

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

7TH DECEMBER 2025; Advent 2

Services this week

Sunday 7 th December	8.00	Holy Communion
	10.00	Parish Eucharist
	14.00	Festival for Christmas
Monday 8 th	19.30	Bell Ringing Practice
Tuesday 9 th	15.00	Brian Chapman's Funeral
Wednesday 10 th	10.00	Holy Communion
	13.45	Eaton Bray Academy
Thursday 11 th	18.00	Beavers
Saturday 13 th	15.00	Carols and Readings by
		Candlelight at Edlesborough
Sunday 14 th	10.00	Parish Eucharist

Hymns Today

32, Sheet – Like a candle flame, 34, 28, 26

Important Information

Please note our 10.00 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.

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

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Isaiah 11:1–10

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

Romans 15:4–13

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of

God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Matthew 3:1–12

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

Glory to you O Lord

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' 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 in the Province of Uganda and in our own diocese, Churches in the Deanery of Elstow.

In our own community we pray today for those who live in Greenways, Park Lane, The Comp and Market Square.

We pray for our Rural Dean and the Dunstable Deanery

In the wider world we pray for judges, magistrates, probation and prison officers and prisoners.

We pray for the sick; and those who have died recently, especially Brian Chapman. We pray for Lorraine, Tim and partner, Lucy and their friends at this time. We pray for all who are grieving losses.

At their year's mind, we remember Mary Homan, Christina Clements, Sheila Twivy, Eileen Green, Basil Ivor Thorne, Trudy Heap, Patricia Day, Peter Smith, Sarah Louise Butler and Edna Schofield.

NOTICES

SICK LIST

Today is the second of two Sundays when names can be added to this month's sick list. The blank list to receive names can be found on the prayer board at the front of the North Chapel.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

St Mary's Church, Edlesborough

(by permission of Churches Conservation Trust)

Next Saturday, 13th December

at 3.00pm

Followed by mulled wine

DAGNALL CHURCH CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

Next Saturday 13th December

10.00 – 12.00 noon

Ringshall Road, HP4 1RL

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

NOTICES CONTINUED

MUSIC @ ST MARY'S – FESTIVAL FOR CHRISTMAS

Tomorrow, Sunday 7th December, starting at 2.00pm,
an afternoon of festive music provided by South Beds Concert Band
and Stephen Axford.

There will be biscuits, coffee and tea in the 20min interval.

Tickets are £10.00 each and available from 01525 222283

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

ST MARY'S EATON BRAY

Sunday 21 st December	10.00	Carol Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies
Wednesday 24 th December	16.15 & 18.00	Candle services – for all ages. especially children (The earlier service is attended by younger children and is usually busier)
	23.30	Midnight Mass. Blessing of the Crib and First Communion of Christmas
Christmas Day	10.00	Christmas Family Communion Service
Sunday 28 th December	10.00	Parish Eucharist

ST MARY'S CHURCH EDLESBOROUGH

Saturday 13 th December	15.00	Carols by candlelight followed by mulled wine
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ALL SAINTS' CHURCH DAGNALL

Sunday 21 st December	10.30	Village Carol Service
Christmas Day	10.30	Family Service with Communion

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