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

*“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”*

Second Sunday before Lent

Worship on Sunday 20th February 2022

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

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

**9.30am****Communion for All Ages**

We welcome Rev'd Elizabeth Bunker this morning to share leading our Communion service with Andrew as he continues to recover from his elbow surgery.

There will be lots of interaction for All Ages as we hear about Jesus stilling the storm and realise who really is master over creation!

*We have designated the south aisle for those who wish to be cautious.*

If you do not wish to be visible on the streaming service please sit in the north aisle of the church nearest the organ.
The camera does not capture anyone receiving communion.

**Share in Communion for All Ages in your own home**

Take part online either at 9.30am on Sunday or any time during the following week, click on this link: <https://youtu.be/OW5qrbzksuI>

*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 the days in Week at a Glance (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.*

Face coverings are no longer required by law. The government suggests that you should still continue to wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces where you may come into contact with other people you do not normally meet.

**Next Sunday’s worship** 27th February 2022

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion

6.00pm Evening Prayer

**Prayers and readings for this Sunday**

**Hymns:**

6 (vv.1-4,7) All creatures of our God and King

Psalm 42

915 Who put the colours in the rainbow?

428 Love divine, all loves excelling

Anthem: 'Be still, my soul' (Jean Sibelius) - Hymn 68 (Be still, my soul)

753 Will your anchor hold

**The Collect**

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**Psalm 42**

6    Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul,

and why are you so disquieted within me?

7  O put your trust in God;

for I will yet give him thanks,

    who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

9    Deep calls to deep in the thunder of your waterfalls;

all your breakers and waves have gone over me.

**The Old Testament Reading Genesis 2: 4b - 9, 15 – end**

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, **5**when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up - for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; **6**but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground - **7**then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. **8**And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. **9**Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. **15**The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. **16**And the Lord God commanded the man, ‘You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; **17**but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.’ **18**Then the Lord God said, ‘It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.’ **19**So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. **20**The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. **21**So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. **22**And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. **23**Then the man said, ‘This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.’ **24**Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. **25**And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

**The Gospel Luke 8: 22 – 25**

**22**One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, ‘Let us go across to the other side of the lake.’ So they put out, **23**and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. **24**They went to him and woke him up, shouting, ‘Master, Master, we are perishing!’ And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. **25**He said to them, ‘Where is your faith?’ They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, ‘Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?’

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

Park Street, Drapers Court, 7 Roes Malting, Saddlers Close, Gentle Court.

Those in need of healing:

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

Jeanette Jackson, Sheila Wadsworth, Timothy Growns, Stuart Hodges, Peter Goodchild, Christine Roderick.

Those whose anniversary of death is remembered this week

Herbert (HJ) Gray, Nan Commons, Ernest Nicols, Norma Munson, Fred Coates,

Tina Nash, Ken King, Peter Lilley, William Palmer (Priest), Frederick Arbury

**Choir Anthem:** 'Be still, my soul' (Jean Sibelius) – words can be found in the orange hymn book – hymn 68

**Post Communion**

God our creator,
by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your table on earth
be transformed by the glory of the Saviour’s cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**World Day of Prayer**

Friday 4 March 2pm service at the URC Baldock: prepared this year by Christian women of England , Wales and Northern Ireland with the theme: "I know the plans I have for you". This service is led by people from different churches in Baldock and is a lovely ecumenical event. I am unable to take part this year but the coordinators would really value someone from St Mary's or St Margaret's church to be there- please contact me if you are interested. Thank you ! Katrina 07708 64294

**Lent**

Please can you let us have any palm crosses to turn to make ash for Lent by next Saturday.

Lent details available next week!

Ash Wednesday services (with imposition of ashes)

9.30am at Baldock

7.30pm at Bygrave (with hymns)

**Friends of St Mary’s Quiz Night – Friday 4th March at 7pm in the church hall.**

Come and test your general knowledge at a quiz night. Either bring a team of 4 – 6 people or book as an individual and you can make up a team on the night (we can help you with this!) Eat beforehand but there will be nibbles on the tables. Pay bar and raffle. All proceeds will go to the church restoration fund.

Cost is £5 per person. To book your tickets (team of 4 or 6 or an individual ticket), go to [www.ticketsource.co.uk/fosm](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/fosm)

For more information, contact fosmbaldock@gmail.com

**Thank You!**

I would like to thank everyone at St Mary’s, Baldock  and St Margaret of Antioch, Bygrave for the wonderful send-off, the lovely cards, picture, champagne, silver necklace, John Lewis vouchers and bay tree plant - your generosity is overwhelming, thank you all so much.

I shall enjoy choosing what to spend the vouchers on whilst sipping the champagne!

I have had compliments already about the silver cross necklace with the sparkly gem, I shall be hanging the picture (an outdoor activity and mountain scene with verses from the Psalms) above my desk in Wales, and I have always wanted a bay tree outside my front door.

As I mentioned on Sunday, it will still be a while before we leave for Barmouth - the place where the mountains meet the sea- so it’s not goodbye quite yet, but thank you, from the bottom of my heart, and, when I do actually leave, I will miss you all but will have a lot of precious memories to take with me.

God bless, Sharon

**Fellowship Lunch – Sun 27th Feb at 12pm**

Come and join us for a roast with all the trimmings. No charge, but donations welcome. If you can let us know if you plan to come so we have an idea of numbers but you can also just turn up on the day and join in the fun. Everybody welcome – don’t eat lunch alone, come and share it with friends.

**Easter eggs:** It may seem a long way ahead but please remember that Easter Eggs are a sign of resurrection and new life. If you are buying one, please get a ‘Real Easter Egg’ which celebrates the Christian story. They are fair trade, include a donation to charity and include the Christian story. These eggs are not available from Tesco, so please do order through us. There is an order form at the back of church or email baldockbenefice@gmail.com with your preference and we will give you the church bank details with a reference. Don’t waste the opportunity! Order by 1st March.

**Electoral Roll**

The church electoral roll is being revised in preparation for the annual meeting in April. If you are already on the roll, there is no need to reapply. However, if you are not on the roll and would like to be, providing you are over 16 and baptised, and either live in the parish or have been a regular attender at this church for at least six months, then you may apply. Application forms are in church or can be found at the below link. Completed forms can be put into the black post box outside the church hall.

<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/diocese/apcm-er/>

**Forthcoming Friends of St Mary’s events:**

**Organ and Friends** - see notice on page 6 of the News Sheet for details.

**Quiz Night** - Fri 4th March at 7pm in the church hall. £5 per person. Pay bar and raffle.

**An Evening with Flanders & Swann** (as interpreted by Peter Chapman and Mike O'Neill) - Fri 6th May at 7.30pm. £10 per person in advance / £12 on the door.

**Hymns & Desserts**, hosted by Pam Rhodes from BBC Television’s ‘Songs of Praise’ - Sunday 8th May at 6pm. £6 including a choice of puddings.

**Jubilee Wine Tasting** - Sat 4th June at 7.45pm in the church hall. £12 per person.

For more information on the above events, please contact fosmbaldock@gmail.com

**Eco Tip 2nd before Lent:** Whilst it's dark outside keep your curtains closed. This has two benefits:

1. It increases the insulation round your windows, reducing heat-loss and therefore energy bills, essential if you don’t yet have double-glazing.
2. It reduces light pollution outside your home, making your garden/street more wild-life friendly.

**Re-usable cups help spread the load!** It is brilliant from an Eco friendly point of view that St Mary's uses china cups and mugs for coffee after services and Tiny Tots but if you are getting back into the habit of regularly use a re-usable cup elsewhere, please think about bringing it to church too - it will make a big difference to the washing up volunteers! Many thanks. Katrina

**Hidden Humour**

Some men were discussing the Bible. They were wondering how many apples Adam and Eve ate in the Garden of Eden.
**First man:** I think there was only one apple in the Garden.
**Second man:** I think there were ten apples. Adam 8 and Eve ate 2.
**Third man:** I think there were sixteen apples. Eve 8 and Adam 8 also.
**Fourth man:** I think all three of you are wrong. If Eve 8 and Adam 82, that would be a total of 90 apples.
**Fifth man:** You guys don't know how to add at all. According to history, Eve 81 and Adam 82. That would be a total of 163 apples.
**Sixth man:** Wait a minute! If Eve 81 and Adam 812, that would make a total of 893 apples.
**Seventh man:** None of you guys understand the problem in the slightest. According to my figuring, if Eve 814 Adam and Adam 8124 Eve, that would be a total of 8,938 apples in the garden.
At that point all of the men gave up.

**MISSION 2022 - FAITH AND CLIMATE**

Around the Baldock Festival this year we hope each one of us will invite a friend or neighbour or a member of our family to an evening where we will hear how people’s Christian faith has influenced their views and the way they live their life combatting climate change. Who are you hoping to invite? Please start praying now!

Each evening will include a short talk, some questions and answers and some fringe events, to do with living sustainably. We hope to be providing light refreshments.

In the new year we will be inviting you to prepare by considering four questions:

1. How did you become a Christian?
2. Does the bible have anything to say about climate change?
3. What would you say if a friend asked you how your faith affects your views about climate change?
4. Who are you going to invite to the evenings?

So far we have three evenings planned:

* Phil Evans will be coming on Tuesday 26th April to speak about the vital work Christian Aid is doing to combat climate change and why he is part of it.
* John Cherry, local Christian farmer is coming on Wednesday 11th May to speak about the major festival he runs each year in Weston, called Groundswell which focusses on sustainable farming.
* On Ascension Day (Thursday May 26th) as part of our Communion Service we will be thinking about different views of what the bible says about Climate Change and God’s involvement with his wounded world. This is also Andrew’s 60th birthday so he hopes you will come and celebrate with him as well (possibly with something fizzy!)

What to do now:

* Pray about who you might invite to an evening
* Think about your answers to the questions above

The earth is the Lord’s and all that fills it.

*Psalm 24 verse 1*

**WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE**

SUNDAY 20th *2nd Sunday before Lent*

 8.00am Holy Communion

 9.30am Parish Communion

 3.00pm Baptism of Hudson Ushewokunze

 6.00pm Evening Prayer in church

Mon 21st 8.40am Morning Prayer in church

5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

 8.00pm Monday Home Group on Zoom (contact Emma)

Tues 22nd 2.00pm Silent Prayer on Zoom (contact Katrina)

Wed 23rd *Polycarp, bishop, martyr, c.155*

9.30am Holy Communion10.30am Tiny Tots

4.00pm Junior Choir
4.45pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

 6.30pm Evening Prayer in church

Thurs 24th 8.40am Morning Prayer in church

 6.45pm Senior choir

Sat 26th 9.30am Morning Prayer in church

SUNDAY 27th *Sunday next before Lent*

 8.00am Holy Communion

 9.30am Parish Communion

3.00pm Baptism of Belle Wheatley

 6.00pm Evening Prayer in church

**8**And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

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

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

**Hall Hire:** baldockchurchhall@gmail.com

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

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

Next week’s readings: Exodus 34:29-end, Psalm 99, 2 Corinthians 3:12 – 4.2, Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

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