

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

26TH JULY 2026; TRINITY 8

Services this week

Sunday 26 th July	10.00	Parish Communion
Monday 27 th	19.30	Ringling Practice
Tuesday 28 th	10.30	Pathlight at home of Diane G
Wednesday 29 th	10.00	Morning Prayer
Friday 31 st	10.30	Prayer Matters
Saturday 1 st August	10.30	Cake and Coffee
Sunday 2 nd August	8.00	Holy Communion
	10.00	Parish Communion

Important Information

Please note our 10.00 Sunday service EB today, will be streamed

Hymns

368, 494, 442, 456, 277

Collect

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

1 Kings 3:5-12

A reading from the first book of Kings.

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today.

And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.'

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

Romans 8:26-39

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Matthew 13:31–33, 44–52

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

Glory to you O Lord

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.' He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened. The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

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

FOR OUR PRAYERS

In our prayers for the Church this week, we pray for the Anglican Church in New Zealand and in our own diocese, churches in the Deanery of Hertford and Ware.

In our own community we pray today for all who live in Dagnall – Dunstable Road, Nelson Road, Hamilton Close.

We pray for the church's pastoral ministry in the community.

We pray for the person to be our new Vicar and for the appointing team.

In the wider world we pray for foodbanks and all who run them and those who access them.

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 Elizabeth Linnell, Roger Thorne, Dave Marchant, Pat Tatton, June Thorne, Terence Mead, and Canon Terry Beaumont.

A verse for us to reflect on: Matthew 18 v 20
***Where two or three come together in My name
there I am with them.***

This verse will be displayed also, in the North Chapel

PATHLIGHT GROUP

The next Pathlight group will meet this Tuesday, 28th July 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.

NCG ANNUAL SERVICE

On Sunday 30th August the NCG annual service will be held at St Mary's Eaton Bray at 10am led by Nicola Lenthal and Kaushal. Let's offer a warm welcome to all NCG churches when they join us from other parishes. Sheila and Chriss (NCG reps).

FOODBANK

Next Sunday is Foodbank Sunday when we make our donations for the local Foodbank. On the items most needed list this month are, Tinned fruit, Long life fruit juice, Jam, Peanut butter, Honey, Long life milk cartons, Tinned vegetables e.g peas, carrots sweetcorn, packets of Sweets or Chocolates and jars of Pasta Sauce. Please refrain from offering pasta and rice as we have more than sufficient. Thank you.

Many thanks, Iain Stubbs and the food-bank team.

COFFEE & CAKE

Next Saturday, 2nd August is time for coffee & cake in St Mary's EB at 10.30-12Noon. There will be a wonderful selection of delicious home made delights; chance to win a prize in the raffle; book swap corner; some jigsaws to browse through and some jars of Sharon Stilliard's delicious bees' new season's honey for sale. Best of all come and enjoy a good natter and catchup with friends.

If anyone has a speciality – sweet or savoury which they would like to make – please do! And bring it along on Saturday morning. Thanks, Marion.

Churchwarden: Catherine Hayden
(07733357968)



Vivienne Grundy

Wednesday 12th August

2pm

Bierton Crematorium

HP22 5BH

We would love you to join us in celebrating the life of Vivienne as we come together to remember, honour and cherish her.

Vivienne loved flowers so please wear a flower of your own choice with casual colourful clothing.

Following the service, all are warmly invited to join the family at Eaton Bray Village Hall for refreshments.

Please RSVP to Sarah or Vanessa

Sarah – 07837 549322

Vanessa – 07766 503876



