



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



“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”

Sunday 10th May 2020 ***The Fifth 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.

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86132715540?pwd=OGtZYmFvUDc3MWxsVmFaSn0anZrdz09>

Meeting ID: 861 3271 5540

Password: 014865

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



WORDS FOR THE HYMNS FOR 9.30AM ZOOM WILL BE IN THE CHAT SECTION OF THE SCREEN OR YOU CAN PRINT THEM OUT BEFOREHAND.

It's a really good way of feeling part of the St Mary's Christian community. If you need help connecting, contact Andrew.

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

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86513339532?pwd=aTV5YlBSNGNEa2d4UG9ubDFINUxUz09>

Meeting ID: 865 1333 9532

Password: 031326

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.

Prayers and readings for this Sunday

Hymn: Christ is alive! (Hymn 96)

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching ev'ry place and time.

In every insult, rift, and war
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

The Collect

Almighty God

who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen 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 7:55-end,

Standing before the high priest and the council, ⁵⁵Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16

1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; ♦
deliver me in your righteousness.

2 Incline your ear to me; ♦
make haste to deliver me.

NOT USED AT 9.30am ZOOM WORSHIP

3Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me,
for you are my rock and my stronghold; ♦
guide me, and lead me for your name's sake.

4Take me out of the net
that they have laid secretly for me, ♦
for you are my strength.

5Into your hands I commend my spirit, ♦
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

15'My times are in your hand; ♦
deliver me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

16'Make your face to shine upon your servant, ♦
and save me for your mercy's sake.'

**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.**

NOT USED AT 9.30am ZOOM WORSHIP

The New Testament Reading | Peter 2: 2-10,

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation – ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

⁶For it stands in scripture: 'See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' ⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner', ⁸and 'A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Gospel John 14:1-14

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.' ⁵Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' ⁶Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' ⁸Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' ⁹Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Prayers

[We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity.

Jesus, Lord of life,

in your mercy, hear us.]

Jesus, light of the world,

bring the light and peace of your gospel

to the nations ...

Jesus, Lord of life,

in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, bread of life,

give food to the hungry ...

and nourish us all with your word.

Jesus, Lord of life,

in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, our way, our truth, our life,

be with us and all who follow you in the way ...

Deepen our appreciation of your truth,

and fill us with your life.

Jesus, Lord of life,

in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep,

recover the straggler,

bind up the injured,
strengthen the sick
and lead the healthy and strong to new pastures.
Jesus, Lord of life,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, the resurrection and the life,
we give you thanks for all who have lived and
believed in you ...
Raise us with them to eternal life.
Jesus, Lord of life,
**in your mercy, hear us,
accept our prayers, and be with us always.
Amen.**

This week, please remember in your prayers these areas of our parish:
Osbourne Court, Astonia House, Elmwood Court, Heath Hall, Pepper Ct, The Orchard

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, Martyn Gray

Those who have died recently:

Jean Peters, Patricia Wells, Christopher Martin, Kirsty Robinson

At the anniversary of their death:

Jean Ellis, Keith Gates, Bunty Wilkins, Irene Miller

Final prayer

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Hymn: O Jesus I have promised (Hymn 503)

1. O Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me,
My Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If Thou wilt be my Guide.

2. Oh, let me feel Thee near me;
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But, Jesus, draw Thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.

3. Oh, let me hear Thee speaking,
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self-will;
Oh, speak to reassure me,
To hasten, or control;
Oh, speak, and make me listen,
Thou Guardian of my soul.

4. O Jesus, Thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee,
That where Thou art in glory
There shall Thy servant be;

And Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Oh, give me grace to follow,
My Master and my Friend.

5. Oh, let me see Thy footmarks,
And in them plant mine own;
My hope to follow duly
Is in Thy strength alone.
Oh, guide me, call me, draw me,
Uphold me to the end;
And then to rest receive me,
My Saviour and my Friend.

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.

Hidden Humour

A book never written:
'Finding your way' by Miss Guided

Eco Tip for 5th Sunday of Easter: Try to avoid products made from Palm Oil (or make sure it is sustainable) :-Much of the tropical rainforest (important habitat and "green lungs" of our world) is destroyed to grow palm oil. There are alternatives out there!

Following the Prime Minister's statement on Sunday and any directions from the Archbishops, we'll let you know of any changes and extra events.

Thank you for the dedication you have shown to care for each other and nurture your Christian faith over the last 6 weeks. It is wonderful to be part of such an engaged and in touch Christian community.

Hazel and Martin Frost's latest newsletter is attached.

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Sun 10 th	<i>5th Sunday of Easter</i>	8.15 am	Morning Prayer
		9.30 am	Morning Worship via Zoom
		11.00 am	Messy Church Zoom
		6.00 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom
Mon 11 th		4.15 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom (contact Katrina)
		8.00 pm	Monday Home Group via Zoom (contact Emma)
Tue 12 th		8.40 am	Morning Prayer
		4.30 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom
Wed 13 th		8.40 am	Morning Prayer
		5.00 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom
Thu 14 th	<i>Matthias the Apostle</i>	8.40 am	Morning Prayer
		4.15 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom
Fri 15 th		8.40 am	Morning Prayer
		7.00 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom
Sat 16 th		5.00 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom (contact Katrina)
Sun 17 th	<i>6th Sunday of Easter</i>	8.15 am	Morning Prayer
		9.30 am	Morning Worship via Zoom
		6.00 pm	Evening Prayer via Zoom

⁵⁵Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶‘Look,’ he said, ‘I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand 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 17: 22-31, Psalm 66: 7-end, 1 Peter 3:13-end, John 14: 15-21