



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



“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”

Sunday 29th December 2019

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion

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

This Sunday is the **First Sunday of Christmas**. At our **9.30am Parish Communion**, rejoice in the Word made flesh (and with our bible reading this morning, made flesh in solidarity with the most needy and vulnerable people in the world.) **Sing carols** and allow Jesus into the centre of your life as you receive communion with him in the centre of the Church.

On Sunday 5th January 2020 come to church at 10.30am

Next Sunday we celebrate the **Epiphany** with the whole Church sharing in worship together at



10.30am. We begin together in church, sing We three Kings and place

them in the stable. We think briefly about offering our own gifts and sharing our own needs with Jesus. **Messy Church** continues in the

church hall and **Parish Communion** continues in church. We join together to **all share in blessings at Communion** followed by a **Fellowship Lunch together** starting at about **11.45am**.



At **11am** on January 5th there is **Morning Worship** for **Epiphany** at **Bygrave**.

Fell wship Lunch

Sunday 5th January 2020 at 11.45am.

Menu: Sausage casserole or vegetable hotpot.

Everybody welcome – don't eat lunch alone, come and share it with friends.

Today's worship

Opening hymn: 240

Before the Gospel: 729

Offertory hymn: 229

Final hymn: 700

The Collect

God in Trinity,
eternal unity of perfect love:
gather the nations to be one family,
and draw us into your holy life
through the birth of Emmanuel,
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen

The New Testament Reading Hebrews 2: 10-end

¹⁰ It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹² saying, 'I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will

praise you.’ ¹³ And again, ‘I will put my trust in him.’ And again, ‘Here am I and the children whom God has given me.’ ¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Gospel Matthew 2: 13-end

¹³ Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.’ ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, ‘Out of Egypt I have called my son.’ ¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men.

¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸ ‘A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.’ ¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰ ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.’ ²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, ‘He will be called a Nazorean.’

This week, please remember in your prayers these areas of our parish:
California, Grosvenor Road, Martingdale Court, Raban Court, Pearl Court

Those in need of healing:

Paula Conder, Jeanette Jackson, Sheila Boudreau, Lynne Edwards, Olive Elves,
Stephen Cooper, Eleanor Morrison, Lionel Elliston, Sue Pearson, Pat Kilbride,
Oliver Britton, Julian Evan Hart, Peter Harris, Christine Roderick.

Those who have died recently:

Freda Wilkinson, Karen Draper

At the anniversary of their death:

Florrie Rogers, Hettie Darts, Jean Mitchell, Rose Bunker, Pam Jolley, Edna Page

Choir Anthem: A great and mighty wonder (hymn 4 in the orange hymn book.)

Post Communion

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home:
grant to thy Church grace to live as one family,
united in love and obedience,
and at the last bring us all to our home in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



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!

Upcoming Meetings:

After Hours: Sun 22nd Dec at 7pm, 24 Park Crescent

Christmas Home Group: Tues 7th Jan at 7.30pm at the Rectory

Community Sponsorship: Sun 12th Jan at 4.30pm

Friends of St Mary's Committee meeting: Mon 13th Jan at 3.45pm

Baldock Standing Committee: Mon 13th Jan at 8pm at the Rectory

Thursday Home Group: Thu 16 Jan 2020 at 10.30am at 20 The Gardens

Healing Communion: Tues 21st Jan at 3.30pm at 83 Coachmans Lane

Baldock PCC: Mon 27th Jan at 7.45pm

Worship leaders' meeting: Sun 2nd Feb at 5.30pm in church

Bygrave PCC: Mon 3rd Feb at 7.30pm at 4 Bygrave Road

Postage stamps for RNIB: Just a reminder that we are still collecting stamps in the box at the back of church. Thank you for continuing to support this charity throughout the year. This has enabled us to send several parcels of stamps for which they are very grateful. Missions Committee.

Tiny Tots: There will be no Tiny Tots on New Year's Day!

Weekly Gift Aid envelopes 2020:

To all those of you who use these to give weekly to the church, the new ones for next year are now at the back of the church. If you have any queries about them then please give me a call on 01462 637050 or 07549 678107.

Thank for your continued support and generosity. Andy Ball

You'll notice the position of the altar changes from Christmas Day. From having the focus on the high altar, where we think of worshipping Jesus as transporting us to the gates of heaven, it moves into the middle of the church, as we think of Jesus being born in the middle of the mess of human life and sharing in the joys and sorrows of our lives.

A very happy and peaceful New Year from Helen, Andrew and everyone at the Rectory. We are really grateful for all your good wishes and cards.

Planned giving helps the Church!

For the last few years we have achieved amazing things. We have put the eagle lectern on a movable podium, we have produced new information and advertising boards, we have funded resettling a Syrian family, we have funded evangelistic publicity for the whole parish ... and much more, ... besides the heating and lighting of the church building and lots of everyday expenses. We are incredibly grateful for the large number of people who commit to regular financial giving over the year to enable this but we have still gone into the red slightly each year to achieve this. Clearly this cannot continue forever! Over the next 12 months the PCC plan a season of encouraging each of us to consider how much we are able to give to fund the work of God in this place. Watch for more details in a week or two but in the meantime, please pray that we will continue to be able to respond to what we believe God is calling us to do. And please consider your own part in this valuable work.

Heritage Lottery Fund bid result: Sadly, we heard at the beginning of December that we did not succeed in our application for funding from the HLF for repair to the nave and chancel roof. However they said it was a good bid and worth resubmitting with some advice about how to make it even stronger. We hope to resubmit in the first half of next year. Many thanks to Peter Joslin for all his hard work and support for the Church in this area.



Our next **communion service where we pray for healing and wholeness** is on **Tuesday 21st Jan at 83 Coachmans Lane at 3.30pm**. 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.

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| NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 60: 1-6, Matthew 2: 1-12 |
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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

Music at St Mary's, Baldock presents,
in aid of the Church Restoration,

The Phantom of the Opera

A showing of the 1925 silent film directed by
Rupert Julian with live organ improvisation
performed by David Hinitt, organist at Christ
Church, Southgate.



Saturday 25th January 2020 at 7.30pm

Tickets £10 in advance either online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/fosm
or from Baldock Community Centre, or £12 on the door (children
free). Pay bar and complimentary canapés.

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.

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| Sun 29 th | <i>1st Sunday of Christmas</i> | |
| | 7.20 am | Morning Prayer |
| | 8.00 am | Holy Communion (preacher: Sharon Cooper) |
| | 9.30 am | Parish Communion (preacher: Sharon Cooper) |
| Wed 1 st | 8.40 am | Morning Prayer <i>Naming and circumcision of Jesus</i> |
| Jan | 9.30 am | Holy Communion |
| NO TINY TOTS TODAY | | |
| Thu 2 nd | <i>Basil the Great and Gregory of Nazianzus, bishops, teachers of the faith,</i> | |
| | 8.40 am | Morning Prayer <i>379 & 389</i> |
| | 4.30 pm | Evening Prayer |
| | 6.45pm | Choir practice |
| Fri 3 rd | 8.30 am | Morning Prayer |
| | 5.00 pm | Evening Prayer |
| Sun 5 th | <i>Epiphany</i> | |
| | 7.20 am | Morning Prayer |
| | 8.00 am | Holy Communion |
| | 10.30 am | Messy Church & Parish Communion for Epiphany |
| | 11.00 am | Morning Service at Bygrave (Sharon Cooper) |
| | 6.00 pm | Evening Prayer |
| | 6.45 pm | Faith 4 Teens in Church Hall |

The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth

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

Not so Hidden Humour

**The year 2020 is
going to be filled
with so many
puns about
perfect vision ...
I can't wait to see
them all.**