



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



“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”

Sunday 3rd March 2019

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion

11.00am Parish Communion at Bygrave 12.00pm Messy Church

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

This Sunday is the Sunday next before Lent. At our

9.30am Parish Communion we invite you to pray together in small groups during the intercessions, for the Church, the world and your own concerns. (There is no pressure, and many people find this a very powerful way of supporting and feeling supported in prayer. Give it a go if you've never tried it!) We prepare for Lent by burning palm crosses to make ash for Ash Wednesday at the end of the service and then we enjoy miniature pancakes. There is also real bread at communion as we look at the extraordinary story of the Transfiguration.

If you are at the 9.30am service before Messy Church, please could you help by carrying some chairs from the high altar to the back of the church in preparation for lunch. Many thanks.

At **11am** there is **Parish Communion** at **Bygrave**.



At **12pm** there is **Messy Church**. Join us for a delicious lunch of toad in the hole followed by Swiss roll and custard. Messy Church is about having fun with the whole family! There will be crafts, activities and games around the church including a short service. No Charge—donations welcome. The theme for the service is called 'dusty drawing' and it will help us think about Lent.



Wednesday is **Ash Wednesday**, the beginning of the 40 days of Lent. Make a good start to it by coming to an Ash Wednesday service with the symbolism of having the sign of the cross in ash on your forehead. A sign of our earthly human need to be touched by God's divine grace. **View Lent as an opportunity!** An

opportunity to discover more about yourself. Or an opportunity to discover more about the loving purposes of God. Or an opportunity to simplify and reflect. Or an opportunity to read a bit more or be silent a bit more or to discuss in a group a bit more. See the Lent leaflet for more details. The choice of what to do is yours, but remember, Ash Wednesday provides a really good start to it! **You have three choices:**

- | | | |
|---------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 9.30am | St Mary's Church | Communion with ashing |
| 10.45am | St Mary's Junior School | Ash Wednesday service with ashing |
| 7.30am | Bygrave church | Communion with hymns and ashing |

Next Sunday is the **First Sunday of Lent**.

At our **9.30am Communion for All Ages** we



continue with the theme of making a statement of intent at the beginning of Lent. The theme is the story of Jesus' temptations in the wilderness and the young people from Church and school will be helping to think about **the choices in life**



we are faced with, the challenge to choose the most life-giving options and the reality that we often get it wrong! There will be another opportunity to commit yourself to a good Lent with the sign of the cross in ash on your forehead. The choir, organ and **Praise be Band** will accompany our worship.

Today's worship

Opening hymn: 105

Before the Gospel: 314

Offertory hymn: 397

Final hymn: 295

The Collect

Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Psalm 99: God is King – the nations tremble

God is king – the nations tremble, he is throned - the earth is quaking;
Lord supreme, the people praise him: Holy, holy, holy!

God is king – he calls for justice, he proclaims his righteous judgement;
Lord supreme, the people praise him: Holy, holy, holy!

God is king, yet all may know him – priests and prophets heard his precepts;
Lord supreme, the people praise him: Holy, holy, holy!

God is king, yet he forgives us, bears our sins in his own body;
Lord supreme, the people praise him: Holy, holy, holy!

The New Testament Reading: 2 Corinthians 3: 12 – 4: 2

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶ but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

¹ Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

The Gospel Luke 9: 28 - 43a

²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white.

³⁰ Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³ Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah'—not knowing what he said. ³⁴ While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen. ³⁷ On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸ Just then a man from the crowd shouted, 'Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. ³⁹ Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It throws him into convulsions until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. ⁴⁰ I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.' ⁴¹ Jesus answered, 'You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.' ⁴² While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. ⁴³ And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

This week, please remember in your prayers these areas of our parish:

Hurst Close. Iredale View. Jeve Close. Rivett Close.

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 and Sandra Walden, Joy Smith, Maureen Roberts, Jean Elliston, Freda Wilkinson.

Those who have died recently:

Stephen King, Marilyn Judge, Biddy Reed, Trevor Bunch

At the anniversary of their death:

George Bramwell, Joan Lawton, Helen Bunch, Walter Pooley, Martha Ferguson, Rene Barton, Peter Sanderson, Jack Leahy, Mary Walker

For our prayers today you are invited to gather in small groups of 5 or 6 and to pray together with a convener.

Choir Anthem Be still, for the presence of the Lord.

Words and music by David J. Evans in an arrangement by Richard Shephard. Words as per Hymn 67 in the orange hymn books.

Post Communion

Holy God,

we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:

may we who are partakers at his table

reflect his life in word and deed,

that all the world may know his power to change and save.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

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

Upcoming Meetings:

Community Sponsorship meeting: Sun 3rd March at 5.00pm in the hall

PCC Mon 4th Mar at 7.45pm in the hall

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

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 begins on 6 March: 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.

Massed choirs Choral Evensong: Ashwell Group Choral Evensong on Sunday 17th March at **5.00pm**. Many of you came to the Choral Evensong we hosted in October when choirs from the 4 local benefices of churches came together. With over 40 singers it was a marvellous occasion. The next one is at Ashwell (date above). Make a date now. If you didn't get there last time, prioritise it this time – you won't regret it!

Our next **communion service where we pray for healing and wholeness** is on Tuesday 26th March at 3pm at 28 Weston Way.. This 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.

Leading intercessions: Would you like to lead the intercessions prayers in church but don't know where to begin? This is your opportunity. We are having an evening to help people discover how to do it and to gain in confidence. It is on Monday 11th March at 8.15pm at Bygrave. Speak to Andrew if you are interested.

HIDDEN HUMOUR

A book never written: "The European Alps" by Matt R. Horn.

Have you heard the story about the hill? I couldn't get over it.

I came across two talking stones while I was out climbing a mountain. One was big but shy. The other was a little boulder.

Check out our new website

www.stmarysbaldock.org.uk

Tell us what you think, whether it is easy to use and what you would like to see on it. We will be expanding it over the coming months

Bee Garden work party - Sat 9th March

1-3pm - come and discover the emerging flowers & sow seeds for this summer!

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 lots of other places. Don't waste the opportunity!

New coffee mugs! You may have noticed we have ditched the "recyclable" coffee cups for more sustainable china mugs. Thank you to the Fellowship Lunch participants who suggested using the surplus donation money to purchase these. Of course it's still fine to bring your own reusable cup in, so we have fewer mugs to wash up!

The next edition of the new diocesan magazine, **Alban Life**, is available at the back of church. Pick yours up today!

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.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Romans 10:8b-13, Luke 4: 1-13

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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 3 rd	7.20am	Morning Prayer	Sunday next before Lent
	8.00am	Holy Communion	
	9.30am	Parish Communion	
	11.00pm	Parish Communion at Bygrave	
	12.00pm	Messy Church	
	5.00pm	Community Sponsorship meeting in church hall	
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer	
	6.45pm	Faith for Teenagers in Church Hall	
Mon 4 th	8.40am	Morning Prayer	
	10.30am	Communion at Magdalen Court	
	4.30pm	Reception of body of Bidy Reed RIP into church	
	4.45pm	Evening Prayer	
	7.45pm	PCC in the church hall	
Tue 5 th	8.40am	Morning Prayer	
	2.15pm	Funeral of Bidy Reed RIP	
	4.30pm	Evening Prayer	
Wed 6 th	8.40am	Morning Prayer	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>
	9.30am	Holy Communion with ashing	
	10.30am	Tiny Tots	
	10.45am	Ash Wednesday service at St Mary's Junior School (with ashing)	
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	
	7.30pm	Communion with hymns and ashing at Bygrave	
Thu 7 th		<i>Perpetua, Felicity and companions, martyrs, 203</i>	
	8.40am	Morning Prayer	
	2.00pm	Funeral of Steve King RIP	
	4.30pm	Evening Prayer	
	6.30pm	Faith Confirmed at the Rectory	
	6.45pm	Choir Practice	
Fri 8 th		<i>Edward King, bishop, 1910</i>	
Sat 9 th	<u>8.00am</u>	Morning Prayer	
Sun 10 th	7.20am	Morning Prayer	1st Sunday of Lent
	8.00am	Holy Communion	
	9.30am	Communion for all Ages with ashing	
	5.30pm	Evening Prayer and Worship Planning Meeting	
	6.40pm	Faith for Teenagers in Church Hall	

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.