



*St. Mary the Virgin, Baldock.
St. Margaret of Antioch, Bygrave.*



“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”

Sunday 17th March 2019

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion

11am Morning Worship

5pm Choral Evensong at Ashwell

There is a quiet traditional service of Holy Communion every Sunday morning at 8am

This Sunday is the Second Sunday of Lent. At our **9.30am**



Parish Communion we start our worship with the **Ten Commandments** and there is **Junior church**. The theme of our worship is the different paths which God calls us to follow in our lives as a Christian.



At **11am**, there is **Morning Worship** with **Junior Church** at **Bygrave**.

At **5pm**, there is **Choral Evensong** at **Ashwell**, sung by the **combined choirs** of the 15 parishes in our Deanery Group. Many of you came to the Choral Evensong we hosted in October - with over 40 singers it was a marvellous occasion. If you didn't get there last time, prioritise it this time - you won't regret it!

Next Sunday is the Third Sunday of Lent. At our **9.30am Parish Communion** there is **Junior Church** and **Teenage Church**. Watch out for the prayer points around the church focussing on the Lord's Prayer which will start appearing this week.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: *1 Corinthians 10: 1-13, Luke 3: 1-9*

Today's worship

Opening hymn: Christian dost thou see them (words on sheet)

Before the Gospel: 86

Offertory hymn: A safe stronghold our God is still (words on sheet)

Final hymn: 379

Opening hymn: Christian, dost thou see them

1. Christian, dost thou see them
on the holy ground,
how the troops of Midian
prowl and prowl around?
Christian, up and smite them,
counting gain but loss;
smite them by the merit
of the holy cross.

2. Christian, dost thou feel them,
how they work within,
striving, tempting, luring,
goading into sin?
Christian, never tremble;
never be down-cast;
smite them by the virtue
of the Lenten fast.

3. Christian, dost thou hear them,
how they speak thee fair?
"Always fast and vigil?
always watch and prayer?"
Christian, answer boldly,
"While I breathe I pray:"
peace shall follow battle,
night shall end in day.

4. "Well I know thy trouble,
O my servant true;
thou art very weary,
I was weary too;
but that toil shall make thee
some day all mine own,
and the end of sorrow
shall be near my throne."

We begin our worship using the Ten Commandments on the inside front cover of the service booklets.

The Collect

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The Old Testament Reading: Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18

¹After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' ²But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' ³And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' ⁴But the word of the Lord came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' ⁵He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' ⁶And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. ⁷Then he said to him, 'I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.' ⁸But he said, 'O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' ⁹He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. ¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. ¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.'

The Choir will sing between the readings:

Word of God, burn within us, be a lamp unto our feet.

Test our hearts and our spirits, true disciples let us be.

The New Testament Reading Philippians 3:17-4.1

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation so that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ¹Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The Gospel Luke 13: 31-end

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' ³² He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."'

This week, please remember in your prayers these areas of our parish:
Alder Close, The Rowans, Holroyd Crescent, Park Crescent, Park Drive

Those in need of healing:

Paula Conder, Jeanette Jackson, Sheila Boudreau, Ashling Galley Coulthard, Timothy Fathers, Lynne Edwards, Rosemary Charsley, Stephen Cooper, David Dodds, Rachael Evan-Hart, Eleanor Morrison, baby Elizabeth Lacey, Helen Walden, Joy Smith, Maureen Roberts, Freda Wilkinson, Olive Elves.

Those who have died recently:

Jean Elliston, Peter Hurford (former master of music at St. Albans Cathedral)

At the anniversary of their death:

Derek Watson, George Harding, Ernest White, Alec Stephenson, Ethel Ransford, Jessie Kingsley, Christine Bilton, Barry Haigh, Rose Paine, Stanley Clowes, Mary Peters

Offertory hymn:

1. A safe stronghold our God is still,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He'll help us clear from all the ill
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The ancient prince of hell
Hath risen with purpose fell;
Strong mail of craft and power
He weareth in this hour;
On earth is not his fellow.

A safe stronghold our God is still

2. With force of arms we nothing
can,
Full soon were we down-ridden;
But for us fights the proper Man,
Whom God Himself hath bidden.
Ask ye, who is this same?
Christ Jesus is His name,
The Lord Sabaoth's Son;
He, and no other one,
Shall conquer in the battle.

3. And were this world all devils
o'er,
And watching to devour us,
We lay it not to heart so sore;
Not they can overpower us.
And let the prince of ill
Look grim as e'er he will,
He harms us not a whit;
For why? — his doom is writ;
A word shall quickly slay him.

4. God's Word, for all their craft
and force,
One moment will not linger,
But, spite of hell, shall have its
course;
'Tis written by His finger.
And though they take our life,
Goods, honour, children, wife,
Yet is their profit small;
These things shall vanish all:
The City of God remaineth!

Choir Anthem Psalm 27:10 - Hide not thou thy face by Richard Farrant (d.1580)

Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord,
and cast not off thy servants in thy displeasure;
for we confess our sins unto thee,
and hide not our unrighteousness.
For thy mercy's sake, deliver us from all our sins.

Post Communion

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities
which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Upcoming Meetings:

After Hours: Sun 17th Mar at 7.00pm at 24 Park Crescent

Community Sponsorship meeting: Sun 24th March at 5.00pm in the hall

CTiB Forum: Mon 25th March at 8pm at URC

Bygrave APCM: Wed 3rd April in church

Friends of St Mary's Committee: Mon 8th Apr at 5pm in the hall followed by
the **Friends AGM** at 6.30pm

Lent 2019: Could you spend a little more time with God rather than (or as well as!) giving up chocolate or alcohol? We shall be holding 4 Lent groups which follow a course: Mon, Tues & Weds evenings and Thursday mornings. There will also be 2 quiet hours on Saturdays with time to pray and reflect in different ways - with candles, pictures, books, writing. And we shall have a display of the Lord's Prayer and a choice of books you may like to buy. See the Lent leaflet available today.

Please return your **planned giving letter** responses as soon as possible. It really does make a difference to us to know what people are offering. It helps us to be able to plan so much more effectively. Thank you to everyone who gives so generously to enable us to follow where we believe God is leading us.

Easter eggs: It may seem a long way ahead but please remember that Easter Eggs are a sign of resurrection and new life. If you are buying one, please get a 'Real Easter Egg' which celebrates the Christian story. They are fair trade, include a donation to charity and include the Christian story. Available from Tesco, the Christian Bookshop and other places. Don't waste the opportunity!



Our next **communion service where we pray for healing and wholeness** is on Tuesday 26th March at 3pm at 29 Weston Way. These are powerful occasions where we have been blessed with seeing God's Holy Spirit at work in our midst. Do join us to discover more. If you would like to come but can't make a Tuesday afternoon, speak to Andrew.

HIDDEN HUMOUR

Real misinterpretations of the Lord's Prayer by children:

"Our Father, who art in Heaven, how didja know my name?"

"Give us this steak and daily bread, and forgive us our mattresses."

"Lead a snot into temptation."

Faith Confirmed: We are drawing together a new group of adults who would like to explore the Christian Faith. If you are interested, speak to Andrew. It's not too late to join, we are meeting on Thursday evenings at 6.30pm

The **new 2019 cycle of prayer** for Baldock is available at the back of church. Collect yours today, either in larger print or handy pocket size! Why not commit to praying for the parish each day this Lent?

Copies of **Hazel and Martin Frost's latest newsletter** are available at the back of church.

There are copies of the **latest Foodbank newsletter** (dated February) on the foodbank notice board, next to our collection point, at the back of the church. Please help yourself.

Over the next few weeks you may see a PCC member approaching you waving a form. Please don't run away! **We want your views to help us develop a vision for St Mary's Church building.** What you say will help us decide priorities for restoration over the next few years. If we can show we have consulted, we stand a much better chance of attracting grant funding. Thank you very much in advance!

Electoral roll: The church electoral roll is being recompiled, as we have to do every six years. If you are on the roll and wish to remain so, you will need to reapply. Forms are at the back of the church and, when completed, should be posted in the secure box near the south porch door. In order to be eligible for inclusion on the roll, you must be baptised, over 16, and either live in the parish or have habitually attended worship at St. Mary's for the last 6 months. Only those on the roll can attend and vote at the annual meeting.

Come and pray through the Lord's Prayer during Lent in St Mary's Church!

Each week some verses will be decorated by a different church group, starting this Sunday with Junior Church, and the 6 prayer stations will be available every day of Lent, so why not come and try them out?

Do also come along to a Prayer Hour on Saturday 16 March 11-12noon or Saturday 6 April 2-3pm to try out different ways of praying - with candles, books, music, prayer stations etc and connect more closely with God and the inner peace He can provide.

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

CHURCH OPEN: Sun to Fri 8.40 am to 3.30 pm

Coffee Bar and gift shop open Wed. 10 am to midday.

Sun 17 th	7.20am	Morning Prayer	2nd Sunday of Lent
	8.00am	Holy Communion (preacher: Katrina Nice)	
	9.30am	Parish Communion (preacher: Katrina Nice)	
	11.00am	Morning Service at Bygrave with Junior Church (Katrina Nice)	
	5.00pm	Group Choral Evensong at Ashwell	
	7.00pm	After Hours	
Mon 18 th	8.40am	Morning Prayer	
	<u>5.30pm</u>	Evening Prayer	
	8.00pm	Monday Lent Group at 24 Park Crescent	
Tue 19 th	8.40am	Morning Prayer	<i>Joseph of Nazareth</i>
	4.30pm	Evening Prayer	
	7.30pm	Tuesday Lent Group at the Rectory	
Wed 20 th	8.40am	Morning Prayer	<i>Cuthbert, bishop, missionary, 687</i>
	9.30am	Holy Communion	
	10.30am	Tiny Tots	
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	
	7.30pm	Wednesday Lent Group at 24 Wedon Way, Bygrave	
Thu 21 st	<i>Thomas Cranmer, archbishop, Reformation martyr, 1556</i>		
	8.40am	Morning Prayer	
	10.30am	Thursday Lent Group in Church Hall	
	4.30pm	Evening Prayer	
	6.30pm	Faith Confirmed in Church Hall	
	6.45pm	Choir Practice	
Sat 23 rd	<u>7.00am</u>	Morning Prayer	
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	
Sun 24 th	7.20am	Morning Prayer	3rd Sunday of Lent
	8.00am	Holy Communion (preacher: Sharon Cooper)	
	9.30am	Parish Communion (preacher: Sharon Cooper) with Junior Church and Teenage Church	
	5.00pm	Community Sponsorship meeting in Church Hall	
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer	
	6.45pm	Faith for Teenagers	

Therefore my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord.

Rev'd Canon Andrew Holford: 01462 896273

(Note: Friday day off) 2008luddite@gmail.com

Churchwardens: Phil Charsley (Premises): 01462 895665.

Emma Wilkinson (Safeguarding): 07836 749283

Alex Milne – Hall Hire: alexandra.milne@gmail.com / 01462 490062

