



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



“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”

**Third Sunday before Advent
Worship on Sunday 8th November**

10.15am Zoom Morning Worship

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85865137528?pwd=ZjVrV25sMzJKanNTN3pNZjdqMXVYdz09>

Meeting ID: 858 6513 7528

Passcode: 827152

6pm Zoom Evening Prayer

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81188370718?pwd=MVVDelNMbEppRldBYnFpN0NwT1hhQT09>

Meeting ID: 811 8837 0718

Passcode: 188423

Prayer is Zoomed each day. You are warmly invited to join us!

Zoom **Evening Prayer** any day this week

(check Week at a Glance for times on specific days)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81188370718?pwd=MVVDelNMbEppRldBYnFpN0NwT1hhQT09>

Meeting ID: 811 8837 0718

Passcode: 188423

I'm sure you will know that church buildings are being closed for all public worship except funerals until Wednesday 2nd December. The church building will remain open for private prayer everyday between about 8.40am and 3.30pm.

If you are aware of anyone who is unable to get food or medication etc, or people who are facing mental health issues or other problems during this second period of lockdown and you cannot care for them yourselves, please let me know.

Please make a special point of getting in contact with anyone you think may be struggling during the next 4 weeks. ... And please continue praying for each other and for the wounded world in which we live. And if you are struggling yourself, please do not keep silent.

Our Home Groups are operating on 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.

Prayers and readings for this Sunday

Hymn 494 O God our help

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.

Beneath the shadow of thy throne,
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
will bear us all away;
we fade and vanish, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

The Collect

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

NOT USED AT 10.15am
ZOOM WORSHIP

The Old Testament Reading Amos 5: 18 – 24

¹⁸ Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light; ¹⁹ as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. ²⁰ Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? ²¹ I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. ²² Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. ²³ Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. ²⁴ But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Psalm 70

1 O God, make speed to save me; ♦
O Lord, make haste to help me.

2 Let those who seek my life
be put to shame and confusion; ♦
let them be turned back and disgraced
who wish me evil.

3 Let those who mock and deride me ♦
turn back because of their shame. **R**

4 But let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; ♦
let those who love your salvation say always, 'Great is the Lord.'

5 As for me, I am poor and needy; ♦
come to me quickly, O God.

6 You are my help and my deliverer; ♦
O Lord, do not delay.

The New Testament Reading I Thessalonians 4: 13 – 18

NOT USED AT 10.15am
ZOOM WORSHIP

¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Gospel Matthew 25: 1 – 13

'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴ but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵ As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶ But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." ⁷ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." ⁹ But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." ¹⁰ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹ Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." ¹² But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." ¹³ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

This week, please remember in your prayers these areas of our parish:
Hillside Park, Limekiln Lane, The Copse, Penfold Close, Providence Court,
Providence Way.

Those in need of healing:

Paula Conder, Jeanette Jackson, Sheila Boudreau, Penny and Douglas Mitchell,
baby Luca Mabert, Olive Elves, Peter Harris, Oliver Britton, Liz Smith, Anne England,
Martin Reed, Bob Burt, Martyn Gray, Ron Crumpholt, John Pearson, David Dane,
Karen Kynman, Andy Ball, Molly Upton, Brenda Copsey, Alan Russell.

Those who have died recently

Vera Allsop, Philip Hutchinson, Joan Walker, Barbara Smith.

Those whose anniversary of death is remembered this week

Ken Williams, Gerry Hann, Molly Browne, Kenneth Cairns

Hymn 153 Eternal Father strong to save

Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm doth bind the restless wave,
who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

O Saviour, whose almighty word
the winds and waves submissive heard,
who walkedst on the foaming deep,
and calm amid its rage didst sleep;
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

O sacred Spirit, who didst brood
upon the waters dark and rude,
and bid their angry tumult cease,
and give, for wild confusion, peace;
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and pow'r,
our brethren shield in danger's hour.
From rock and tempest, fire, and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go;
and ever let there rise to thee
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Final Prayer

God of peace,
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:
look with compassion on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power
make whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Eco Tip for Remembrance Sunday: As we remember those who have died, plant some bulbs or join a tree planting scheme in their memory, bringing new life and new hope within God's creation.

Due to the virus, we were unable to do our annual envelope collection this year. Christian Aid are asking for





help and if you would like to make a donation please call 020 7523 2269 quoting A035713 or online at:

CAID.org.uk/neighbours

Thank you. Missions Committee

The Food Bank are always grateful for donations: and would appreciate receiving gifts of biscuits, tinned fish, UHT or dried milk, tinned or dried potatoes. We do have large stocks of pasta, soup and beans.

Planned Giving and Church finances



Thank you to everyone who has responded. If you haven't yet replied, it would be really helpful to have a response, whatever you intend to do financially.

Thankfully due to your generosity and commitment, the deficit is reducing as a result of our planned giving renewal. So far you have committed an extra

£1,076.25 per month or £12,915 per annum! This is a truly amazing response and testament to the practical faith of the people of St Mary's.



The next Messy Church is 15th November at 11.15am on Zoom. Do join us for craft and activities, a simple story and prayers



On Sunday 6th December we hope to run Messy Church in the Church hall. This will be a 45 minutes session. Sadly we will not be able to serve a meal but families are welcome to bring their own snacks and drinks. There will be craft, activities and some worship and we are basing it round the theme of All Saints' and light. Each bubble will have their own table and we will try to reduce the moving about as much as possible. All welcome, but we will need you to book in before the session.

Hidden Humour

What did the guy who got fired for always being late say?

"It was just a matter of time."

STILL HAPPENING !!!!!

Advance notice! We are planning the Christmas Tree Festival for the weekend of Dec 20th. It will, of course be a Tree Festival with a difference because of Covid, but we think it might be one of the best ways to communicate the Christian message of Christmas to many people in the parish so we plan to use it in this way. We also think that the number of large Christmassy events will be severely limited this year so it may well have a lot of take-up. So book the dates in your diary. We'll need a fair amount of support with marshalling etc to preserve distancing and to welcome. And put your thinking hats on to dream up decorations for a tree that you could put in the Festival!

On **Sunday 15th November between 3 and 4pm** the church will as usual be open for private prayer. The church will be open for people to come and sit quietly, look at the Book of Remembrance and light candles. Quiet music will be playing during this hour. (The church will be open for private prayer as usual during the rest of the day as well.)



The Advent Festival of Carols will sadly be postponed. **The choir hope they may be able to put it on a later Sunday in Advent. Watch this space!!**

Christmas Service

This is our plan of what we hope to do:

You'll need to book in advance for all of these to ensure a place.

More details soon.

Christmas Tree Festival Worship

Fri 18th – Sun 20th Dec

Trees, music, places to stop and engage with the Christmas story and more~ WE'LL NEED YOUR HELP!



Christmas Eve Crib Services

Thurs 24th 2.30pm and 4pm

Come dressed in your favourite Nativity costume, candles and a Christmas message. A different format from usual but hopefully still the same wonder!

Bygrave Carols on the Wedon Way field

Thurs 24th 6pm

Socially distanced carols, a bonfire and a Christmas message.

Christmas Concert

Thurs 24th 7pm

Christmas readings and prayers, carols and anthem sung by the choir and a Christmas message

Christmas Day Communion

Fri 25th 9am

Christmas Day Zoom Worship

Fri 25th 10.15am

No need to book for this service

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

SUNDAY 8th *Third Sunday before Advent*

Nov	10.15am	Morning Worship on Zoom
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
Mon 9 th	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
	8.00pm	Monday Home Group on Zoom (contact Emma)
Tues 10 th	<i>Leo the Great, bishop, teacher of the faith, 461</i>	
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
Wed 11 th	<i>Martin, bishop, c.397</i>	
	1.30pm	Funeral of Joan Walker in church
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
Thurs 12 th	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
Fri 13 th	<i>Charles Simeon, priest, evangelical divine, 1836</i>	
Sat 14 th	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
SUNDAY 15 th	<i>Second Sunday before Advent</i>	
Nov	10.15am	Morning Worship on Zoom
	11.15am	Messy Zoom
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom

Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

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Next week's readings:

Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-end, Psalm 90. 1-8 [9-11] 12 [or 90. 1-8], 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, Matthew 25: 14-30.

PCC meetings for Baldock and Bygrave

Bygrave Wed 18th Nov at 7.30pm

Baldock Mon 23rd Nov at 7.45pm

Both of these will have to be on Zoom