

## NOTICES:

**SICK LIST** Today is the second of two Sundays when you can put names onto this month's sick list. The blank list to receive names is on the Prayer Board at the front of church. Please note, names are not carried forward automatically, unless Marion is asked to do so.

**TUESDAY AFTERNOON HOUSEGROUP** meets this week at 1.30pm at Ashridge Cottage. We welcome newcomers; please see Eileen Bennett.

**HOLY COMMUNION** Wednesday 5th February at 10.00am.

**CONCERT @ ST MARY'S** Saturday 15th February at 2.00pm. Tickets are available from the Booking Office - 01525 22283, price £8.00 each. We will be entertained by Mark Niel, a full time poet and the official Poet Laureate of Milton Keynes. His style is funny and energetic.

**MESSY CHURCH** Half Term Holiday Fun in St Mary's Church; 11am – 1pm; Tuesday 18th February. All primary school age children & toddlers with parents, grandparents or carers are welcome. Singing, games, crafty things, story time and worship will be included. Please bring a picnic!

**SAVE THE DATE** Lent course; Tuesdays in March – 3, 10, 17, 24, 31.

**DONATION OF EXPENSES.** When buying items or materials for the Church people often decide not to claim expenses. It is a valuable donation but we could be missing out on the Gift Aid. To claim Gift Aid we need to prove to HMRC that the donation is genuine. A till receipt marked *Donate to Church* with your signature is all we need. If it is two or three items on your supermarket bill just underline them and total the items donated. We can use your existing gift aid mandate to make a claim for the additional 25% from HMRC. If you buy items under £30 and don't get a receipt then write a list and sign as *Donate to Church*

**GORDON'S CHRISTMAS PUZZLE** – The draw to select winners will be made after the 10am service. This year has seen a record number of entries and a record sum raised; each charity, including St Mary's, will receive a 1/5th share in £7,500. The total raised by the Puzzle has now reached just under £99k

**TEDDY BEARS** for baptisms. Please would all you knitters in the congregation get your knitting needles out and knit some more lovely teddy bears? There is a box of wool and stuffing at the back of the church - please help yourselves!

**SHEILA HEFFER** A group of people who remember Sheila Heffer and her many kindnesses in this community, plan to make a donation to 'Send A Cow', a charity which helps impoverished communities in Africa and which some years ago Sheila put forward as a charity to be supported at St Mary's. Sheila's aim was to raise enough money to buy a cow; in fact we ended up sending a whole farmyard! If you would like to make a contribution to this initiative in Sheila's memory, please speak to Catherine Hayden or Chriss Hewitt.

## 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



2ND FEBRUARY 2020

CANDLEMAS

### SERVICES TODAY

8.00am – Holy Communion

9.00am – Holy Communion at Dagnall

10.00am – Sung Holy Communion

### HYMNS

2, 360, 486, 513

### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

taken from **New Standard Revised Version**

Isaiah 581—9a, (9b-12); 1 Corinthians 2:1-12, (13-16); Matthew 5:13-20

*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  
mdhmsh@btinternet.com  
or (01525 222478)  
by 6pm on Thursday please.



**COLLECT:**

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1–5**

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.

Thus says the LORD God: See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

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

**SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:14–18**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

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

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 2:22–40**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

***R: Glory to you, O Lord***

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses,

Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

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

**FOR OUR PRAYERS:**

**In our prayers for the Church** this week, we pray for the Episcopal Anglican Church in Brazil and in our own diocese, Churches in the Deanery of Berkhamsted.

**At their year's mind**, we remember Donald Grant, Bob Smith, James Watts, Cyril Elworthy, Ethel Deridisi, William Banks and Emma Tobin.

**Please pray for** Joy, Angela, Gaye and Sue Tucker who will be attending the 'Leading your church into growth' (LYCIG) conference in Derbyshire next weekend.