

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

11TH FEBRUARY 2024 – NEXT BEFORE LENT

Services This Week

Sunday 11 th February	10.00 - Parish Eucharist
Monday 12 th	19.30 - Bell Ringing Practice
Tuesday 13 th	18.30 - Pancakes & Prayer at EB Methodist
Wednesday 14 th	10.00 - Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes 18.30 - Ash Wednesday service at St Giles' Totternhoe
Thursday 15 th	18.00 - Beavers 19.45 - PCC Meeting
Sunday 18 th	8.00 - Holy Communion 10.00 - Worship for Everyone – Non Eucharistic 10.30 - Holy Communion at Dagnall 12.00 - Baptism 12.00 - Parish Lunch in Village Hall

Hymns Today

392, 383, 301, 287, 444

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.

Collect

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

2 Kings 2:1–12

A reading from the second book of Kings.

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.' Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.' Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

2 Corinthians 4:3–6

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

Mark 9:2-9

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

Glory to you O Lord

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves.

And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

A verse for us to reflect on:

Hebrews 12:14

Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be Holy.

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 General Synod of the Church of England and in our own diocese, Churches in the Deanery of Hemel Hempstead.

In our own community we pray today for all who live in Church Lane, Booth Place, Woodside, May Close and Roebuck Mews.

We pray for those preparing for confirmation and the recently confirmed.

In the wider world, we pray for inter-racial and inter-faith harmony.

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 Harold Rollings, Maurice Sanders, Vicky Lee, Howard Bishop and Margaret Sunderland.

Notices

MY THANKS to everyone who helped in ANY way to help last Saturday's coffee morning be another resounding success. Marion

PANCAKES AND PRAYER – Churches Together invite you to come along for delicious pancakes and fellowship with friends this Tuesday, Shrove Tuesday, 13th February, Eaton Bray Methodist Church at 6.30pm.

ASH WEDNESDAY is this Wednesday 14th February; service at 10.00am with Imposition of Ashes at St Mary's Eaton Bray. There will be a second Ash Wednesday service, (the Totternhoe, Stanbridge and Tilsworth Benefice Ash Wednesday service) at St Giles, Totternhoe at 6.30pm.

LENT WITH ANGELS Everyone is invited to join us this Lent with a course led by Rev'd Stephen Burge in Kensworth Church Hall at 7.30pm:

Tuesday 20th February	Angels and Announcements
Tuesday 27th February	Angels and the Imagination
Tuesday 5th March	Angels and the Eschatological Drama
Tuesday 12th March	Angels as Guides
Tuesday 19th March	Angels and the Worship of Heaven

******YOUR HELP NEEDED******

In order to optimise the cleanliness of our lovely church, a mini spring clean is scheduled for Monday 19th February, from 10am to 12 noon. Many hands make light work, so the more the merrier. Refreshments will be served, so hoping you are able to join us and help out.

In that same regard, we are very 'thin on the ground' for regular cleaning volunteers. We usually work in teams of two, and aim to do a regular clean twice monthly. Please contact me for more details/to volunteer.

Many thanks, Gaye Soule 07807924218

MARRIAGE PREPARATION WORKSHOP this will take place in St Mary's, Eaton Bray on Sunday 3rd March from 1.30pm – 4pm.

A NEW YEAR REMINDER - if any were necessary - that it is now only five months until the Carnival on Saturday 6th July. Please put the date in your diary. The St Mary's Carnival Committee is still in need of a few people to make up the numbers. If you are interested, please speak to me. Chris Banks (221556)

HAPPY, BREAKING NEWS From The Bell Tower: On Monday 6/2/24 Sarah, one of our regular ringers - along with husband Chris - welcomed their firstborn, a beautiful baby boy, Henry Edwards. Many congratulations Sarah & Chris. Of note, Sarah was service ringing with us the previous day!

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)



Notices Continued

A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY – SNOWDROPS!

OPEN GARDENS – The Bishop of St Albans' Hidden Garden – A two acre oasis in the heart of the City of St Albans.

- Abbey Gate House, Abbey Mill Lane AL3 4HD.
- 2pm – 4pm on Sunday 18th February, Sunday 25th February, Sunday 3rd March and Sunday 10th March
- Entrance £5 per adult (accompanied children free)
- Dogs on leads.
- No toilet facilities
- In aid of Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust



FAITH JOURNEYS:

A CREATIVE RETREAT FOR THE START OF LENT

Saturday 24th February 2024

Eaton Bray Methodist Church LU6 2BD

10.30am-3pm Cost £20

Hot drinks provided, please bring your own lunch

A creative retreat in which we will reflect on our faith journeys. This retreat will also introduce the concept of visio divina which may be helpful ahead of a visit to the exhibition of the Methodist Modern Art Collection while it is in the District during Lent

No particular artistic skills are needed, just a willingness to play! There will be a range of materials available, but if you have personal favourites you might want to bring those, as well as a Bible, pen and notebook (or journal if you are in the habit of using one).

To book a place please contact Jenny on
jenny.spouge@methodist.org.uk