

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

21ST DECEMBER 2025; Advent 4

Services this week

Sunday 21 st	8.00 Holy Communion
	10.00 Children's Nativity
	10.30 Carols at Dagnall
	18.00 Carol Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies
Monday 22 nd	19.30 Bell Ringing Practice
Wednesday 24 th	16.15 Candle Service
	18.00 Candle Service
	23.30 Midnight Mass
Christmas Day	10.00 Family Communion Service
	10.30 Dagnall Family Service with Communion
Sunday 28 th	10.00 Parish Eucharist

Hymns Today

58, 242, 68, 45, 76, 91 v1, 91 v2-5, 57

Important Information

Please note our 10.00 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 Cousins (01525 220261)

***Please note: Joy's day off is Friday -
Please do not contact her on this day.***

Churchwarden: Catherine Hayden (01525 220527)



Collect

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Isaiah 7:10–16

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ‘Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.’ But Ahaz said, ‘I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.’ Then Isaiah said: ‘Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.’

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

Romans 1:1–7

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God’s beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Matthew 1:18–25

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

Glory to you O Lord

The birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she

was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,' which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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

*A verse for us to reflect on: **Revelation 19:6***

**Hallelujah
For our Lord God almighty reigns.**

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 Church of the Province of West Africa and in our own diocese, churches in the Deanery of Sharnbrook.

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

We pray for our 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. We pray for all who are grieving losses.

At their year's mind, we remember Arthur Hall, Annie Deeley, Stanley Stone, Ron Robert, Rita Cope, Honor Battley, Valerie Bennett, Alan Tribbick, David Jones, and Kay Brereton.

NOTICES

USED POSTAGE STAMPS

Please continue to save your used postage stamps in aid of J R Wippet Rescue. The box to receive the stamps is in church, on the window sill by the kitchen. Thank you, from Ann Hendricksen.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Please encourage friends, relatives and neighbours to come to our Christmas services. **We** are Christ's messengers, just as the angels were on the first Christmas Eve, bringing the message of peace on earth and goodwill to all people. It is **our** responsibility to help people hear the Good News and to celebrate the Saviour's birth.

If you can help at either of the Candle Services on Christmas Eve then please let Gordon know

ADVANCE NOTICE – NEW YEAR CONCERT MUSIC @ ST MARY'S JAZZ-TOWN

Saturday 10th January 2026. Starting at 2.00pm

Jazz-Town is a multi instrumental combo from Dunstable including many of the same players from BEATI who entertained us in September

Tickets available from 01525 222283

ADVANCE NOTICE – CHILDREN'S PROM

2.30pm, Saturday 7th February 2026

St Mary's, Eaton Bray

featuring Aylesbury Concert Band

Tickets for adults £7.50 from booking Office 01525 222283

FREE TICKETS for accompanied children

CHRISTMAS SERVICES ST MARY'S EATON BRAY

Christmas Eve	4.15pm & 6.00pm	Candle services for all ages especially children. (The earlier service is attended by younger children and is usually busy)
	11.30pm	Midnight Mass. Blessing of the Crib and first Communion of Christmas
Christmas Day	10.00am	Christmas Family Communion Service
Sunday 28th Dec	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
All Saints' Church, Dagnall		
Christmas Day	10.30am	Family Service with Communion