth and adults. Please speak to Mother Alice if you are interested.

## Welcome Boxes for Nascent House

Thank you to everyone who has donated items for the welcome boxes. We are currently in need of packets of sweets, shower gel, toothpaste, bars of soap, nail brushes, notelets and boxes with lids (171 - 251). Please note items must not contain alcohol. If you would like further information about this scheme, please speak to Susan or Viv.

## Buzzy Bees

Welcome back to Buzzy Bees after the summer holidays.

## Quiz Night

It was a pity that the quiz night was postponed but the plan is to try and have this event very soon. Please keep watch for announcements about the new date and location (probably in the St Mary's refectory).

## 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

Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 3pm Messy Church  
Sun 29<sup>th</sup> Sept 10.30am Team Service at All Saints  
Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 9.30 am Harvest Service  
Sun 20<sup>th</sup> Oct 3pm Messy Church

| Rotas - Who's doing what when |                                    |                            |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|                               | 15 <sup>th</sup> September         | 22 <sup>nd</sup> September |
|                               | 9.30 Eucharist<br>3pm Messy Church | 9.30 Eucharist             |
| <b>Music</b>                  | Ian Hope                           | Peter Lipman               |
| <b>Warden</b>                 | Harry GB                           | Dan Shirley                |
| <b>Sides duty</b>             | Pauline Buck                       | Ann Wiggins                |
| <b>Welcomer</b>               | Ann Wiggins                        | Katharine Harper           |
| <b>Reading</b>                | Katharine Harper                   | Melanie Henley             |
| <b>Intercessions</b>          | Laura GB                           | Sue Jakeman                |
| <b>Offertory</b>              | Laura & Harry GB                   |                            |
| <b>Chalice</b>                | Susan Rivett                       |                            |
| <b>2nd Counter</b>            | Kyajdi Ceci                        | Jim Aylott                 |
| <b>Refreshments</b>           | Susan & Colin Rivett               | Viv Hagel & Melanie Henley |
| <b>Sunday School</b>          | No Sunday School                   | Hazel Pritchard            |