

Full time post The Diocese is advertising for a full-time Estates Administrative Assistant to work at Holywell Lodge. Further details are available from

<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/diocese/other-vacancies/>

Thy Kingdom Come

Thy Kingdom Come runs between Ascension Day and Pentecost and will take place this year between 13th May-23rd May 2021.

During the 11 days of Thy Kingdom Come it is hoped that everyone who takes part will:

- Deepen their own relationship with Jesus Christ
- Pray for 5 friends or family to come to faith in Jesus
- Pray for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, that we would be effective in our witness

The invitation in 2016 from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer.

Thy Kingdom Come continues to grow in its outreach to different churches and denominations the Methodist and catholic churches in this country and others throughout the world.

PLEASE COME AND JOIN A SHORT LED SERVICE IN CHURCH DURING Ascension to Pentecost at 10am where we follow a set designed booklet for Thy Kingdom Come.

Please look at the church St Mary's Facebook page for zoom sessions during Ascension and Pentecost which will be held at 6 pm AND a virtual walk, nearer the time. There is also a paper version for those of us who are unable to actually do the walk, like me, to sit in our homes and follow the walk and say the prayers. See Chriss for a paper copy

THERE IS POWER IN PRAYER

ALSO LOOK OUT FOR: This year's Thy Kingdom Come for the latest video from Lambeth Palace.

Chriss

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 **Tuesday** please.

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

25TH APRIL 2021

EASTER 5

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Today at 10.00am – Holy Communion

Wednesday at 10.00am – Holy Communion

Welcome Back We are hopeful that the situation is improving, but we must continue with all our previous precautions. Chairs have been arranged to create appropriate distance between individuals or households, hand sanitiser is available to be used as you enter and leave church and face coverings must still be worn.

We know you will be delighted to see friends again, but please do not linger in church after the service; conversations can take place more safely outside with social distancing.

Arrangements for Holy Communion are as previously. Please come forward at the appropriate time starting from the front. Be aware of other people and avoid queuing. When you have been given the wafer, move a metre or two aside to receive it by raising or lowering your face mask, and then return to your seat by the side aisles.

Please note that our 10am Sunday service will continue to be live-streamed; seats at the back half of the church are not in camera shot. If you know of anyone who would like to receive a service booklet so they can follow the service at home, please let us know. Catherine & Angela



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**

READING: 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**

THE HOLY GOSPEL: 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**

FOR OUR PRAYERS:

In our prayers for the Church this week, we pray for the Episcopal Church in the Middle East and in our own diocese, the Bishop of Hertford.

We pray for the sick, and the bereaved.

At their year's mind, we remember Philip Day, Ronald Penny, Violet Warren, Edna Kingham, Patricia Wilcock, Connie Richmond, Alan Westcott, Bill Paddock and William Hampson.

NOTICES:

Midweek Communion services start again this week on *Wednesday 5th May at 10am*.

The Pastoral Care Group would very much like your assistance in identifying any of our parishioners who might be sick or otherwise benefit from their support. Please contact Catherine Hayden in this regard. Many thanks.

APCM This year's APCM will take place on **Sunday 9th May** towards the end of the service. During the meeting we will be electing Church Wardens and also members to the Parochial Church Council (PCC). If you would like to stand for election to the PCC or as a Church Warden please see Barbara Morton (PCC secretary) for an application form. To find out more about what is involved speak to one of the Church Wardens.

The new Electoral Roll is completed. Please check your details on the roll which will be displayed in St Mary's church after the Sunday service.

Scavenger Hunt Get out and about and have some fun doing a scavenger hunt whilst raising funds for St. Mary's. Hone your observation skills and see how much you know about the villages of Eaton Bray, Edlesborough and Northall. Barbara Morton has all the details you will need - copies of the hunts, the answers and payment details. Please contact Barbara on barbara.morton1@gmail.com We suggest a donation of £5 per each village quiz or £10 for all three. Enjoy!

