



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



“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”

**Fourth Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday
Worship on Sunday 14th March 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?**



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/rhOmNo-JbsA>

10.15am

Zoom Morning Worship

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

Meeting ID: 858 6513 7528

Passcode: 827152

11.15am

Family Worship at Bygrave

Worship to include all ages including prayers, an interactive bible reading, videos and a part to feel part of a Christian community together.

6pm

Zoom Evening Prayer

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

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, usually at 8.40am, and some Evening Prayer will be said in church.
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 350 Jesus, good above all other

Jesus, good above all other,
gentle child of gentle mother,
in a stable born our brother,
give us grace to persevere.

Jesus, cradled in a manger,
for us facing ev'ry danger,
living as a homeless stranger,
make we thee our King most dear.

Jesus, for thy people dying,
risen Master, death defying,
Lord in heav'n thy grace supplying,
keep us to thy presence near.

Jesus, who our sorrows bearest,
all our thoughts and hopes thou sharest,
thou to us the truth declarest;
help us all thy truth to hear.

Lord, in all our doings guide us;
pride and hate shall ne'er divide us;
we'll go on with thee beside us,
and with joy we'll persevere.

The Collect

God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The Old Testament Reading Numbers 21:4-9

⁴The Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Psalm 107 1 – 3, 17 – 22

1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious, ♦
for his steadfast love endures for ever.

2 Let the redeemed of the Lord say this, ♦
those he redeemed from the hand of the enemy,

3 And gathered out of the lands from the east and from the west, ♦
from the north and from the south.

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| NOT USED IN OUR WORSHIP |
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17 Some were foolish and took a rebellious way, ♦
and were plagued because of their wrongdoing.

18 Their soul abhorred all manner of food ♦
and drew near to the gates of death.

19 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, ♦
and he delivered them from their distress.

20 He sent forth his word and healed them, ♦
and saved them from destruction.

21 *Let them give thanks to the Lord for his goodness ♦
and the wonders he does for his children.*

22 *Let them offer him sacrifices of thanksgiving ♦
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.*

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The New Testament Reading Ephesians 2:1-10

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved – ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – ⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The Gospel John 3: 14 – 21

Jesus said to Nicodemus: ¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do

evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed.
²¹ But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'

This week, please remember in your prayers these areas of our parish:
London Road, Anchor Road, Turpins Way, Byrd Walk, Pryor Road, Ivel Way.

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, Alan Russell, Stefano Di Lello, Margaret Arthur, Tracy Copping, David Dane, Karen Kynman.

Those who have died recently

Brenda Copsey

Those whose anniversary of death is remembered this week

Irene Newling, Walter Crossley, Ron Smith, Dan Ellis, Ann Garside-Neville, Derek Watson, George Harding, Ernest White, Alec Stevenson

Post Communion

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymn 195 The Servant King

From heav'n you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled;
not to be served but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

There in the garden of tears,
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn.
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.

This is our God, the Servant King...

Come see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space,
to cruel nails surrendered.

This is our God, the Servant King...

So let us learn how to serve,
and in our lives enthrone him;
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.

This is our God, the Servant King...

Forthcoming meetings:

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

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

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

Eco Tip Lent 4: On Mother's Day can you do something to honour your human mother that will also connect you with mother earth and the whole of God's creation? Think about sharing and being held together in God's love.

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!

Details of **Holy Week and Easter** worship will be publicised next week.

Hidden Humour

Q: How do you measure a snake?

A: In inches. They don't have any feet!

(I've got loads more like this. Would you like to hear them?)

Easter Praise!

Saturday 3 April 10am-5pm and Sunday 4 April 1-5pm

Not the Christmas Tree Festival but a community event run on similar lines to the very successful engagement with Baldock at Christmas!



Displays of anything to do with Easter – eggs, decorated trees/branches, a garden on a plate/seedtray, bonnets and bunnies, as we tell the Easter story in five focus points around the church and have live prayers, readings and music.



Timed entry and COVID safe - but your help is invaluable if we are to steward it safely. A doodle poll will be circulated shortly for you to fill in your availability.

Please do join in with this powerful witness by St Mary's bringing church and town together. Why not send in an entry too! - Please tell your friends and groups about it!

For more details or for an application form, please email

baldockeasterpraise@gmail.com

Many thanks from Katrina, Emma and Alex

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. Is prayer hard work?
2. What does the Holy Spirit do?
3. 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=aUZwNXRLQjZMlI6bGtZNXErdnFZdz09>

Meeting ID: 851 8542 5495 Passcode: 559388



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?

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

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Alex Milne – Hall Hire: baldockbenefice@gmail.com / 01462 896149

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Next week's readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 51:1-13 or Psalm 119:9-16, Hebrews 5:5-10, John 12:20-33

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

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| SUNDAY 14 th | <i>4th Sunday of Lent and Mothering Sunday</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 Family Worship at Bygrave |
| | 6.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom |
| Mon 15 th | 8.40am Morning Prayer in church |
| | 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom |
| | 7.30pm Baldock PCC meets on Zoom |
| | 8.00pm Monday Home Group on Zoom (contact Emma) |
| Tues 16 th | 8.40am Morning Prayer in church |
| | 2.00pm Silent Prayer on Zoom (contact Katrina) |
| | 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom |
| Wed 17 th | <i>Patrick, bishop, missionary, patron of Ireland, c.460</i> |
| | 8.40am Morning Prayer in church |
| | 9.30am Holy Communion |
| | 5.00pm Evening Prayer in church and on Zoom |
| Thurs 18 th | 8.40am Morning Prayer in church |
| | 11.00am Worship at Osbourne Court on Zoom |
| | 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom |
| | 7.30pm Lent Group on prayer on Zoom: <i>What does the Holy Spirit do?</i> |
| Fri 19 th | <i>Joseph of Nazareth</i> |
| Sat 20 th | <i>Cuthbert, bishop, missionary, 687</i> |
| | 9.30am Morning Prayer in church |
| | 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom and in church |
| SUNDAY 21 st | <i>5th 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 on Zoom |
| | 4.30pm Community Sponsorship Team meeting |
| | 6.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom |

God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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