



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



“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”

**Third Sunday of Lent
Worship on Sunday 7th 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/H6rKKKFGgWM>

10.15am Zoom Morning Worship

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

Meeting ID: 858 6513 7528

Passcode: 827152

11.15am Messy church in the hall



Craft and activities in bubbles, interspersed with worship, a bible story and all age prayers. We can't provide a meal but you're welcome to bring your own snacks or lunch. Please book in beforehand on 07836 749283 or email.

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 delight in creation and what effect does it have on the decisions you make in life?

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=MVVDelNMbEppRldBYnFpN0NwTlhhQT09>

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 45 As the deer pants

As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.

*You alone are my strength, my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.*

I want you more than gold or silver,
only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver
and the apple of my eye.

You alone are my strength, my shield ...

You're my friend and you are my brother,
even though you are a King.
I love you more than any other,
so much more than anything.

You alone are my strength, my shield...

The Collect

Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

NOT USED IN OUR WORSHIP

The Old Testament Reading Exodus 20:1-17

¹Then God spoke all these words: ²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labour and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work – you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

NOT USED IN OUR WORSHIP

Psalm 19

Refrain: The commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes.

1 The heavens are telling the glory of God ♦
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

2 One day pours out its song to another ♦
and one night unfolds knowledge to another.

3 They have neither speech nor language ♦
and their voices are not heard,

4 Yet their sound has gone out into all lands ♦
and their words to the ends of the world.

5 In them has he set a tabernacle for the sun, ♦
that comes forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber
and rejoices as a champion to run his course.

6 It goes forth from the end of the heavens
and runs to the very end again, ♦
and there is nothing hidden from its heat. **R**

7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; ♦
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

8 The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart; ♦
the commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; ♦
the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, ♦
sweeter also than honey, dripping from the honeycomb.

11 By them also is your servant taught ♦
and in keeping them there is great reward. **R**

12 Who can tell how often they offend? ♦
O cleanse me from my secret faults!

13 Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins
lest they get dominion over me; ♦
so shall I be undefiled, and innocent of great offence.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, ♦
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Refrain: The commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes.

Christ, the sun of righteousness,
rise in our hearts this day,
enfold us in the brightness of your love
and bear us at the last to heaven's horizon;
for your love's sake.

The New Testament Reading I Corinthians 1:18-25

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Gospel John 2:13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' ¹⁸The Jews

then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' ¹⁹Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' ²⁰They then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

This week, please remember in your prayers these areas of our parish:
South Road, Laxton Gardens, Walnut Avenue, South Close, Convent Gardens,
South Lodge Mews.

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

Martha Ferguson, Rene Barton, Peter Sanderson, Jack Leahy, Mary Walker, Dilys Pollard, Anne Nickels, Lionel Hughes, Ken Gascoine, Jean Elliston, Louise Brackley, Peggy Wilsher, Joyce Greatorex.

Post Communion

Merciful Lord,
grant your people grace to withstand the temptations
of the world, the flesh and the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Hymn 572 Praise to the holiest

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise;
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!
when all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight,
and to the rescue came.

O wisest love! that flesh and blood,
which did in Adam fail,
should strive afresh against the foe,
should strive and should prevail.

And that a higher gift than grace
should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence and his very self,
and essence all-divine.

And in the garden secretly,
and on the cross on high,
should teach his brethren, and inspire
to suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise;
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.

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: Thu 18th at 11am on Zoom

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

Eco Tip Lent 3: An easy way to reduce your plastic usage is to replace your normal shampoo and conditioners with solid shampoo and conditioning bars. No plastic packaging and easier to carry around when travelling!

The **Foodbank** would be very grateful to receive donations of Tinned potatoes, rice pudding, sponge pudding and dried milk.

Donations can be delivered to the church hall between 10am and 12noon on Tuesday or Friday mornings. Thank you.

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!

Hidden Humour

A man goes to the doctor and says, "Doctor, I don't know what to do. Every day my wife seems to lose her temper for no reason. It scares me."

The Doctor replies, "I have a cure for that. When it seems that your wife is getting angry, just take a glass of water and start swishing it in your mouth. Just swish and swish but don't swallow it until she either leaves the room or calms down."

Two weeks later he comes back to the doctor looking fresh and reborn and says "Doctor that was a brilliant idea! Every time my wife started losing it, I swished with water. I swished and swished, and she calmed right down! How does a glass of water do that?"

The Doctor replied: "The water itself does nothing. It's keeping your mouth shut that does the trick..."

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=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?

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WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

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
Mon 8 th	<i>Edward King, bishop, 1910</i>
	8.40am Morning Prayer in church
	5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom
	8.00pm Monday Home Group on Zoom (contact Emma)
Tues 9 th	8.40am Morning Prayer in church
	2.00pm Silent Prayer on Zoom (contact Katrina)
	5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom
Wed 10 th	8.40am Morning Prayer in church
	9.30am Holy Communion
	5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom and in church
	8.00pm Deanery Synod on Zoom
Thurs 11 th	8.40am Morning Prayer in church
	10.30am Thursday Home Group on Zoom – all welcome (contact Katrina)
	5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom
	7.30pm Lent Group on Prayer on Zoom: <i>Is prayer hard work?</i>
Sat 13 th	8.40am Morning Prayer in church
	5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom and in church
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

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

CCLI number: 752089

Next week's readings: Numbers 21:4-9, Psalm 107:1-3,17-22, Ephesians 2:1-10, John 3:14-21.