

# Welcome to St Mary's Apsley



and welcome to our service today

**8<sup>th</sup> September, 2024**

**The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

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

### 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 Study Group

### Friday

10.00 -12.00 Working Party in Church & Churchyard

### Saturday

10.00 -12.00 Saturday Community Café

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September

9.00am Bellringing  
9.30am Parish Eucharist  
3pm Messy Church

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Dear All,

You may remember from the last time I did this bit in the bulletin that I was looking forward to the new school year with interest as we had a new headteacher starting. Well, what a few days it has been...bombshells galore and the broken tap still hasn't been repaired!

It is interesting that we all have our expectations of events in our lives or elsewhere. Most of the time I would say that these events will be what we expect within a margin of error either way. For me I can virtually guarantee that there will be some kind of incident (usually humorous) when my family and I go out for a meal with my sister and her family...there have been so many that it is hard to pick my favourite but I think it was the upmarket hotel running out of prosecco at the start of the evening which sticks in my mind. It could be poor stock management by this hotel or if I am being cynical, I could suggest it was a marketing strategy to encourage the purchase of champagne! Whatever the reason it wasn't what we would have expected when we sat down for our meal.

Well back to some of the bombshells. Today, our exams officer announced that he was leaving at the end of November rather than in the summer and that his assistant who was due to leave at Christmas was leaving next month. Our exams officer is a highly experienced individual and the role is such an important and complex one in a secondary school that you underestimate it at your peril. Replacing him in such a short space of time will be very hard to do; he is such a legend that the place will not be the same without him. It was interesting to see was the look of shock and apprehension on colleagues' faces as the implication of this news sunk in - it was something to behold; this was definitely not what I or anyone expected or wanted for the first week back.

However, it is how we react to the unexpected that defines the situation. We need to try and be flexible and calm in our response to events and not panic or run about like "headless chickens". Panic can prevent us from making sensible decisions or responses to the unforeseen – not a good solution to deal with challenges that can be thrown at us.

Have a great week whatever you end up doing.  
Best wishes,  
Sylvia

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

### The Collect

Almighty God,  
who looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin  
Mary and chose her to be the mother of your only  
Son:

grant that we who are redeemed by his blood  
may share with her in the glory of your eternal  
kingdom 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

61. 10-end

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring  
up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

### A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians

4.4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his  
Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to  
redeem those who were under the law, so that we  
might receive adoption as children. And because  
you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into  
our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no  
longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an  
heir, through God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

### Hear the Gospel According to Luke

1.46-55

#### **GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!**

And Mary said,  
'My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,  
for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of  
his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call  
me blessed;  
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of  
their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their  
thrones,

and lifted up the lowly;  
he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
according to the promise he made to our  
ancestors,

to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

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

8.1-7, 11-end

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that 'all of us possess knowledge.' Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that 'no idol in the world really exists', and that 'there is no God but one.' Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

This is the Word of the Lord

**THANKS BE TO GOD**

### Psalm

139.1-9

- 1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me; ♦  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You mark out my journeys and my resting place ♦  
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 For there is not a word on my tongue, ♦  
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You encompass me behind and before ♦  
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, ♦  
so high that I cannot attain it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your spirit? ♦  
Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; ♦  
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning ♦  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand shall lead me, ♦  
your right hand hold me fast.

### A reading from the Gospel according to Luke

6.27-38

#### GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

'But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. 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. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

'If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. 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. 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. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

'Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; 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!**

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### Contact Information

**Vicar:** Mthr Alice Jolley ☎01442 615246  
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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).

## Buzzy Bees

Please note that Buzzy Bees returns on Tuesday after the Summer break.

## Quiz Night Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September

There is a sign up sheet at the back of church if you would like to attend.

Raffle prizes required, including items for hamper, please put these in box provided.

Please sign up if you can bake a cake or dessert for the night.

Many thanks.

Viv



## Bike 'n Hike Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September

If you would like to join in, visiting as many churches as possible on foot or by bike, please ask for a sponsorship pack. Proceeds to the Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust.

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

Team Eucharist at 10.30 at All Saints, Kings Langley  
Make a note in your diary!

## Are you considering being Confirmed?

A Deanery Confirmation Course will be starting in the Autumn. Talk to James or Jos if you want to know more.

## 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.

## 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.

## Dates for your diary

Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Sept Quiz Night at Nash Mills School

Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 3pm Messy Church

Sun 29<sup>th</sup> Sept 10.30am Team Service at All Saints

## Rotas - Who's doing what when

	8 <sup>th</sup> September	15 <sup>th</sup> September
	9.30 Eucharist	9.30 Eucharist 3pm Messy Church
<b>Music</b>	Ian Hope	Ian Hope
<b>Warden</b>	Sylvia Low	Harry GB
<b>Sides duty</b>	Laura GB	Pauline Buck
<b>Welcomer</b>	Monda Ajaqzi	Ann Wiggins
<b>Reading</b>	Laura GB	Katharine Harper
<b>Intercessions</b>	Viv Hagel	Laura GB
<b>Offertory</b>	Susan & Colin Rivett	Laura & Harry GB
<b>Chalice</b>	Katharine Harper	Susan Rivett
<b>2nd Counter</b>	Roger Witts	Kyajdi Ceci
<b>Refreshments</b>	Laura & Harry GB	Susan & Colin Rivett
<b>Sunday School</b>	Peter Bladon	No Sunday School