

FOR OUR PRAYERS:

In our prayers for the Church this week, we pray for the Church of the Province of Burma and in our own diocese, Churches in the Deanery of Luton.

At their year's mind, we remember Christine Clements, Sheila Twivy, Eileen Green, Basil Ivor Thorne, Patricia Day, Peter Smith, Sarah Louise Butler, Edna Schofield and Patrick Giblin.

Among those who have died recently, we pray especially for Mel Grundy, his family and friends. There will be a Thanksgiving Service for Mel in Church at 4pm on 11th December, preceded by a private cremation.

From Vivienne, "Please don't wear black but tuck a flower in your button hole."

NOTICES:

At our 10am service we will be blessing the new credence table given in memory of Peggy Bearton & Gillian Hunter & the new Communion tray in memory of Thelma Bodsworth. We welcome those members of their families who will be joining us.

EATON BRAY ACADEMY CAROL CONCERT in St Mary's, Tuesday 10th Dec., 2pm

WELCOME CLUB at All Saints' Dagnall Church **THIS Tuesday, 10th December**, 2pm-4pm. Drop in for a chat, a cuppa and cake. Play board games, toys for children and babies provided. Join us to 'knit and natter' or bring your own craft. All ages welcome. If you would like to come but require transport please phone Angela Dunford on 01525 221944 to arrange a lift.

HOLY COMMUNION 10.00am Wednesday 11th December.

PCC MEETING on Thursday 12th December at 7.30pm in Church.

ST MARY'S LADIES' GUILD'S MEETING, this Wednesday, 11th December has been cancelled.

DAGNALL VILLAGE CAROL SERVICE at All Saints' Dagnall Sunday 15th Dec., 3pm

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE SERVICES - If you can help at either the 4.15 or 6pm Candle Services on Christmas Eve then please let Gordon know.

POSADA: the knitted figures of Mary and Joseph will be travelling around the villages during Advent. If you would like to host them please sign the list in church or contact Joy.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EATON BRAY

with

EDLESBOROUGH & ALL SAINTS, DAGNALL

www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk

email: admin@stmaryseatonbray.org.uk

WELCOME TO ST MARY'S

8TH DECEMBER 2019

ADVENT 2

SERVICES TODAY

8.00am – Holy Communion

10.00am – Sung Holy Communion

HYMNS

34, 27, 444, 591

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

taken from New Standard Revised Version

Isaiah 35:1-10, James 5:7-10, Mathew 11:2-11

If you usually receive communion in a Christian, Church, you are welcome to receive Holy Communion in this church. If you are not a communicant, please come to the altar rail for a blessing, carrying the service book with you.

COFFEE is served at the back of the church after the 10.00am service.

Please stay and meet other members of our parish.

Vicar: Revd Joy Cousans (01525 220261)

Please note: Joy's day off is Friday. Please do not contact her on that day unless very urgent.

Churchwardens: Catherine Hayden (01525 220527)

Angela Dunford (01525 221944)

#Notices for inclusion in next week's
Pew Leaflet should be sent to Marion at
mdhmhsh@btinternet.com
or (01525 222478)
by 6pm on Thursday please.



COLLECT:

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1–10

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

This is the word of the Lord. ***R: Thanks be to God***

SECOND READING: Romans 15:4–13

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has

welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord. ***R: Thanks be to God***

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1–12

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

R: Glory to you, O Lord

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. ***R: Praise to you, O Christ***

NOTICES CONTINUED:

CHRISTMAS CARDS Instead of handing cards to our friends in church, we could put one card on the red board at the back of the church, wishing everyone a Happy Christmas, and make a donation to charity.

FOODBANK The Foodbank jar will be out every week during December for anyone wishing to give a gift at Christmas.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS: We are collecting donations of gloves, socks and woolly hats together with blankets that will go on convoys to refugee camps around the world e.g. Lesbos, Greece and Syria. There is a convoy leaving mid January. Also if anyone has a spare sleeping bag that they no longer need the homeless shelters in Leighton Buzzard and Dunstable will make good use of them. Please give any donations of the above items to either Catherine H. or Angela. Thank you.

OUTING TO COVENTRY CATHEDRAL Jean Waldock has booked a trip to Coventry with a tour of the Cathedral for *Saturday 6th June 2020*. Further information will be given nearer the time.

NCG Totternhoe *25th December* Christmas Lunch, Church Hall.

Whipsnade *12th December*, Christmas Lunch, Village Hall, 12.30pm

Kensworth *1st February*, Friends' Quiz Night, Kensworth Village Hall

MUSIC @ ST MARY'S New Year's Concert on 11 January (starting at 2pm so you can get home in daylight) to be performed by Aylesbury Concert Band, so maybe you might wish to contact the Box Office and order your tickets which, after 10 years of being priced at £7.50, will this year cost £8. Sharon looks forward to hearing from you on 01525 222283. As last year we will be selling Season Tickets for the 5 concerts planned for 2020 (including the Poppy Prom). These will cost £40 instead of £44.50.

RECYCLING: A reminder that we collect used printer cartridges to raise money for St Mary's by recycling and we can now also recycle old mobile phones. Please place your used cartridges and mobile phones in the box provided in church. Unfortunately it is no longer possible for us to recycle laser cartridges.

GORDON'S CHRISTMAS PUZZLE – Copies of Gordon's Christmas Puzzle are available in hard copy from today. Copies can be downloaded from www.christmaspuzzle.co.uk. One fifth of the money raised comes to St Mary's so even if the Puzzle isn't to your liking you can help by giving copies to friends and family.