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

*“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”*

14th Sunday after Trinity

Worship on Sunday 5th September 2021

**Please wear a mask when you are moving around the church until you are sitting down. Please also wear it when you are singing.**

**8am****Communion (traditional words) in church**

*The return of the early morning communion service! The service will takes place at the High Altar.*

**9.30am****Parish Communion in church**

We hope you will join us. *We are able to sing!! Distancing in the church is removed but we have designated the south aisle for those who still need to be cautious.*

Those sitting in the nave, in front of the streaming camera, may be visible on the streaming service video. If you would rather not be captured on screen in this way, please speak to a sidesperson who will offer you a seat not visible to the camera. The camera does not capture anyone receiving communion.

**Share in Parish Communion in your own home**

Take part in Parish Communion online either at 9.30am on Sunday or any time during the following week, click on this link: <https://youtu.be/8GUkXenxvHY>

**12.00pm****Messy Church Picnic**

Meet outside the hall and bring your own picnic lunch and a rug (drinks will be provided).Craft, games and worship for all the family. We will have an ecological theme as we think about the part we can play to help our environment and enjoy being in our beautiful bee garden. No need to book – just come along and join in the fun and fellowship.

*Morning and Evening prayer are said nearly every day in church.
See Week at a Glance for details and times.*

*Evening Prayer is Zoomed on Monday, Thursday and Saturday (use the link below).*

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

Meeting ID: 811 8837 0718 Passcode: 188423

*You are warmly invited to join the group of people who find this a valuable anchor for the day.*

**Next Sunday’s worship (12th September)**

8am Communion (traditional words)

9.30am Parish Communion and baptism AND
THE RETURN OF JUNIOR CHURCH!

11.00am Parish communion at Bygrave

6pm Choral Evensong

**Prayers and readings for this Sunday**

**Hymns:**

131 Come ye faithful raise the anthem
Gradual: Psalm 146 (see page 3)
272 Heaven shall not wait
448 Meekness and majesty

**The Collect**

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen

**The Old Testament Isaiah 35: 4 – 7a**

4Say to those who are of a fearful heart, ‘Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.’ 5Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; 6then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; 7the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

**The New Testament James 2: 1 – 10, 14 – 17**

1My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? 2For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, 3and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, ‘Have a seat here, please,’ while to the one who is poor you say, ‘Stand there,’ or, ‘Sit at my feet,’ 4have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? 5Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? 6But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? 7Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

8You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ 9But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. 10For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

14What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? 15If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, 16and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,’ and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? 17So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

**Hymn based on Psalm 146**

Praise the God of our salvation,

all life long your voices raise,

stir your hearts to adoration,

set your souls to sing his praise!

Turn to him, his help entreating;

only in his mercy trust:

human pomp and power are fleeting;

mortal flesh is born for dust.

Thankful hearts his praise have sounded

down the ages long gone by:

happy they whose hopes are founded

in the God of earth and sky!

Faithful Lord of all things living,

by his bounty all are blest;

bread to hungry bodies giving,

justice to the long-oppressed.

For the strength of our salvation,

light and life and length of days,

praise the King of all creation,

set your souls to sing his praise!

**The Gospel Mark 7: 24 - 37**

24Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, 25but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. 26Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. 27He said to her, ‘Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.’ 28But she answered him, ‘Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.’ 29Then he said to her, ‘For saying that, you may go – the demon has left your daughter.’ 30So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

31Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. 32They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. 33He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. 34Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, ‘Ephphatha,’ that is, ‘Be opened.’ 35And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. 36Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. 37They were astounded beyond measure, saying, ‘He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.’

This week, please remember in your prayers these areas of our parish:

Aleyn Way, Constantine Place, Merchants Walk, Wallington Road

Those in need of healing:

Paula Conder, Penny and Douglas Mitchell, Peter Harris, Oliver Britton, Martin Reed, Dick Haynes, David Dane, Alan Russell, Martyn Gray, Margaret Arthur, Tracy Copping, Karen Kynman, Jean Schurch, Jeanette Jackson, Sheila Wadsworth, Shaun Trussell.

Those whose anniversary of death is remembered this week

Joan Camp, Ernest Bunch, Gladys Butcher, Dick Knightley.

**Choir Anthem**: **God be in my heart.** *The words are on the screen*

**Post Communion**

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

Church Appeal update

Very many thanks to everyone who has helped deliver leaflets. The results are really encouraging and we have already passed the £17,000 point.

We are beginning to make more definite plans for the mission next year. More details soon. Please keep praying for this exciting and important initiative. We are planning the mission around the theme of God’s creation and climate change.



**Bike ‘n Hike (or drive!) – Saturday 11th September**

The sponsored *Bike 'n Hike* is an annual fundraising event organised by the Beds and Herts Historic churches Trust. The aim is to raise money both for the Trust and for St Mary’s Church. It is now also possible to drive between churches so there is no excuse not to take part! Please let me know if you would like a sponsorship form and a list of participating churches (both of which can be found on their website: <http://www.b-n-h.co.uk/>) For more details, contact Alex Milne: baldockbenefice@gmail.com

Please note that, due to COVID, there are a number of restrictions in place. More details can be found on the website.

**Eco Tip Trinity 14:** Find out more eco information to make informed choices to change to a greener lifestyle e.g. look at the consumer magazine "Which"

<https://www.which.co.uk/news/tag/eco-friendly/>

The next **Faith Confirmed** Group will start on Wednesday 22nd September at 7.30pm. See the flyer to be circulated shortly for more information. If you would like to find out more about the Christian Faith or if you would like to be confirmed, this group is for you. Subtitled *‘101 questions about faith you always wanted to know but never dared ask’*. Speak to Andrew if you are interested.

**Admission to Communion:** We are running a small group for children in Year 5 or above to admit them to communion. It will run on three Sunday evenings starting on September 12th at 5pm. If you or your child would like to be part of this group and you have not already responded, please let Andrew know.

**Autumn concert** Baldock Methodist Church and Christian Initiatives in schools are hosting another concert to raise money for the CIS Schools worker. This was a really good night when it first happened a couple of pre-Covid years ago. Make a date now. **Friday 17th September 7.30pm at Baldock Methodist Church.**

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.

**Can you help with Junior Church?** Junior Church runs two or three times a month, and takes place during the 9.30am service, when primary school age children are invited to go to the hall for some age appropriate worship activities. In order to make this viable, we need some more volunteers to assist with Junior Church (two adults are required each time). Please let Sharon Wiltshire or Andrew know if you can help.



**The return of Tiny Tots!!**

Tiny Tots runs in church on Wednesdays at 10.30am. Do join us for Christian growth for pre-schoolers and companionship for adults!!

**Junior Choir**

Junior Choir is planned to start on September 8th.
Wednesday 4pm – 4.45pm.
Please speak to Madeleine Middleton for more details.

**Forthcoming meetings and events**

The next Community Sponsorship Team meeting is on Sunday 5th September at 5pm

The next Communion at Magdalene Court is on Monday 6th September at 10.30am

The next Baldock PCC standing Committee is on Wednesday 8th September at 7pm

The next PCC at Bygrave is on Tuesday 7th September at 7.30pm

The next Communion at Osbourne Court is on Thursday 9th September at 11am

The next Deanery Synod is on Thursday 9th September at 8pm

The next Choral Evensong is Sunday September 12th at 6pm

The next Friends of St Marys Committee meeting is on Saturday 18th Sept at 10.15am

The next Baldock PCC is on Monday 20th September at 7.30pm

*Remember our Climate Sunday Service on 1 August?*This was one of 1600 services of all denominations solely focussed on the Climate Crisis and the concern Christians have for urgent action to save *ALL* of creation.

[**https://www.climatesunday.org**](https://www.climatesunday.org/)have organised a National Climate Sunday Service on Sunday 5 Sept from 3.30pm from Glasgow cathedral (the city where COP26 is being held in November) to bring all our voices together. Do book through Eventbrite to join in and watch this event online:

[**https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nations-climate-sunday-service-churches-prepare-for-cop-26-tickets-165258230817**](https://shoutout.wix.com/so/89NjpRnNK/c?w=j2hAr5cPl7ozJN2Gxc18hzX-k5Oq2c7tCsAd7BOhp5Y.eyJ1IjoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZXZlbnRicml0ZS5jby51ay9lL25hdGlvbnMtY2xpbWF0ZS1zdW5kYXktc2VydmljZS1jaHVyY2hlcy1wcmVwYXJlLWZvci1jb3AtMjYtdGlja2V0cy0xNjUyNTgyMzA4MTciLCJyIjoiMmYwN2RjMGItOTMxYi00ZjQyLTFkYjktNjQxY2M3YjViNzBkIiwibSI6Im1haWwiLCJjIjoiMjEwNTBkYWQtOGQ4Ny00YTZmLWEyNzEtNTQxZjE5ODkyOGUwIn0)**.**

At **6pm,** next week, there is the return of **Choral Evensong.** Join us for beautiful, evocative worship at the end of the day.

**Hidden Humour**

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds.
After explaining the commandment to ‘Honour thy father and thy mother,’ she asked, ‘Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?’
Without missing a beat, one little boy answered, ‘Thou shall not kill..’

 *We have worked really hard to make worship in church as inclusive as possible and as vibrant as possible whilst keeping it as safe as possible. Here are some of the precautions we are taking:*

1. We are asking people to wear their masks until they reach their pews and when they are singing or moving around.
2. We are asking you not to use the south aisle as a thoroughfare unless you are sitting there.
3. We are still keeping a record of who attends for test and trace purposes.
4. We are inviting you to offer your collection when you come in (including contactless giving) rather than bringing the plate round during the offertory hymn
5. We are not asking you to do distance from each other but to be responsible and respectful of those who still wish to do so. We will continue to share the peace with waves rather than handshakes for the time being.
6. We are re-instating the children’s corner and it will be ok for children (and adults) to move around the church when they wish (avoiding the south aisle)
7. We are continuing to receive communion by walking to the Eucharistic minister and receiving a wafer dipped in the chalice (or just a wafer). People will also be able to receive a blessing when walking to the front as well. There will still be a general blessing afterwards for those watching on the streaming service. Those in the South aisle (who are socially distanced) and those behind the streaming camera near the font are encouraged to go the Eucharistic minister at the back of church.
8. We are serving refreshments after the service but encourage you to take your coffee outside or to a less crowded area.

Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.

Next week’s readings: Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 116:1-8; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-end

**CCLI number: 752089**

**Rector:** Rev’d Canon Andrew Holford: 01462 896273 2008luddite@gmail.com

**Lay Minister:** Katrina Nice: kmnice2013@gmail.com / 07708 064294

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

**Church email:**  baldockbenefice@gmail.com;

**Website:** [www.stmarysbaldock.org.uk](http://www.stmarysbaldock.org.uk)

**WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE**

SUNDAY 5th *14th Sunday after Trinity*

 7.20am Morning Prayer in church

 8.00am Holy Communion

 9.30am Parish Communion

 12.00pm Messy church picnic

 3.00pm Baptism of Ralph Kilcullen

 5.00pm Community Sponsorship Team meeting

 6.00pm Evening Prayer in Baldock

Mon 6th 8.40am Morning Prayer in church

 10.30am Communion at Magdalen Court

5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

8.00pm Meeting about Messy Church

 8.00pm Monday Home Group (contact Emma)

Tues 7th 8.40am Morning Prayer in church

 2.00pm Silent Prayer on Zoom (contact Katrina)
5.00pm Evening Prayer in church

 7.30pm Bygrave PCC

 7.30pm Mark Bailey licensed as rector of Cottered, Ardeley, Throcking, Benington and Walkern

Wed 8th *Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

8.40am Morning Prayer in church

 9.30am Holy Communion

 10.30am Tiny Tots

 4.00pm Junior Choir

5.00pm Evening Prayer in church

7.00pm PCC standing committee

Thurs 9th 8.40am Morning Prayer in church
11.00am Communion at Osbourne Court

 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

 8.00pm Deanery Synod

Fri 10th 8.40am Morning Prayer in church

5.00pm Evening Prayer in church

Sat 11th 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

SUNDAY 12th 7.20am Morning Prayer in church *15th Sunday after Trinity*

 8.00am Holy Communion

 9.30am Parish Communion and Junior Choir and

Baptism of Gareth Lees

 11.00am Parish Communion at Bygrave

 3.00pm Baptism of Ryan Challis

 5.00pm Admission to Communion meeting

 6.00pm Choral Evensong at Baldock