

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

28TH APRIL 2024 – EASTER 5

Services This Week

Sunday 28 th April	10.00 - Parish Eucharist 12.00 - Baptism
Monday 29 th	19.30 - Bell ringing practice
Wednesday 1 st May	10.00 - Holy Communion
Thursday 2 nd	18.00 - Beavers
Saturday 4 th	12.00 - Coffee Morning
Sunday 5 th	8.00 - Holy Communion 10.00 - Parish Eucharist

Hymns

516, 182, 311, 284, 538

Important Information

Please note our 10am Sunday service today will be live streamed.

Collection of your envelopes and other offerings will now be taken during the service. We also have the Sum Up unit on the desk by the South Door, for easy contactless payment of your donations. Or you could scan the QR code (please see on the large notice board) on your mobile phone.

Vicar: Revd Joy Cousans (01525 220261)

***Please note: Joy's day off is Friday -
please do not contact her on this day.***

Churchwarden: Catherine Hayden (01525 220527)



Collect

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Acts 8:26–40

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, ‘Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.’ (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, ‘Go over to this chariot and join it.’ So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’ He replied, ‘How can I, unless someone guides me?’ And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: ‘Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.’ The eunuch asked Philip, ‘About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?’ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, ‘Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?’ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

1 John 4:7–21

A reading from the first letter of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God’s love was revealed among us in this

way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God,' and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

John 15:1–8

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

Glory to you O Lord

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.'

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

A verse for us to reflect on:

Zechariah 4:6

**Not by might nor by power but by My Spirit,
says the Lord Almighty**

This verse will be displayed also, in the North Chapel of the Church.

For Our Prayers:

In our prayers for the Church this week, we pray for the Anglican Church in Japan and in our own diocese, the Diocesan Office.

In our own community we pray today for all who live in Dean's Meadow, Malting Lane, Huntsman's Close and Chestnut Close.

We pray for social services and home care organisations.

In the wider world, we pray for the elderly.

We welcome into the fellowship of Christ's Church Star whose baptism we celebrate today.

We pray for the sick; and those who have died recently; we pray for them and their families; and for all those grieving over the loss of loved ones at this time.

At their year's mind, we remember Diane Hill, Brian Walker, John Batley, Philip Day, Ronald Penny, Violet Warren and Edna Kingham.

Notices

A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY the APCM will be held after the service on *Sunday May 12th*.

ELECTORAL ROLL Last year's Electoral Roll will shortly be revised in preparation for the APCM on *May 12th*. The roll from last year will soon be displayed on the notice board in church during Sunday services. Please advise Diane Goodwin (Electoral Roll Officer) of any amendments, if needed eg change of address. Or, if you are not on the roll and would like to be included, please request an application form.

SICK LIST Today is the first of two Sundays when you can add names to next month's sick list. The blank list to receive names is on the prayer board at the front of the North Chapel.

Notices continued

COFFEE MORNING This Saturday, 4th May is time for Coffee in St Mary's from 10.30am – 12.00pm. Please do come and enjoy a piece of homemade cake, sausage roll or scone along with a delicious hot drink and have a good catch up with friends. Bring a book you have read and swap it for one you haven't read! Looking forward to seeing you - Marion

FOODBANK SUNDAY – Donations for the Foodbank will be very welcome next Sunday. At the warehouse we are very low in stock of the following items: Jam, Tins of Rice Pudding, Instant Mashed Potato and Tins of carrots. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Foodbank. Iain and the Foodbank team

THY KINGDOM COME takes place between 9th May-19th May Ascension to Pentecost as previously advertised in the pew leaflet.

This year there are the following things to join in with:

- Village prayer walk A written sheet to follow will be in church
- Churchyard prayer walk A laminate copy to follow is in church
- Morning and evening informal, short led reflections for all to join in with.
 A rota with days and times, will be in church next week
- Prayer stations in church displaying art work on Visio Divina (Divine Seeing) for all to view and sit and reflect on, postcards of the paintings will be available to take away and write your reflections on the back.
These were especially produced for Thy Kingdom Come.

Look forward to seeing you and joining others around the world praying for those we know and others to experience God's Love.

Diane and Chriss