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

22ND NOVEMBER 2026
CHRIST THE KING; SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT

Services this week

Sunday 22nd November	10.00	Parish Eucharist
Monday 23rd	19.30	Ringing Practice
Tuesday 24th	10.30	Pathlight Group at Diane G's
Wednesday 25th	10.00	Holy Communion
Friday 27th	10.30	Prayer Matters
Sunday 29th	10.00	Parish Eucharist with Baptism
	16.00	NCG Advent Service at Kensworth

Important Information

Please note our 10.00 Sunday service today will be live streamed

Today's Hymns

497, 589, 573, 360, 398

Collect

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are

among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy.I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Ephesians 1:15–23

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.
I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Matthew 25:31–46

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

Glory to you O Lord

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me."

And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

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

A verse for us to reflect on: John 15: 12

My command is this, Love each other as I have loved you.

This verse will be displayed also, in the North Chapel

FOR OUR PRAYERS

In our prayers for the Church this week, we pray for the Quakers and in our own diocese, The Archdeacon of Bedford.
In our own community we pray today for those who live in Pebblemoor, King's Mead, The Pastures and Manor Farm Close.
We pray for the development of lay ministries within the church.
We pray for the person to be our new Vicar and for the appointing team.
In the wider world we pray for education – colleges, universities and continuing education.
We pray for the sick and those who have died recently; especially for Geoff Hunter, his family and friends. Geoff's funeral is being held near his home on 7th December.
At their year's mind, we remember Marjorie Harborough, Mary Thorne, Edna Quinn, Edith Banks, Bill Hobbs, Lily Dowdy, Bryan Ryder, Jennie Ray, Vera Wood and Vicki Klein.

NOTICES

A Memorial Service

A memorial service for **Anne Crofts** will be held at St Mary's Eaton Bray on Friday 4th December 2026 at 12.00 noon followed by interment of ashes in the churchyard.
There will be a reception afterwards in the village hall to which everyone is invited.

Pathlight Group

The next Pathlight group will meet Tuesday, 24th November at 10.30 at the home of Diane Goodwin. This monthly informal bible study group aims to discover more about how God speaks to us through his word; exploring familiar stories, subjects or characters of the Bible. Everyone welcome and no commitment to come every time! If you'd like to come along do speak to Chriss H or Diane G for the address or check in the new Parish Directory.

Bible Reading Notes

The new quarterly bible reading notes from Our Daily Bread, beginning **December** are now available on the shelf at the back near the Christian book library. These reading reflections are a lovely way of getting to know what God says to us through His word. Please do take a copy for yourself or pass one on to someone you feel would enjoy them.

NOTICES CONTINUED

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Thank you so much for supporting this year's, Poppy Appeal. The total amount collected in the Villages to date is £1,301.41. Your contribution in the "tin" raised £168.65. Thank you for your generosity.

Eaton Bray remains without anyone to organise the Poppy Collection in the Village, and this is why there were no collections in the shop, school or White Horse. I can cover the Church as members come from my area of Edlesborough and Northall as well as Eaton Bray. If you know of anyone who might volunteer to help with the collection in Eaton Bray, please let me know. I will be happy to give them as much support as they need.

Lorna Cubbage.

Dates for your diary

North Chilterns Group of Parishes 2026; Sunday 29th November at 4pm
'Come Lord Jesus'
NCG Advent Service at St Mary's Kensworth
A quiet, reflective service with plainchant and lighting of candles as the natural light fades.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST MARY'S

Eaton Bray

20th December	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Nativity Service
	6.00pm	Carol Service *followed by mulled wine and mince pies.*
Christmas Eve	4.15pm & 6.00pm	Candle Services
	11.30pm	Midnight Mass
Christmas Day	10.00am	Christmas Family Communion with carols

Edlesborough

12th December *(Saturday)*	3.00pm	Carols by Candlelight

Dagnall

20th December	3.00pm	Village Carol Service
Christmas Day	10.30am	Family Service with Communion