



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



“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”

Sunday 29th March 2020

**Following the latest directions from the Prime Minister
Baldock and Bygrave churches are closed for public worship
and private prayer**

Free resources for prayer are available on our website

www.stmarysbaldock.org.uk,

or on Facebook

<https://m.facebook.com/StMaryTheVirginBaldock/>

Call 01462 892838 or email baldockcs0@gmail.com if you know someone who is housebound and needs support or if you need practical support during the crisis

Call 01462 896273 or email 2008luddite@gmail.com to speak to the Rector Andrew Holford.

We are sending out a daily email, text and Facebook posting (which is also on the web). Let us know if you would like to sign up for these.

We are also hoping to say Morning or Evening Prayer together using the app Zoom. Let us know if you would like to join in or need help signing up.

The clocks change this weekend. Put them forward an hour so you get an hour's less sleep. *(There'll be some good news soon!)*

To worship with us on Sunday morning at 9.30am copy this link into your browser:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/517910964?pwd=R3JpSHNJUE5QVEFjalBDUGdVKzFEdz09>

Meeting ID: 517 910 964

Password: 013960

You shouldn't need the meeting ID or the password.

We recommend you sign in in good time if you haven't used Zoom before

We are having a test run on Saturday evening if you want to have a practice:

At some point between 6pm and 7pm, copy this link into your browser:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/237846765?pwd=Sm0rVkjqR2xPaIpBZlFFWw9lQVBhdz09>

Meeting ID: 237 846 765

Password: 009319

If you are struggling to make it work, ring Andrew on 896273

Prayers and readings for this Sunday



Collect

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.. **Amen**

We will not be reading the Old Testament reading in worship on Sunday morning

Old Testament Reading Ezekiel 37: 1 - 14

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord GOD, you know.' ⁴Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.'

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely."

¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.'

We will not be reading the Psalm in worship on Sunday morning

Psalm 130

- 1 Out of the depths have I cried to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice; ♦
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
- 2 If you, Lord, were to mark what is done amiss, ♦
O Lord, who could stand?
- 3 But there is forgiveness with you, ♦
so that you shall be feared.
- 4 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; ♦
in his word is my hope.

- 5 My soul waits for the Lord, more than the night watch for the morning, ♦
more than the night watch for the morning.
- 6 O Israel, wait for the Lord, ♦
for with the Lord there is mercy;
- 7 With him is plenteous redemption ♦
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; ♦
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

New Testament Reading Romans 8: 6 - 11

⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Gospel John 11: 1 - 45

¹A certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' ⁸The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' ⁹Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' ¹¹After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' ¹²The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to

him.’ ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, ‘Let us also go, that we may die with him.’

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.’ ²³Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ ²⁴Martha said to him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’ ²⁵Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’ ²⁷She said to him, ‘Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.’

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, ‘The Teacher is here and is calling for you.’ ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’ ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, ‘Where have you laid him?’ They said to him, ‘Lord, come and see.’ ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, ‘See how he loved him!’ ³⁷But some of them said, ‘Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?’

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, ‘Take away the stone.’ Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, ‘Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.’ ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?’ ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, ‘Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.’ ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, and let him go.’

⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Prayers

Let us pray to the Lord,
who is our refuge and stronghold.

For the health and well-being of our nation,
that all who are fearful and anxious
may be at peace and free from worry:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the isolated and housebound,
that we may be alert to their needs,
and care for them in their vulnerability:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For our homes and families,
our schools and young people,
and all in any kind of need or distress:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For a blessing on our local community,
that our neighbourhoods may be places of trust and friendship,
where all are known and cared for:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God.

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

My song is love unknown

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KTZgZU4shMw>

My song is love unknown,
my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown,
that they might lovely be.
O, who am I
that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh, and die.

He came from his blest throne,
salvation to bestow
but men made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know.
But O, my friend,
my friend indeed,
who at my need
his life did spend.

Sometimes they strew his way,
and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King.
Then 'Crucify!'
is all their breath,
and for his death
they thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries!
Yet they at these
themselves displease,
and 'gainst him rise.

They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
the Prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he
to suffering goes,
that he his foes
from thence might free.

In life, no house, no home,
my Lord on earth might have;
in death, no friendly tomb,
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heav'n was his home;
but mine the tomb
wherein he lay.

Here might I stay and sing,
no story so divine;
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine!
This is my friend,
in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend.

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

Those in need of healing:

Paula Conder, Jeanette Jackson, Sheila Boudreau, Olive Elves, , Julian Evan Hart,
Stephen Cooper, Lionel Elliston, Peter Harris, baby Luca Mabert, Oliver Britton,
Christine Roderick, Liz Smith, Anne England, Michael Welch, Martin Reed,
Bob Burt, Penny and Douglas Mitchell, Lorna Thorpe, Andrew Lavery,
Joan Hutchins

Those who have died recently:

Yvonne Jackson.

At the anniversary of their death:

Olive Thompson, Pat Harding, Ivy Croft

Post Communion

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**

Following advice all public meetings and social events are cancelled until further notice except those specifically indicated.

We may not be worshipping together for some time but in order to thrive emotionally and spiritually (and therefore physically) it is really important that each of nurtures our relationship with each other and of course with God. Jesus, the Son of God, spent his ministry 'being with' people. So do your best to 'be with' each other, ring each other up, use social media if you have it, and be ready to share your worries and your frustrations as well as your joys and your relief. And be prepared to listen to other people. Make sure your neighbours are getting the support they need. Assure each other of your prayers. And when you are praying for them, use the time to nurture your relationship with God. As you can't get to public worship together, make a special point of reading the bible and pondering what the readings are saying to you.

Baldock Coronavirus Support Group & helping vulnerable neighbours

A Coronavirus Support Group has been set up in Baldock to discuss ways of supporting our local community. The St Mary's Church Office phone number (01462 892838) has become the Baldock Corona Volunteer Support Line and will be monitored daily - if no one answers, there is an answerphone which will be checked regularly. The line is for anyone who is concerned about the virus, and particularly those with elderly or vulnerable local friends or neighbours. If the question is about medical concerns, please call NHS 111 and not the helpline.

In addition, we are seeking more volunteers to support the elderly and vulnerable during the Corona outbreak, in a safe way which will reduce the risk of spreading the infection further. If you would like to help, please contact the Support Group directly (baldockcs0@gmail.com or leave a message on the helpline number). Even if you are unable to volunteer more generally, please look out for your neighbours, particularly if they are elderly or vulnerable.

Morning and Evening Prayer:

If you would like to join us to say Evening Prayer during the week (or Morning Prayer), please email or phone me and I'll send you the link (see Week at a glance for times). The ones marked Zoom will definitely be online, the ones that are not will only be if someone asks me. Please make sure you let me know if you want to join in, in good time so I can get you the words.

It's really important when we don't see each other, to keep praying together.

Many thanks

Hidden Humour

Did you hear about the coal mine that caved in this morning?

Everyone got out, it was just a miner inconvenience.

Did you know? The Church budgets £3 000 per year for general maintenance around the building (not including the hall). Last year we spent £2,154, but in 2018 it was £4,017. This year is likely to be over budget because of some work we need to do in the tower removing pigeon droppings and pigeon proofing the drains. That's £10,000 over three years.



Eco Tip 8: Now we are in Lockdown we are still allowed to go outside for exercise once a day, so why not walk/cycle to your nearest food supplier to pick up essentials (it saves on CO2 and air pollution and you won't be tempted to buy 3 packets of loo rolls that way either!)

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

CHURCH OPEN: Sun to Fri 8.40 am to 3.30 pm

Sun 29 th	<i>Passion Sunday</i>	
	8.00 am	Morning Prayer <i>Passiontide begins</i>
	9.30 am	Morning Worship via Zoom (see pg 2 for how to join)
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom
Mon 30 th	8.40 am	Morning Prayer
	4.15 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom
	8.00 pm	Monday Lent Group via Zoom (contact Emma)
Tue 31 st	8.40 am	Morning Prayer
	4.30 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom
Wed 1 st	8.40 am	Morning Prayer
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom
Thu 2 nd	8.40 am	Morning Prayer
	10.30 am	Thursday Lent Group via Zoom (contact Katrina)
	7.00 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom
Fri 3 rd	8.40 am	Morning Prayer
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom
Sat 4 th	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom (contact Katrina)
Sun 5 th	<i>Palm Sunday</i>	
	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
	9.30 am	Morning Worship via Zoom (see pg 2 for how to join)
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom

I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.

Rev'd Canon Andrew Holford: 01462 896273

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

Lay Minister: Katrina Nice: 07708 064294

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

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Matthew 21: 1-11, Philippians 2: 5-11, Matthew 27: 11-54