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

*“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”*

Last Sunday after Trinity

Worship on Sunday 24th October 2021

**FACE MASKS ARE OPTIONAL BUT PLEASE BE SENSITIVE TO OTHER PEOPLE NEAR YOU WHO MAY WISH TO DISTANCE.**

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

*A simple peaceful start to the day! The service will takes place at the High Altar.*

**9.30am****Parish Communion and Junior Church with baptism and Admission to Communion**

 Join us as Harriet Wiltshire and Dylan Christie are baptised and Dylan is admitted to communion.
 *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/8Fv2N1avljM>

**11.00am****Parish Communion at Bygrave**

Join us for a joyful service in a village setting.

SADLY CHORAL EVENSONG HAS BEEN CANCELLED THIS EVENING.

*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, Wednesday and Thursday (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.*

**The clocks change next week.
Come to church an hour later!!**

**Next Sunday’s worship (31st October)**

7.20am Morning Prayer in church

8.00am Holy Communion (traditional words)

9.30am Parish Communion with Junior Church

6.00pm Evening Prayer in church

**Prayers and readings for this Sunday**

**Hymns:**

19 All my hope on God is founded
181 For I’m building a people of power (Music Group)
1 Abba Father (Music Group)
625 Take my life and let it be
666 The Spirit lives to set us free (Music Group)

**The Collect**

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast
the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

**The Old Testament reading: Jeremiah 31: 7–9 (8am and Bygrave only)**

**7**For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, ‘Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel.’ **8**See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labour, together; a great company, they shall return here. **9**With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

**The Gospel: Mark 10: 46 - end**

**46**As Jesus and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. **47**When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, ‘Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!’ **48**Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, ‘Son of David, have mercy on me!’ **49**Jesus stood still and said, ‘Call him here.’ And they called the blind man, saying to him, ‘Take heart; get up, he is calling you.’ **50**So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. **51**Then Jesus said to him, ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ The blind man said to him, ‘My teacher, let me see again.’ **52**Jesus said to him, ‘Go; your faith has made you well.’ Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

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

Brewery Lane, Pond Lane, Church Street, Hitchin Street, The Gardens, Butterfield Court

Those in need of healing:

Paula Conder, Penny and Douglas Mitchell, Peter Harris, Oliver Britton, Martin Reed, David Dane, Alan Russell, Martyn Gray, Tracy Copping, Karen Kynman,

Jeanette Jackson, Sheila Wadsworth, Shaun Trussell.

Those who have died recently:
Sheila Quinn, Jean Schurch

Those whose anniversary of death is remembered this week

John Rogers, Betty Morgan

**Choir Anthem The Lord bless you and keep you**

**Post Communion**

God of all grace,
your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry
with the bread of his life
and the word of his kingdom:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your true and living bread;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen

**Planned Giving renewal 2021**

*Next week we launch our annual review of giving. We were blessed last year with a remarkable and very generous increase in giving which combined with some wonderful one-off donations saved us from being in a very dangerous financial situation.* We are profoundly grateful and humbled by a congregation of people who allow God to influence the generous decisions they make. *This year we are in a much stronger position but still looking at a* **deficit of £12 000** *mainly because of the effects of Covid continuing. We will also be faced with a hike in fuel prices in the near future.* **Can we ask you to read the letter you will receive and consider what God is calling you to do?**

**Remembering those we love who have died**

*All Souls’ Day is on Tuesday 2nd November. We have a sung requiem communion service* **now at 8.00pm**. Many of you know this is the service where we light candles as we come up to communion as a way or emphasizing that we are sharing in a heavenly banquet with all those already in the fullness of the Kingdom of God.

*We have our annual service* **In Loving memory…** *on Sunday 21st November at 3pm.* This is the service where we invite anyone who is bereaved to come and remember. We rededicate the book of remembrance and offer Christian hope that death is not the end but only the beginning.

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.

**Christian Aid have started a really good monthly zoom meeting** which gives lots of information about what's going on in the sorts of areas which St Mary's are involved in.  If you'd like to take part or want more details see the email coming round separately.

**Friends of St Mary’s ‘Thank You’ Reception:** A very big ‘Thank you’ to everyone for the wonderful support we received for our recent campaign to raise funds for essential repairs to the central aisle roof. Your generosity and positive response has led to contributions of £18,250 towards this stage of the restoration project. This is an exceptional result and is thanks to all the individuals, groups and organisations who made their contributions.

**The Friends of St Mary’s  are pleased to invite everyone to join them in a celebratory event to be held in St Mary’s Church on Friday 3 December from 6pm to 8pm.** This will be an informal social evening offering a special preview of the Christmas Tree Festival before its official opening the following day. Entry will be free, with complementary canapés and mince pies and a selection of drinks available from a pay bar. We look forward to seeing you then to join the celebration !
The Friends of St Mary’s Committee

**Eco Tip Trinity 21:** We are in a real Climate Emergency.  Could you raise awareness and take part at 6pm on Saturday 30 October on the eve of COP26 in Clang for the Climate? Please tell your neighbours why you are making this noise!! Churches have also been asked to ring their bells! <https://clangforclimate.org/>

**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 runs each Wednesday 4pm – 4.45pm.
Please speak to Madeleine Middleton for more details.

**Letchworth Christian Bookshop** are struggling to stay afloat financially.  Their weekly takings have halved since March 2020.  They are a really good Christian witness and resource for the local area and as a Church we try to purchase as much as we can from them.  They provide a brilliant service.  It would be a tragedy if they had to close.

There are two ways you can help:

1. Use them as much as possible in the knowledge that you are helping to keep a Christian presence on the High Street
2. Become a volunteer helper for a few hours each week.  Pop into the shop and make yourself known if you would like to do this.

**Hidden Humour**

**Don’t stress about your eyesight failing as you get older...**

It’s nature’s way of protecting you from shock as you walk past the mirror.



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.



**Messy Church is now serving food** starting at the new time of **11:45am**, meeting in the hall. Please book places via our new email address: messychurchbaldock@gmail.com to help us cater. Messy Church is about having fun with the whole family! There will be crafts, activities and games and the whole thing will involve worship for the whole family. No Charge—donations welcome.

**The next date is Sunday November 7th at 11.45am**

**Operation Christmas child shoeboxes:** Boxes and leaflets on what to put in them are available at the back of church (or you can provide your own shoebox).  This is a wonderful way to prepare for Christmas by giving a present to a child you will never meet who will get very little in the way of Christmas blessings otherwise.  It has a tremendous feel-good factor!  The leaflet provides full details and enables you to barcode your box so that you know to what town and what country your shoebox will have travelled. **We need the boxes back by Sunday 14th November at the latest.**

**Advent Calendars:** Real Advent calendars with the Christmas story on the front instead of a mythical cartoon character.  £4.50 each.  Fairtrade chocolate and price includes a donation to charity.  Also includes a little booklet with the whole of the Christmas story to tell your children.  Make sure it means something!  Get yours today from church!

Invitation to Harvest Supper Hog Roast

Friday 12th November from 6-9pm

St Margaret’s Bygrave are holding a hog roast for their Harvest Festival on Friday 12th November from 6 – 9pm in the farmyard at Bygrave, raising money for Herts Young Homeless. Tractor and trailer rides and cake stall etc Adults £10, children £5. Enquiries to Lorraine Northern, 07973 342616 or sign the list in Baldock church (or ask Andrew for more details which are also available on the flyer.)

**Music Therapy**

If you are interested in Music Therapy for people with dementia and their carers please see the poster in church. The sessions are starting at the Howard memorial hall in Letchworth on Mondays at 1.40pm.

The next service at Magdalene Court is on Monday 1st November at 10.30am

The next **PCC standing committee** is on Monday 1st November at 7pm

The next Friends of St Mary’s Committee is on Saturday 6th November at 10.15am

The next Community Sponsorship Team meeting will be on Sunday 14th November at 5pm in the church hall

**Christmas Tree Festival (Sat 4th Dec – Sun 5th Dec)**

Christmas Tree Festival: forms are available at the back of church. Please take one if you would like to enter a tree or crib.

Sparkling wine / champagne: do you have a bottle of sparkling wine or champagne you could donate for the raffle prizes?

Rotas: are out at the back of church. We really need your help to make the weekend a success which means as many hands as possible during the weekend. If you can spare an hour or two, please sign the rota.

The Hampers list is also at the back of church. If you can donate something festive for one of the hampers, **or an actual hamper,** please sign your name next to the item, ensuring that you deliver it by the last Sunday in November.

Raffle tickets: Available soon - please take some and sell them to your friends and family. We are sourcing some great prizes!

Tower Trips: If you can help with a shift on the tower during the Christmas Tree Festival (Saturday 4th Dec only), please get in touch with Paul MacArthur at stmarystowertrips@gmail.com He needs lots of volunteers in order to make it viable to open the tower that day. Please help if you can

**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)

**CCLI number: 752089**

**WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE**

SUNDAY 24th *Last Sunday after Trinity*

7.20am Morning Prayer in church

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion with Junior Church
and Baptism of Harriet Wiltshire and Dylan Christie and admission to communion of Dylan

11.00am Parish Communion at Bygrave

3.00pm Baptism of Rosie and Summa Dowle

6.00pm Evening Prayer in church (*Choral Evensong is cancelled this week)*

Mon 25th8.40am Morning Prayer in church

5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

8.00pm Monday Home Group on Zoom (contact Emma)

Tues 26th *Alfred, king, scholar, 899*

8.40am Morning Prayer in church

11.30am Funeral in church of Sheila Quinn RIP

 2.00pm Silent Prayer on Zoom (contact Katrina)

 5.00pm Evening Prayer in church

Wed 27th 8.40am Morning Prayer in church

9.30am Holy Communion

 10.30am Tiny Tots

 4.00pm Junior choir

 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom and in church

 7.30pm Faith Confirmed at Rectory

Thurs 28th 8.40am Morning Prayer in church
10.30am Thursday Home Group (contact Katrina)

 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

 6.45pm Senior choir

Sat 30th 9.30am Morning Prayer in church

 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

SUNDAY 31st *All Saints’ Day* CLOCKS CHANGE TODAY

7.20am Morning Prayer in church

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion and Junior Church 6.00pm Evening Prayer in church

Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!

Next week’s readings: Wisdom 3:1-9, Isaiah 25:6-9, Psalm 24:1-6, Revelation 21:1-6a, John 11:32-44