

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

4TH OCTOBER 2026; TRINITY 18; HARVEST FESTIVAL

Services this week

Sunday 4 th October	8.00	Holy Communion
	10.00	Harvest Festival
Monday 5 th	19.30	Ringling Practice
Tuesday 6 th	13.45	School Visit
Wednesday 7 th	10.00	Morning Prayer
Friday 9 th	14.00	Burial of Ashes
Saturday 10 th	14.00	John Noonan sings Country and Western Classics
Sunday 11 th	10.00	Parish Eucharist

Important Information

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

Hymns This Week

275, 271, 274, 254, 530

Collect

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; 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.**

Deuteronomy 8:7-18

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

The LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may

eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you. Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid waste-land with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gained me this wealth.' But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

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

2 Corinthians 9:6–15

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, 'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.' He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

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

Luke 12:16–30

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

Glory to you O, Lord

Jesus told the people a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'" But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.' He said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you – you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

This is 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 Free Churches and in our own diocese, Harvest.

In our own community we pray today for those who live Northall Road, Rose Court, Cantilupe Close and Northall Close.

We pray for the North Chiltern Group of Parishes.

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

In the wider world we pray for all who suffer doubt or have lost faith.

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 Pat Washington, Simon Woodgate, Hilda Reeves, Anne Thompson, Richard Evans, Lily Croxford and Watson Bennett.

A verse for us to reflect on: Isaiah:2 v5
Let us walk in the light of the LORD
This verse will be displayed also, in the North Chapel

CALLED TO PRAY

At our vacancy meeting in June with the Bishop and Archdeacon, we were invited to “pray, pray, pray” for the person who will become our new Vicar and for those on the appointing team. The Archdeacon said he believes God already knows who our vicar will be and so do we! All our prayers however play an important part in this. The Prayer Matters group have committed to pray for this as indeed we do for all our church family, activities and growth. Our regular meetings are on the last Friday of the month in church at 10.30. This is open to all the congregation to discuss and pray about the ministry we feel God is calling us to at St Mary’s. We have also started to meet at 9.30 before the Sunday morning service to pray for all who will lead and be involved in the service and attend that day. Again, all are welcome to join, even if you wish to just sit and pray silently. In the Bible, St Paul encourages his readers to “*never stop praying*” and “*in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God*” (1 Thessalonians 5:17 and Philippians 4:6) so let’s do just that and “pray, pray, pray”! The Prayer Matters Group

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Sheila Banks and Macmillan Cancer Support would like to say an enormous thank you to everyone who supported the World’s Biggest Coffee Morning on September 25th. We are very grateful to all who helped serve, baked amazing cakes or savouries, provided raffle prizes and made generous donations. St Mary’s Church has hosted this event for around 20 years now and has raised a huge amount for this charity. This year’s total so far is £830 in cash with online payments still to be added. Thank you all once again and looking forward to next year!

A BIG THANK YOU FROM STEPHEN

to all those from St Mary’s who came along to join him at his licensing service in St Albans Abbey last week, and for those that couldn’t make it there are links to photos and a video on our website. See the News This Week section which you can find by scrolling down the home page.