



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



“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”

Second Sunday of Lent Worship on Sunday 28th February 2021

9am

Parish Communion in church

Share in the sacrament of communion. Wear a mask unless you are exempt. We are delighted to be able to offer physical worship together.

Why not share in Parish Communion in your own home?



To take part in Parish Communion online either at 9am on Sunday or at any time during the following week, click on this link:

https://youtu.be/N_c17lgx6z0

10.15am Zoom Morning Worship

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

Meeting ID: 858 6513 7528

Passcode: 827152

11.15am Parish Communion at Bygrave

Share in the sacrament of communion. Wear a mask unless you are exempt. We are delighted to be able to offer physical worship together.

6pm

Zoom Evening Prayer

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81188370718?pwd=MVVDelNMbEppRldBYnFpN0NwTlhhQT09>

Meeting ID: 811 8837 0718

Passcode: 188423

Question for the week:

How do you express your love for all humanity rather than just the people close to you?

Evening Prayer is Zoomed most days. You are warmly invited to join us!
(check Week at a Glance for times on specific days)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81188370718?pwd=MVVDeINMbEppRldBYnFpN0NwTlhhQT09>

Meeting ID: 811 8837 0718

Passcode: 188423

*Morning Prayer and some Evening Prayer will be said in church, usually at 8.40am.
You are also warmly invited to join in. See Week at a Glance for days and times*

The Church is open Monday – Saturday at roughly 9am - 3.30pm for private prayer.



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. And our children and young people meet most Sunday evening for a Zoom session. Get in touch for more details.

If you are aware of anyone who is unable to get food or medication etc, or people who are facing extra stress and anxiety or other problems and you cannot care for them yourselves, please get in touch. and please continue praying for each other and for the wounded world in which we live. If you are struggling yourself, please do not keep silent.

Prayers and readings for this Sunday

Hymn 379 Lead us heavenly Father

Lead us, heav'nly Father, lead us,
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing ev'ry blessing
if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us,
all our weakness thou dost know,
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert though didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heav'nly joy,
love with ev'ry passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy;
thus provided, pardened, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

The Collect

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Old Testament Reading Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. ¹⁵God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

Psalm 22: 23 – 28

NOT USED IN OUR WORSHIP

23 Praise the Lord, you that fear him; ♦
O seed of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, O seed of Israel.

24 For he has not despised nor abhorred the suffering of the poor;
neither has he hidden his face from them; ♦
but when they cried to him he heard them.

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation; ♦
I will perform my vows in the presence of those that fear you.

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied; ♦
those who seek the Lord shall praise him; their hearts shall live for ever.

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, ♦
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

28 For the kingdom is the Lord's ♦
and he rules over the nations.

The New Testament Reading Romans 4:13-end

¹³The promise that Abraham would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations'). Abraham believed in the presence of the God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations,' according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' ²³Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him,' were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in God who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The Gospel Mark 8:31-end

³¹Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' ³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

This week, please remember in your prayers these areas of our parish:
North Road, Royston Road, Bygrave Road, Larkins Close, Salisbury Road

Those in need of healing:

Paula Conder, Jeanette Jackson, Penny and Douglas Mitchell, Olive Elves, Peter Harris, Oliver Britton, Anne England, Martin Reed, Martyn Gray, Ron Crumpholt, Dick Haynes, Mary Muir, Alan Russell, Stefano Di Lello, Margaret Arthur, Tracy Copping, David Dane, Karen Kynman, Brenda Copsey.

Those whose anniversary of death is remembered this week

George Bramwell, Joan Lawton, Yvonne Jackson, Helen Bunch, Walter Pooley

Post Communion

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities
which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymn 32 **And can it be**

And can it be that I should gain
an int'rest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain?
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for
me?
*Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me*

'Tis myst'ry all! th'Immortal dies:
who can explore his strange design?
In vain the first-born seraph tries
to sound the depths of love divine!
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
let angel minds inquire no more.
*Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me*

He left His father's throne above
so free, so infinite his grace;
emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race;
'tis mercy all, immense and free;
for, O my God, it found out me.
*Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me*

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
fast bound in sin and nature's night;
thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with
light;
my chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth, and followed
Thee.
*Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me*

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,

bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ
my own.
[Refrain]

Real Easter Eggs (see attached info): If you want to buy a Real Easter Egg, an Easter Egg with a Christian meaning this year from the Meaningful Chocolate Company, order them by emailing baldockbenefice@gmail.com TODAY. Each fairtrade egg comes with an Easter Story activity booklet. **They will not be available in supermarkets this year.** You can choose between: The original £4.50; Dark Chocolate £5.50; Fun pack £5.00 (6 milk smaller eggs) Special edition £9.99 (luxury egg plus olive wood cross and orange milk chocolate bar)

Eco Tip for Lent 2: Do you have unwanted clothes or outgrown children's clothes hanging in your wardrobe? Why not pass them on to somebody who would benefit from them, or arrange a clothes swap party (swish) post-Covid. This will help support a sustainable circular economy.

World Day of Prayer 5 March 2021: Vanuatu. Title "Build on a Strong Foundation" based on Matthew 7:24-27 . Baldock usually hosts a service using the booklets produced by the host country's women, but this is not possible this year. If you wish to read the service there are some booklets you can collect from church or you may like to watch a recorded service from Vanuatu on YouTube (search World Day of Prayer). It's always interesting to see how other countries worship and see other parts of the world - did you know exactly where Vanuatu was?

Hidden Humour

A Tibetan monk sees the face of Jesus in a tub of margarine.

He raises his eyes to the heavens and exclaims "I can't believe it's not Buddha!"

Bird Spotting and Bird Feeder Competition: St Mary's Eco Church Group have set up a bird spotting and bird feeder competition for everybody to enter. More details will be circulated with this News Sheet and there is also a poster on the church notice board advertising it. This is the first of a series of initiatives to increase and improve our involvement with our beautiful, natural world, helping us to build towards a more sustainable future. Do spread the word and join in!

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Church email: baldockbenefice@gmail.com; **Website:** www.stmarysbaldock.org.uk

Andrew is leading a **Lent Group focusing on prayer**. This will run on Thursdays at 7.30pm on Zoom.

We will take a different question each week, relate it to the bible and our own experience and involve various different types of prayer over the course. Each week will stand alone, you can opt in and out as you wish. The attached flyer has more information but the themes still to come are:

1. Should I pray for things I want?
2. Is prayer hard work?
3. What does the Holy Spirit do?
4. The Lord's Prayer



To join us, the Zoom link is below:

Topic: Prayer - a conversation with God?

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85185425495?pwd=aUZwNXRLQjZMl16bGtZNXErdnFZdz09>

Meeting ID: 851 8542 5495 Passcode: 559388

Lent Books: There's still plenty of time to choose a Lent book from the list which has been previously circulated with the pewsheet.



Lent 2021 is a bit different from most years because many of us have commented that we feel as if most of the last year has been rather Lenten! It may be that you are not in the right place to give up hosts of things and to try to be very penitential at the moment? Because of this, my advice is to focus more of positively following Jesus and trying to

discern what he is calling to you to do rather than negatively giving something up.

Here are the three questions I invited you to think about. You may find it helpful to make them your own questions this Lent.

1. How do you delight in creation and what effect does it have on the decisions you make in life?
2. How do you express your love for all humanity rather than just the people close to you?
3. What can you point to that demonstrates your shared community, not just with other human beings but with God the creator and his sharing Son?

CCLI number: 752089

The new 2021 cycle of prayer is available. Lots of people use it and find it very helpful in their daily prayers.

Next week's readings: Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25, John 2:13-22

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

SUNDAY 28 th	<i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i>
	8.00am Morning Prayer in church
	9.00am Parish Communion in church (<i>See PI for streaming details</i>)
	10.15am Morning Worship on Zoom
	11.15am Parish Communion at Bygrave
	6.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom
Mon 1 st March	<i>David, bishop, patron of Wales, c601</i>
	8.40am Morning Prayer in church
	5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom
	7.00pm PCC Standing Committee
	8.00pm Monday Home Group on Zoom (contact Emma)
Tues 2 nd	<i>Chad, bishop, missionary, 672</i>
	8.40am Morning Prayer in church
	2.00pm Silent Prayer on Zoom (contact Katrina)
	5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom
Wed 3 rd	8.40am Morning Prayer in church
	9.30am Holy Communion
	5.00pm Evening Prayer in church and on Zoom
Thurs 4 th	8.40am Morning Prayer in church
	5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom
	7.30pm Lent Group on Prayer: <i>Should I pray for things I want? Praying together</i>
Sat 6 th	9.30am Morning Prayer in church
	5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom and in church
SUNDAY 7 th	<i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i>
	8.00am Morning Prayer in church
	9.00am Parish Communion in church (<i>See PI for streaming details</i>)
	10.15am Morning Worship on Zoom
	11.15am Messy church in hall
	6.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?

Forthcoming meetings:

Deanery Synod: Wed 10th March at 8pm on Zoom

Baldock PCC: Mon 15th March at 7.30pm on Zoom

Worship at Osbourne Court: Wed 18th at 11am on Zoom

Community Sponsorship Team meeting: Sun 21st Mar at 4.30pm on Zoom