

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



and welcome to our services today

7th September, 2025

12th 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 & St B's

Today

9.00am	Bellringing at St Mary's
9.30am	Service St Mary's
10.30am	Team Service at All Saints, Kings Langley
11.15am	Parish Eucharist at St Benedict's

Monday

9.15-10.45	Little Bears at St Benedict's
12.30-2.30pm	Apsley Community Café at St Mary's Church
10.00 -12.00	Working Party at St Mary's
8 – 9.30pm	Bellringing practice at St Mary's

Tuesday

9am	NO Morning Prayer at St Benedict's
9.30am	Buzzy Bees at St Mary's

Wednesday

9.30-11.30am	Foodbank at St Benedict's
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Thursday

9.30am	Morning Prayer at St Mary's
10.00 – 12.00	Apsley Community Café at St Mary's Church
10.15am	Study Group at St Mary's - Paused
8pm	Home Study Group

Friday

10.00 -12.00	Working Party in St Mary's Church & Churchyard.
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Saturday

10.00 -12.00	Saturday Community Café at St Mary's
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Sunday 14th September

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



When you read this, Rosemary's family, friends and St Mary's will have said farewell and prayed for her on her journey to the Kingdom of Heaven. For many years Rosemary and Peter have been a driving force for many activities that put St Mary's into the minds and hearts of the local community and St Albans cathedral.

May Rosemary rest in peace and rise in glory.

Meteorological Summer (sadly) is now over with 1st September the beginning of meteorological Autumn. With that in mind this also means the start of the new academic year and the count down to the Nativity of the Lord (note I didn't use the word beginning with C) But before that, we as a church will be quite busy so please if you can help in any way it will be most appreciated. Please look out for sign up sheets as soon as they are announced. In particular help will be needed for the Scarecrow festival on the weekend of 27th and 28th September. As of today we have had lots of the community expressing a desire to make a scarecrow. I am really looking forward to see the community coming together in this way. Keep in your prayers all those going back to school, college and university, (that includes adults too).

Sunday's Collect and Readings (Year C)

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is
afraid and giving us those good things which we are
not worthy to ask but through the merits and
mediation of 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 Deuteronomy 30.15-end

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity,
death and adversity.

If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God
that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord
your God, walking in his ways, and observing his
commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you
shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your
God will bless you in the land that you are entering to
possess.

But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but
are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve
them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you
shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the
Jordan to enter and possess.

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today
that I have set before you life and death, blessings
and curses. Choose life so that you and your
descendants may live, loving the Lord your God,
obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means
life to you and length of days, so that you may live in
the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors,
to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

A reading from a Letter of Paul to the Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our
brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-
worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow-
soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you
and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always
thank my God because I hear of your love for all the
saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus. I pray
that the sharing of your faith may become effective
when you perceive all the good that we may do for
Christ. I have indeed received much joy and
encouragement from your love, because the hearts
of the saints have been refreshed through you, my
brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to
command you to do your duty, yet I would rather
appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do
this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of
Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child,

Onesimus, whose father I have become during my
imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but
now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am
sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I
wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of
service to me in your place during my imprisonment
for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without
your consent, in order that your good deed might
be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this
is the reason he was separated from you for a while,
so that you might have him back for ever, no longer
as a slave but as more than a slave, a beloved
brother—especially to me but how much more to
you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as
you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in
any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my
account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I
will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even
your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit
from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in
Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to
you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

This is the word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke 14.25-33

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he
turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me
and does not hate father and mother, wife and
children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself,
cannot be my disciple.

Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me
cannot be my disciple.

For which of you, intending to build a tower, does
not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see
whether he has enough to complete it?

Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not
able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule
him, saying, "This fellow began to build and was not
able to finish."

Or what king, going out to wage war against
another king, will not sit down first and consider
whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the
one who comes against him with twenty thousand?
If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he
sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace.
So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if
you do not give up all your possessions.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Thursday's Readings (Year C)

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians 3.12-17

12 As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

13 Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Psalm 149.1-5

1 Alleluia. O sing to the Lord a new song; ♦
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.

2 Let Israel rejoice in their maker; ♦
let the children of Zion be joyful in their king.

3 Let them praise his name in the dance; ♦
let them sing praise to him with timbrel and lyre.

4 For the Lord has pleasure in his people ♦
and adorns the poor with salvation.

5 Let the faithful be joyful in glory; ♦
let them rejoice in their ranks,

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke 6.27-38

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

27 "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies,
do good to those who hate you,

28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who
abuse you.

29 If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the
other also; and from anyone who takes away your
coat do not withhold even your shirt.

30 Give to everyone who begs from you; and if
anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for
them again.

31 Do to others as you would have them do to
you.

32 "If you love those who love you, what credit is
that to you? For even sinners love those who love
them.

33 If you do good to those who do good to you,
what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the
same.

34 If you lend to those from whom you hope to
receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners
lend to sinners, to receive as much again.

35 But love your enemies, do good, and lend,
expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be
great, and you will be children of the Most High;
for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

37 "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do
not condemn, and you will not be condemned.
Forgive, and you will be forgiven;

38 give, and it will be given to you. A good
measure, pressed down, shaken together, running
over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you
give will be the measure you get back."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!

Contact Information

Vicar: Vacancy

General Enquiries: Please contact the Benefice Office
Monday – Friday 8.30am – 12.00pm

Administrator/Benefice Office:

Sue Bassett ☎ 01923 266596 or 07503 950315 or
info@beneficeoflangelei.org.uk

Facebook: St Mary's Apsley End

Churchwardens: Sylvia Low ☎ 07742 610932
SylviaLow@gmail.com

Sue Jakeman ☎ 07971 254336
susanjakeman@btinternet.com

Safeguarding: Marina McKenna - ☎ 07783173457
Katharine Harper - ☎ 07881602024
Email: safeguardingapsley@gmail.com

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

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.

The Rev David Jones has been appointed as Team Vicar in the Langelei Team Ministry with special responsibility for St Mary's Apsley End and St Benedict's, Bennetts End. This is subject to completion of the usual legal formalities. David's licensing service will take place on Tuesday 14th October at 7.30pm at St Mary's Apsley End. Please remember David, Janey, Hannah and Autumn in your prayers as they prepare for their move.

27th & 28th Sept Scarecrow Festival



Please contact Laura or Sylvia if you know anyone or group who would like to make a scarecrow. There are signup sheets for helpers and cakes. Donations required for raffle and for hamper please.

Team Confirmation Preparation 2025

Would you like to confirm your promises to God? Fr James, Revd Diana and Revd Jos will be running Confirmation Preparation sessions in the autumn. Please contact one of them to sign up. For adults and young people 12+ in our churches. 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd Oct, 15th Nov visit to St Albans, 20th Nov concluding session. 23rd Nov 6.30pm Confirmation Service at St John's Boxmoor.

Morning services around the team

All are welcome to mid-week Morning Prayer and Holy Communion services

Tuesdays St Benedict's - Paused
Wednesdays Holy Trinity - 9am MP, 10am HC
Thursdays St Mary's - 9am MP, 9.30am HC
Fridays All Saints - 9am MP, 9.30am HC

Thursdays 10.15am Study Group at St Mary's

During the Vacancy the Study Group is paused.

Sponsorship for our organists at St Mary's



Our organist today, Mark Terry, 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 – Sue Jakeman or Sylvia Low for more information.

Apsley Community Foodbank & Café at St Mary's and Foodbank at St B's

St Mary's is open 12.30-2.30 on Mondays and 10-12 on Thursdays for food collection and 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, notecards, toothpaste, toothbrushes 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!

Used for quick questions and messages. If you are a member of St Mary's, do consider joining by contacting any of the admins (Katharine Harper, Laura G-Brown, Harry G-Brown and Rachel Woods)

Donate to St Mary's

Please support St Mary's by using this QR code to donate. Thank you.



Dates for your diary

Fri 5th Sep 7pm Pudding and Plonk
Sat 13th Sep Bike 'n' Hike Church open 9am-5pm
Games afternoon
Sun 21st Sep Messy Harvest
Sept 27th & 28th Scarecrow Festival
Tues 14th Oct 7.30pm Licencing of Rev David Jones

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

	7 th September	14 th September
	9.30 Parish Eucharist	9.30 Parish Eucharist
Music	Mark Terry	Ian Hope
Warden	Dan Shirley	Sue Jakeman
Sides duty	Colin Rivett	Katharine Harper
Welcomer	Ann Wiggins	Katherine Harper
Reader	Melanie Henley	Dan Shirley
Prayers/ Intercessions	Viv Hagel	Sue Jakeman
Offertory	Dan Shirley Fiona Shirley	Peter Bladon Ann Wiggins
Chalice/ 1st Counter	Peter Bladon	Jim Aylott
2nd Counter	Jim Aylott	Peter Bladon
Refreshments	Melanie Henley Ralph Henley	Jeanie Agg David Agg
Sunday School	Lillian Hepwood	Hazel Pritchard