

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

16TH JUNE 2024 – TRINITY 3: FATHER'S DAY

Services This Week

Sunday 16 th June	8.00 - Holy Communion 10.00 - Café Church 10.30 - Holy Communion at Dagnall
Monday 17 th	19.30 - Bell ringing practice
Wednesday 19 th	10.00 - Morning Prayer
Thursday 20 th	18.00 - Beavers 20.00 - PCC Meeting
Friday 21 st	17.30 - Wedding rehearsal
Saturday 22 nd	13.00 - Wedding
Sunday 23 rd	10.00 - Parish Eucharist 12.00 - Parish Lunch in the Village Hall

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.

Hymns: 416, 297

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, you have broken the tyranny of sin and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts whereby we call you Father: give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that we and all creation may be brought to the glorious liberty of the children of God; 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**

Luke 15:11-32

The Parable of the Prodigal and His Brother

Then Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate. 'Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your

property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!” Then the father said to him, “Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.”

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

Mark 4:26–34

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

Glory to you O Lord

Such a large crowd gathered around Jesus that he got into a boat and began to teach them using many parables. Jesus said, ‘The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.’ Jesus also said, ‘With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.’ With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

A verse for us to reflect on:

Psalm 95 v1

**Come let us sing for joy to the Lord,
let us shout aloud to the rock of our salvation**

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 Orthodox Church and in our own diocese, The Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Albans. In our own community we pray today for all who live in Edlesborough High Street.

We pray for Stephen Axford, our organist and our bell ringers..

In the wider world, we pray for young people and their clubs, societies and organisations.

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 Dorothy Hutchins, Winifred Clark, Constance Edgar, Margaret Dunnett. Aubrey Giltrow, Joan Chappell and Brock Shaw.

Notices

CARNIVAL The 2024 St Mary's Village Carnival will be upon us before we know it and we are already thinking forward to 2025!

A number of Committee Members will be standing down after this year and it would be wonderful if there were people interested in taking over who might shadow them for this year and be able to take over. Specifically, we are likely to be lacking volunteers to run the grand draw, the procession, the tombola, the car parking and the barbeque; if you might be interested or know of anyone who might like to get involved, please speak to me or to Bob or Sharon Stilliard as to be honest without new volunteers we may struggle to repeat the past successes of the event

CARNIVAL THIS YEAR – SATURDAY 6TH JULY Tombola prizes or bottles of wine can go direct to Sharon Stilliard whilst larger items may be left in church and any queries re goods for the White Elephant stall should be addressed to Gaye.

Chris Banks 01525 221556.

Gaye can be contacted on 01525 220045; Sharon on 01525 222283

ST MARY'S BOOK CLUB - Stephen would like to apologize for not having another meeting since the first one, but he is keen to get this going again. We will set a date for the next Book Club meeting soon (around September), but we will be reading William Golding's *The Spire*. So those interested, can have a gentle read over the summer!

VACANCY The Diocese is advertising for a part-time administrator in the schools team to work at Holywell Lodge. Further details are available on our website here:

<https://www.stalbansdiocese.org/vacancies/schools-operational-support-administrator-0-4/>