



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



“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”

Sunday 22nd September 2019

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion

6.45pm Food 4 Life – worship for Teenagers

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

This Sunday is the **Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**. At our **9:30 Parish Communion** the choir, organ and Music Group accompany our worship and there is **Junior Church**. We hear the curious parable of Jesus about the unjust steward. How can you maintain Christian principles in a cut throat and grasping world where so many decisions we make are already compromised?



At **6.45pm** we hold **Food 4 Life – worship for Teenagers** in the Trinity Chapel. A short act of worship and plenty of time for discussion followed by food in the church hall.

Next Sunday is the **Feast of St Michael and All Angels**.

At our **9:30 Parish Communion** the choir and organ accompany our worship and there is **Junior Church** and **Teenage church**. What do you make of angels? They are very big in popular spirituality but is there any basis in reality? Come and discover some surprising answers!

Today's worship

Opening hymn: 617

Before the Gospel: 272

Offertory hymn: 60

Final hymn: 332

The Collect

Lord God,
defend your Church from all false teaching
and give to your people knowledge of your truth,
that we may enjoy eternal life
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The Old Testament Reading Amos 8:4-7

⁴ Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, ⁵ saying, 'When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practise deceit with false balances, ⁶ buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat.' ⁷ The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

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 I Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings should be made for everyone, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³ This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. ⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

The Gospel Luke 16:1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, 'There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, "What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer." ³ Then the manager said to himself, "What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes." ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, "How much do you owe my master?" ⁶ He answered, "A hundred jugs of olive oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty." ⁷ Then he asked another, "And how much do you owe?" He replied, "A hundred containers of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and make it eighty." ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. ¹⁰ 'Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.'

This week, please remember in your prayers these areas of our parish:
West Avenue, Norton Crescent, Gates Court, Norton Road, The Sycamores

Those in need of healing:

Paula Conder, Jeanette Jackson, Sheila Boudreau, Ashling Galley Coulthard,
Lynne Edwards, Rosemary Charsley, Stephen Cooper, David Dodds,
Eleanor Morrison, Helen Walden, Olive Elves, Julian Evan Hart,
Oliver Britton, Debbie Lovelock, Brian Hamilton, Pat Kilbride.

Those who have died recently:

David Tucker, Kathy Sherwood, Enid Collins

At the anniversary of their death:

Victoria Nice, Betty Beech, Anne Dashwood, Bob Thompson, Frances Bourne

Choir Anthem: The Call of Wisdom (based on Proverbs 8) by Will Todd (b. 1970)

Lord of wisdom, Lord of truth, Lord of justice, Lord of mercy; walk beside us down the years till we see you in your glory.

Striving to attain the heights, turning in a new direction, entering a lonely place, welcoming a friend or stranger.

I am here, I am with you. I have called: do you hear me? I am here, I am here, I am with you.

Silver is a passing worth, gold is not of constant value, jewels sparkle for a while; what you long for is not lasting. [Refrain]

Rulers govern under me with my insight and my wisdom. Those who know me know my love; those who seek me find their answer. [Refrain]

God the Father and the Son, Holy Spirit co-eternal, Glory, glory be ascribed to you, now and to the end of ages.

Post Communion

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord..

Amen

Upcoming Meetings:

Baldock PCC: Mon 18th Nov at 7.45pm

Tuesday home Group: Thu 26th Sept at 7.30pm at the Rectory

Thursday Home Group: Thu 3rd October at 10.30am (location TBC)

Bygrave PCC: Mon 23rd Sept at 7.30pm at 72 Ashwell Rd

Community Sponsorship: Sun 29th Sept at 4pm

After Hours: Sun 29th Sept at 7pm, 24 Park Crescent

Monday Home Group: Mon 7th Oct at 8pm, 24 Park Crescent

Friends of St Mary's Committee meeting: Mon 11th Nov at 3.45pm



Our next **communion service where we pray for healing and wholeness** is on Tuesday 24th September at 3pm at 83 Coachmans Lane. 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.



Harvest Festival this year in Baldock will be on **Sunday 6th October**. The service will start at the later time of **10.30am**. We will be inviting the whole Church community to join us from Tiny Tots and Messy Church to the congregation at Magdalene Court. We will start all together in church, for 10 minutes then you can choose either all age activities in the hall or a more traditional communion service in church. Everyone comes together again for a blessing at communion. **Harvest lunch will follow at roughly 11.45am**. There is a list at the back of church which we would be grateful if you could sign to give us some idea of numbers. Please let Emma know if you would like to help by making a salad or a pudding.

Harvest Festival donations: In addition to the usual harvest donations, the foodbank would be very grateful to receive tinned fruit, meat, vegetables, fish, sponge pudding, rice pudding and custard, Long life Juice and milk (UHT).

Leading Prayers: Would you like to have some training on leading prayers in church? (A good thing to do whether you have been leading intercessions for years or are wondering whether to dip your toe in the water.) If so, there is a **Buntingford Deanery Intercessions Workshop** led by The Rev'd Canon Dr. Tim Bull on **Saturday 12th October 8.30am – 12 noon** at Barkway Village Hall. Breakfast & coffee/tea provided – ALL WELCOME! Book your place by emailing the Rev'd Heidi Huntley (hahlive@gmail.com)

We will be starting our next **Faith Confirmed Groups for adults and teenagers** in the next few weeks. If you would like to find out more about faith and ask those questions you have never dared ask, or if you would just like a refresher, speak to Andrew.

Missions: Over this year the money given by the PCC and raised by Light Lunches has gone to help the following: Homestart North Herts, CWR, USPG, Church Army, St Mary's Infant School, Messy Church (part of the Bible Reading Fellowship) and Christian Aid's Syria Crisis Appeal. Thank you for your continued support.

Church cleaning thanks: Thank you to everyone who came to our cleaning morning last Saturday. There was a great turn out and we achieved a great deal. Thanks also to Sylvia and her team for our lunch. It was greatly appreciated. If you enjoyed your lunch and don't usually come, put the date of the next Light Lunch - Saturday 5th October - in your diary and come and enjoy it again. The team would love to see you there. There will be another cleaning morning in the spring. Emma and Phil.

Christmas Tree Festival – Sat 7th & Sun 8th Dec

I know it seems far too early to start thinking about Christmas but it is only 10 weeks until the Christmas Tree Festival! Entry forms will be available soon and we will also be asking for your help during the weekend – stewarding, helping in the coffee bar, manning the tower etc. Please put the date in your diary now and please help us to make it a successful weekend by giving an hour or two of your time during the weekend. We need your help to make it work! Thank you.



Do you want to make your faith mean more than just Sunday? If so why not come to a Home Group? We have three, running monthly on Monday and Tuesday evenings and Thursday mornings. The days and venues are in the **Upcoming meetings** section of this news sheet. They provide Christian fellowship, a chance to talk about things that matter, a chance

to go deeper into the bible and a chance to pray for things on your mind. People who go speak very highly of them. Give it a go, if you've never tried it!

Hidden Humour

Q: What do you call a dishonest ruler?

A: A "lyin' king

Ecclesiastical Insurance are donating **£130** to the parish church of anyone who transfers their home insurance to them. St Mary's received £130 from them last year because of this. If you are interested in a quote from them, see the poster in the porch. If you want a testimonial about them, see the Rector!

Bike n' Hike Thanks

Thank you very much indeed to everyone at St Mary's who sponsored the Milne Family Bike n' Hike. Our little group consisted of three generations of our family - from nine-year-old Archie to my father, Jim, who is in his seventies but the route worked well for young and old (and for those of us somewhere in the middle!) We cycled to six churches and added three more in Baldock to our list earlier in the afternoon - so we got round nine in total. Thanks to your generosity, we raised nearly £400 - half of which will go to St Mary's Church to help towards much needed repairs to the church roof (the other half goes to Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust, so another worthy cause). There is still time to sponsor us if you would like to:



<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/milnefamilybikeride>

The next edition of **Alban Life** is available at the back of church.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: *Genesis 28:10-17, Revelation 12: 7-12, John 1: 47-end*

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

Church email: baldockbenefice@gmail.com; Website: www.stmarysbaldock.org.uk

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 22 nd	7.20 am	Morning Prayer	<i>14th Sunday after Trinity</i>
	8.00 am	Holy Communion	
	9.30 am	Parish Communion	
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer	
	6.45 pm	Food 4 Life - Compline	
Mon 23 rd	08.40 am	Morning Prayer	
	4.30 pm	Evening Prayer	
	7.30 pm	Bygrave PCC at 72 Ashwell Road	
Tues 24 th	08.40 am	Morning Prayer	
	3.00 pm	House Communion and Prayer for healing and wholeness at 83 Coachmans Lane	
	4.30 pm	Evening Prayer	
Wed 25 th	<i>Lancelot Andrewes, bishop, spiritual writer, 1626. Ember Day</i>		
	08.40 am	Morning Prayer	
	9.30 am	Holy Communion	
	10.30 am	Tiny Tots Sing-a-long	
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	
Thu 26 th	8.00 am	Morning Prayer	
	4.30 pm	Evening Prayer	
	6.45 pm	Choir practice	
	7.30 pm	Tuesday Home Group meets at the Rectory	
Fri 27 th	<i>Vincent de Paul, founder of the Lazarists, 1660. Ember Day</i>		
	8.40 am	Morning Prayer	
	3.00 pm	Memorial Service for Alan Evens RIP	
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	
Sat 28 th	<i>Ember Day</i>		
Sun 29 th	7.20 am	Morning Prayer	<i>St Michael and All Angels</i>
	8.00 am	Holy Communion	
	9.30 am	Parish Communion	
	2.30 pm	Blessing of marriage of Jo West and Lewis Cameron at Bygrave	
	4.00 pm	Community Sponsorship team meeting in church hall	
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer	

Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.