

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EATONBRAY
with
EDLESBOROUGH & ALL SAINTS, DAGNALL



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WELCOME TO ST MARY'S

9TH JANUARY 2022 – BAPTISM OF CHRIST

Services This Week

Today	10.00am – Parish Eucharist 12.00pm - Baptism
Weds 12 th January	10.00am - Holy Communion 12.00pm – Funeral
Sunday 16 th January	8.00am – Holy Communion 10.00am – Worship for All. Non Eucharistic 10.30am – Holy Communion at Dagnall

Hymns

TBC

Covid Information

Following the Government's recent announcement, wearing masks in church is now mandatory again. Please keep your mask on throughout the service and, in order to continue to keep everyone as safe as possible, we ask you to observe social distancing and to use the hand sanitiser provided.

Should you wish, for your own peace of mind, to keep the seat(s) next to you vacant, please take one of the coloured cards from the bookcase to indicate your wishes to other worshippers.

Please join us for coffee after the service.

Collect:

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; 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

Isaiah 43:1–7

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, 'Give them up,' and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth – everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

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

The Holy Gospel: Luke 3:15–17, 21–22

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

Glory to you O Lord

In the wilderness John proclaimed a baptism of repentance. As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

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

Verse of the month for us to reflect on:

Romans 15 v13

**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace
as you trust in him.**

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 Archbishop of Canterbury and in our own diocese, the Bishop of St Albans.

We pray for the sick, those who have died recently and their families and friends.

At their year's mind, we remember Edward Dean, Harry Smith, Fred Butler, Phyllis Carey, Joan Brooks and Rita Channing.

NOTICES:

Please note our 10am Sunday service is live streamed; seats in the back half of the church are not in camera shot.

Collection plates for your envelopes and other offerings are on the central bookcase. 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 this QR code on your mobile phone which will take you to our Just Giving page:



Used Stamps: you can now recycle these in church. Please put them in the box provided. Cut the used stamps off the envelope leaving a quarter of an inch of paper all round. British stamps only, please. Thanks - The Eco Group

Used Ink Cartridges and Old Mobile Phones Do you have an old mobile phone or a few used ink cartridges? We can recycle those for you and earn a little for church funds. Yvonne will gladly recycle them if you would leave them for her in the box by the door. Thanks!

Diary for Year's Mind. If you wish to have the name of someone who has died remembered every year, please put their name in the book on the anniversary of their death. Their name will then be added to the pew leaflet and read out in church on the previous Sunday to that date. Please put the name only, as this book is for reference only, not condolence. The Year's Mind Book is a maroon coloured diary and is kept on the book shelf.

Prayer Matters is a small group of people from St. Mary's congregation who meet around every six weeks to pray for our church family, our church mission and our community. We start our sessions with quiet reflection, a focus on God's word and together with prayer discuss ideas and initiatives to develop the prayer life at St. Mary's. Anyone is very welcome to attend the sessions, the next of which will take place on Friday 14th January at 10.30 am in church. Just turn up.

A prayer tree is now available where you may write or draw your prayers and hang them on the tree. Your prayers will be acknowledged by people praying at St. Mary's who will present them to the Lord.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: 18th – 25th January. St. Mary's will be hosting the local service to mark this week on *Sunday 23rd January at 3pm*. Please join us as we reflect on the call for churches to work together to address the needs of humanity around the world, especially the poorest, the weakest and those marginalized. Material for this week has been prepared by the churches of the Middle East and focuses on the story of the Magi.

Music @ St Mary's - Here are some dates for your diary:

- *7.30pm Saturday 19 March – Noah's Cape.*

A three piece folk band comprised of Linda Watkins (soloist at the Poppy Prom in 2021), Marian Wedley and Mark Niel (the Poet Laureate of Milton Keynes).

- *2.30pm Sunday 10 April – Linsdale Singers.*

A choir of around 30 voices enjoying a reputation for high quality choral singing in the Leighton Buzzard and Linslade area of Bedfordshire; and in British cathedrals and other churches. The Singers last appeared at St Mary's in 2019 when they performed Handel's Messiah.

- *7.30pm Saturday 12 November – Poppy Prom.*

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)**

