



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



"BUILDING WITH CHRIST"

Sunday 2nd February 2020

8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Parish Communion

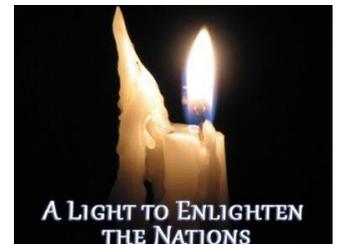
11.00am Parish Communion at Bygrave

12.00pm Messy Church

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

DURING FEBRUARY YOU ARE ASKED TO PUT A TOKEN IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX, EACH TIME YOU COME TO WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, TO HELP US UNDERSTAND THE AGE PROFILE OF THE WORSHIPPING CONGREGATION

This Sunday is the Feast of Candlemass, the last Sunday of Christmastide. At our 9.30am Parish Communion, link together Christmas and Easter as we celebrate the saving work of the whole life of Jesus, with a praise march past both the crib and the cross. Join us as we light candles for the light of the world.



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 for Candlemass at Bygrave.



At **12pm**, there will be **Messy Church**. Join us for a delicious lunch of cottage pie (or vegetarian option) followed by fruit, meringue and ice cream.

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. We will be looking at the parable of the wise man who built his house upon a rock.

Next Sunday is the **Third Sunday before Lent**. At our **9.30am Parish Communion**, the **choir, organ** and **Praise be Band** accompany our worship and there is **Junior and Teenage Church**. Jesus reminds us that the way we live affects people around us. He talks about the little things and Paul challenges us not to focus on ourselves but to 'know nothing except Jesus Christ, and him crucified'.



At **6pm**, next week, there is **Choral Evensong**.

Join us for beautiful, evocative worship at the end of the day.

Today's worship

Opening hymn: 104

Before the Gospel: 157

Offertory hymn: 419

Processional hymns (on sheet) 100, 75, 110

The Collect

Lord Jesus Christ,
light of the nations and glory of Israel:
make your home among us,
and present us pure and holy
to your heavenly Father,
your God, and our God. **Amen.**

The New Testament reading Hebrews 2: 14 - end

¹⁴Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus 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, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore 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. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Gospel Luke 2: 22 – 40

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord’), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.’ ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.’ ³³And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, ‘This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.’ ³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment

she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

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

Barley Rise, Chauncy Gardens, Maltings Close, Yeomanry Drive,
Clothall Corner

Those in need of healing:

Paula Conder, Jeanette Jackson, Sheila Boudreau, Olive Elves, Oliver Britton,
Stephen Cooper, Eleanor Morrison, Lionel Elliston, Pat Kilbride, Peter Harris,
Julian Evan Hart, Christine Roderick, Liz Smith, Anne England, Bob Burt,
baby Luca Mabert.

Those who have died recently:

Lynne Edwards, Fred Day

At the anniversary of their death:

Hilda Gray, Tom Walker, Nora Penfold, Donald Varrall, Harry Penfold,
Alice Kingsley, Edward & Elizabeth Thomson, Trevor Bunch, Alf Haylett,
Frank Newman

Please collect a candle on your way back from communion

Choir Anthem: Song of Simeon by Martin Foster

*Protect us, while awake; watch us, while asleep;
that awake, we may watch with a Christ; and asleep, rest in peace.*

Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, for you kept your promise.
[Refrain]

With my eyes I see the salvation you prepared for all peoples. [Refrain]

A light of revelation to the gentiles, and the glory of your people, Israel.
[Refrain]

Post Communion

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna,
who lived to welcome the Messiah:
may we, who have received these gifts beyond words,
prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes
to bring us to eternal life;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen.

After the blessings you are invited to carry your candle and follow in procession past the crib and then the cross singing the hymns on the special service sheet (starting with the second hymn: Christ is the world's true light). We aim to end up standing around the crossing in the centre of the church. After the Nunc dimittis, sung by the choir we have a dismissal on the special service sheet.

One last look back at the stable and then, turn towards the cross!

Upcoming Meetings:

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

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

Monday Home Group: Mon 10th Feb at 8pm at 24 Park Crescent

After Hours: Sun 16th Feb at 7pm, 24 Park Crescent

Community Sponsorship: Sun 23rd Feb at 4.30pm

Food4Life (worship for Teens) Sun Feb 23rd at 6.45pm in church

Healing Communion: Tues 25th Feb at 3.30pm at 83 Coachmans Lane

Thursday Home Group: Thu 27th Feb at 10.30am at 20 The Gardens

Friends of St Mary's Committee meeting: Mon 2nd Mar at 3.45pm

Christmas Tree Festival proceeds: The Christmas Tree Festival weekend made approximately £3,500! Thank you to everyone who helped to make the weekend such a success. We couldn't have done it without you. Discussions are already underway for the next one...

On Wednesday 19th February at 7.30pm we are hosting a deanery **confirmation service at St Mary's**. Three of our young people are likely to be confirmed; please make a date in your diary and come and support them. **If you are willing to provide cakes, savouries and scones, please let Emma know.**

Fell wship Lunch

Sunday 23rd February at 12:00.

Menu: Roast Beef and trimmings or vegetarian option followed by pudding. Everybody welcome – don't eat lunch alone, come and share it with friends.

In March, there will be a Christian Aid Lent Lunch, instead of Fellowship Lunches, on Sunday 29th March at 12noon.

Menu: Lent soup and cheese lunch

Did you know? It costs £3,500 for gas and electricity to heat and light the church building each year. The January and February gas bills are in the region of £450 alone per month.



Eco Group relaunch: Look out for our Eco Tip in the pew sheet starting next week! Anyone with ideas/contacts for church hall curtains/blinds or any other eco ideas please contact Katrina 07708 064294 or kmnice2013@gmail.com Thank you!

Palm crosses:

Please return you're your palm crosses to church by Saturday 22nd February so we can use them to make ash for Ash Wednesday.



Our next **communion service where we pray for healing and wholeness** is on **Tuesday 25th February 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.

Hidden Humour

Q: How do you get an astronaut's baby to sleep?

A: You rocket.

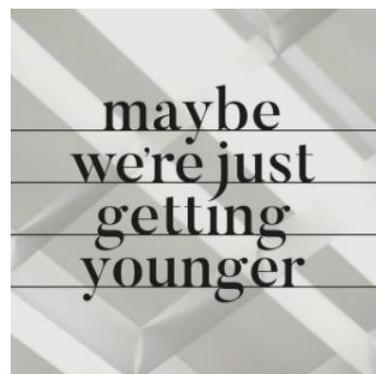
Do you want to make your faith mean more than just Sunday?



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!

We need your help!

During February we want to get an accurate assessment of the age profile of our worshipping congregation week by week. Each Sunday in February you come to church, please help us by placing a token in the jam jar that corresponds to your age range. We believe we are bucking the trend and getting younger and would like to test whether this is true or not.



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Psalm 112, Isaiah 58: 1 – 9a, 1 Corinthians 2: 1 – 12, Matthew 5: 13 - 20

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 2 nd	<i>Candlemass</i>	
	7.20 am	Morning Prayer
	8.00 am	Holy Communion (Preacher: Sharon Cooper)
	9.30 am	Parish Communion (Preacher: Sharon Cooper)
	11.00 am	Parish Communion at Bygrave (Preacher: Sharon Cooper)
	12.00 pm	Messy Church
	5.30 pm	Evening Prayer and Worship leaders' meeting
	6.45 pm	Faith4Teens in church hall
Mon 3 rd		<i>Anskar, Archbishop of Hamburg, Missionary in Denmark and Sweden 865</i>
	8.40 am	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	Communion at Magdalen Court
	9.30 am	Hartsfield School Year 1 visit church
	1.30 pm	Silent Prayer in the church hall
	4.45 pm	Evening Prayer
	7.30 pm	Bygrave PCC at 4 Ashwell Rd
Tue 4 th	8.40 am	Morning Prayer
	4.30 pm	Evening Prayer
	5.15pm	1st Baldock Beavers visit church
Wed 5 th	8.40 am	Morning Prayer
	9.30 am	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Tiny Tots
	1.30pm	St John's School Year 5 visit church
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer
	6.00pm	1 st Baldock Cubs visit church
Thu 6 th	6.45pm	Choir practice
Fri 7 th	8.40am	Morning Prayer
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer
Sun 9 th		<i>The 3rd Sunday before Lent</i>
	7.20 am	Morning Prayer
	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Parish Communion
	3.00pm	Baptism of Luca Mabert
	6.00 pm	Choral Evensong

Because he himself was tested by what he suffered,
he is able to help those who are being tested.