

# ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EATON BRAY



with

## EDLESBOROUGH & ALL SAINTS, DAGNALL

[www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk](http://www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk) email: [admin@stmaryseatonbray.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmaryseatonbray.org.uk)

### WELCOME TO ST MARY'S

**21ST APRIL 2024 – EASTER 4**

#### Services This Week

Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	8.00 - Holy Communion
	10.00 - Café Church
	10.30 - Holy Communion at Dagnall
	12.00 - Parish Lunch in Village Hall
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	19.30 - Bell ringing practice
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 - Holy Communion
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	18.00 - Beavers
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	12.00 - Spring Fair in Village Hall
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	10.00 - Parish Eucharist
	12.00 - Baptism

#### Hymns

589, 136

#### Important Information

***Please note our 10am Sunday service today **WILL NOT** 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**

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep, teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command that all your people may be gathered into one flock to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

### **Acts 4:5–12**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The Jewish rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

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

### **1 John 3:16–24**

A reading from the first letter of John.

We know love by this, that the Son of God laid down his life for us –and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases God. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

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

### **John 10:11–18**

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

#### **Glory to you O Lord**

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

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

### **Psalm 23**

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.**

He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over. Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.**

*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 Methodist Church and in our own diocese, churches in the Deanery of St Albans.

In our own community we pray today for all who live in Cow Lane Wren Walk, Cook's Meadow and Damson Way.

We pray for the Church Finance and Christian Stewardship.

In the wider world, we pray for science and technology.

We pray for the sick; and those who have died recently; especially for Raymond Bryant (Christine Gray's father), Richard Thorne (Gaye's father) and Maureen Cecil. 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 Jack Stock, Spencer Fountaine, Doris Dunsby, Jean-Paul Wendeler, Kenneth Gower, Tom Cowper, and Wilfred Brook.

### **Notices**

**SPRING FAIR** - this will take place **THIS Saturday, 27th April** in the Village Hall from 12 – 3pm.

**URGENT REQUEST - RAFFLE PRIZES PLEASE –**  
to Chris and Sheila Banks – thanks in anticipation!

**HOME MADE CAKES**  
are also needed for refreshments, please –  
to Marion Higley thanks in anticipation!

**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.

**CAFÉ CHURCH** relaxed – welcoming – refreshments.

**Starts TODAY, 21st April**

Come and join us for coffee, croissants  
and an informal service for all ages in St Mary's Eaton Bray  
on Sundays 21st April, 19th May, 16th June and 21st July at 10am

## **Notices Continued**

### ***THY KINGDOM COME 2024***

St Marys will again take part in the global wave of prayer that began in 2016 when the Archbishops of Canterbury and York asked the Church of England to take part in this initiative. Thy Kingdom Come continues to grow in its outreach in churches of all denominations and throughout the world. Thy Kingdom Come takes place between Ascension Day and Pentecost which is May 9th -19th May 2024.

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 to come to faith in Jesus Christ
- Pray for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, that we would be effective in our witness.

We will let all know what's happening during that time in future notices and look forward to all who would like to join us, Diane and Chriss

***AN APPEAL*** - We need an old mobile phone for the church card reader. Do you have a 5 year old Android phone you no longer use? It needs to have Android 11 or later to be compatible with the Give A Little app. If you think you can help please speak to Martin or Catherine Hayden.