



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



“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”

**Sunday 26th April 2020
The Third Sunday of Easter**

Following the latest directions from the Archbishop, Baldock and Bygrave churches are closed for public worship and private prayer and all public meetings and social events are cancelled until further notice except those specifically indicated.

Join us for Sunday Zoom worship at 9.30am or at 11am for Messy Zoom (you can do it by using a laptop, tablet or smart phone) It's a really good way of feeling part of the St Mary's Christian community. If you need help connecting, contact Andrew.

We say Evening Prayer together each day by Zoom (see the times in Week at a Glance). The link to join in is sent out in the daily mailing. If you can't make the evening times but would like to say Morning Prayer (which is usually at 8.40am), contact Andrew Holford.

Our Home Groups are still operating, Monday evening at 8pm Tuesday evening at 7.30pm and Thursday morning at 10.30am. See Week at a Glance for dates this week. And our young people meet each Sunday evening for a Zoom session. Get in touch for more details.

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 us 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, join a Zoom meeting, 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 we can't get to public worship together, make a special point of reading the bible and pondering what the readings are saying to you.

Free resources for prayer are available on our website www.stmarysbaldock.org.uk,
(head down the page to the blog entries)

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.

And if you know someone who can't receive emails but would benefit from having this pew leaflet delivered, please get in touch.

To worship with us on Sunday morning at 9.30am or at 11am Messy Zoom, copy the link below into your browser:



Zoom Sunday Worship together at 9.30am and 11am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81414496330?pwd=UTBKMXFXRmN0dTB0eWkxakR6MmhsUT09>

Meeting ID: 814 1449 6330

Password: 011483

WORDS FOR THE HYMNS WILL BE IN THE CHAT SECTION OF THE SCREEN OR YOU CAN PRINT THEM OUT BEFOREHAND.

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

If you want to have a practice before Sunday, contact Andrew Holford

To join us for Zoom Sunday Evening Prayer at 6pm use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85115110214?pwd=STU1UVR1NTNXtUpuWW1oamNtSys2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 851 1511 0214

Password: 026650

Prayers and readings for this Sunday

Hymn: The strife is o'er

The strife is o'er, the battle done;

now is the victor's triumph won;

O let the song of praise be sung.

Alleluya!

Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,

and Jesus hath his foes dispersed;

let shouts of praise and joy outburst.

Alleluya!

On the third morn he rose again
glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain.
Alleluya!

He brake the age-bound chains of hell;
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;
let hymns of praise his triumph tell.
Alleluya!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live, and sing to thee.
Alleluya!

The Collect

Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
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**

The New Testament Reading Acts 2:14a, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost, ¹⁴Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, ³⁶'Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'
³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' ³⁸Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added to their number.

Psalm 116: 1-3, 10-17

NOT USED AT 9.30am ZOOM WORSHIP

1 I love the Lord,
for he has heard the voice of my supplication; ♦
because he inclined his ear to me
on the day I called to him.

2 The snares of death encompassed me;
the pains of hell took hold of me; ♦
by grief and sorrow was I held.

3 Then I called upon the name of the Lord: ♦
'O Lord, I beg you, deliver my soul.'

10 How shall I repay the Lord ♦
for all the benefits he has given to me?

11 I will lift up the cup of salvation ♦
and call upon the name of the Lord.

12 I will fulfil my vows to the Lord ♦
in the presence of all his people.

13 Precious in the sight of the Lord ♦
is the death of his faithful servants.

14 O Lord, I am your servant, ♦
your servant, the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.

15 I will offer to you a sacrifice of thanksgiving ♦
and call upon the name of the Lord.

16 I will fulfil my vows to the Lord ♦
in the presence of all his people,

17 In the courts of the house of the Lord, ♦
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Alleluia.

NOT USED AT 9.30am ZOOM WORSHIP

The New Testament Reading I Peter 1: 17-23

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

The Gospel Luke 24: 13-35

¹³Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, ‘What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?’ They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, ‘Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?’ ¹⁹He asked them, ‘What things?’ They replied, ‘The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.’ ²⁵Then he said to them, ‘Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?’ ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. ²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, ‘Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.’ So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?’ ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, ‘The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!’ ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Prayers

Jesus, our exalted Lord, has been given all authority.
Let us seek his intercession that our prayers may be perfected
by his prayer.

Jesus Christ, great high priest,
living for ever to intercede for us,
pray for the Church, your broken body in the world ...

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, King of righteousness,
enthroned at the right hand of the majesty on high,
pray for the world, and make it subject to your gentle rule ...

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Son of Man,
drawing humanity into the life of God,
pray for your sisters and brothers in need, distress, or sorrow ...

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus, pioneer of our salvation,
bringing us to glory through your death and resurrection,
surround with your saints and angels
those who have died trusting your promises ...

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Lord over all things,
ascended far above the heavens and filling the universe,
pray for us who receive the gifts you give us for work in your service ...

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ,
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at your feet;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

Aldridge Court, Jackson Street, Orchard Road, Meeting House Lane,
Mulberry Court, Vintage Court

Those in need of healing:

Paula Conder, Jeanette Jackson, Sheila Boudreau, Olive Elves, Stephen Cooper,
Lionel Elliston, Peter Harris, baby Luca Mabert, Oliver Britton,
Christine Roderick, Liz Smith, Anne England, Martin Reed, Bob Burt,
Penny and Douglas Mitchell, Lorna Thorpe, Kirsty Robinson, Martyn Gray

Those who have died recently:

Brian Sutton, Peter Gathercole, Joan Hutchins,
Joan and Tom Dickens, Jean Peters

At the anniversary of their death:

Richard Haerle, Peter West, Rosemary Eagle, Frank Stokes, Jill Stuart,
Ted Holehouse, Baby Agnes Matthews

Prayer

Living God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in all his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Hymn: From the very depths of darkness

From the very depths of darkness
springs a bright and living light,
out of falsehood and deceit
a greater truth is brought to sight,
in the halls of death, defiant,
life is dancing in with delight!
The Lord is risen indeed!
Christ is risen! Hallelujah!
Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

*Christ is risen! Hallelujah!
The Lord is risen indeed!*

Jesus meets us at the dawning
of the resurrection day;
speaks our name with love, and gently
says that here we may not stay:
'Do not cling to me, but go to all
the fearful ones and say,
"The Lord is risen indeed!"'
Christ is risen! Hallelujah! ...

In the heartlands of oppression,
sound the cry of liberty,
where the poor are crucified,
behold the Lord of Calvary!
From the fear of death and dying,
Christ has set his people free!
The Lord is risen indeed!
Christ is risen! Hallelujah! ...

When our spirits are entombed
in mortal prejudice and pride,
when the gates of hell itself
are firmly bolted from inside,
at the bidding of his Spirit,
we may fling them open wide!
The Lord is risen indeed!
Christ is risen! Hallelujah! ...

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.

Eco Tip for 3rd Sunday of Easter: In lockdown take the opportunity to look at sections of our homes little by little and think about whether we need so much "stuff" and how we could live more simply and sustainably and how that might bring us more in tune with God.

Are you a landlord?

Or do you know someone who is?

Would you like to support a Syrian refugee family on their next phase towards resettlement in the UK?

As you may know, St Mary's Baldock have been acting as Community Sponsors to resettle a Syrian refugee family for the past two years but their housing tenancy is coming to an end. They need a two or three bedroom property with affordable rent.

They are, of course, on the Council housing register but it is at best doubtful if this will come up with anything suitable for them in the short term and may mean emergency accommodation. They have already had their lives disrupted so much before reaching the UK, so we wish to avoid this if at all possible. Their first choice would be to remain in Baldock to preserve the continuity of the children's schooling but they understand this may not be possible.

Can you help?

Get in touch with Andrew if you have any ideas.

MESSAGE FROM THE FOODBANK

We have seen a dramatic fall off in food donations, but we have also had a dramatic rise in monetary donations.

We have decided to issue our clients with supermarket vouchers situation continues. We will finance these from our monetary donations.

You can support us by visiting our website www.letchworth.foodbank.org.uk. Once you have entered the site click on "Give Help" followed by "Donate Money". You are now in our donation page and you can decide how much and how you would like to give.

Thank you and we hope to resume our food collections as soon as possible.



WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Sun 26 th	<i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i>
	8.15 am Morning Prayer
	9.30 am Morning Worship via Zoom
	11.00 am Messy Church via Zoom
	6.00 pm Evening Prayer via Zoom
Mon 27 th	8.40 am Morning Prayer
	4.15 pm Evening Prayer via Zoom
	8.00 pm Monday Home Group via Zoom (contact Emma)
Tue 28 th	8.40 am Morning Prayer
	4.30 pm Evening Prayer via Zoom
Wed 29 th	<i>Catherine of Siena, teacher of the faith, 1380</i>
	5.00 pm Evening Prayer via Zoom (contact Katrina)
Thu 30 th	8.40 am Morning Prayer
	5.00 pm Evening Prayer via Zoom
Fri 1 st	<i>Philip and James, Apostles</i>
	5.00 pm Evening Prayer via Zoom (contact Katrina)
Sat 2 nd	<i>Athanasius, bishop, teacher of the faith, 373</i>
	9.30 am Morning Prayer
	5.00 pm Evening Prayer via Zoom
Sun 3 rd	<i>4th Sunday of Easter</i>
	8.15 am Morning Prayer
	9.30 am Morning Worship via Zoom
	6.00 pm Evening Prayer via Zoom

You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Rev'd Canon Andrew Holford: 01462 896273 2008luddite@gmail.com

Lay Minister: Katrina Nice: kmnice2013@gmail.com / 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: Acts 2:42-end, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2: 19-end, John 10: 1-10

Hidden Humour

Q: Why was the baker in a panic?

A: He was in a loaf or death situation.