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

*“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”*

Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Worship on Sunday 24th July 2022

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

*A simple peaceful start to the day. The service will take place at the High Altar. Reverend* *Robert Evens will be leading and preaching today.*

**9.30am****Parish Communion**

Part of our Gospel reading today reminds us that it was Jesus who taught his disciples the Lord's Prayer: the prayer all Christian services use more than any other. We are delighted to welcome Reverend Robert Evens who will be leading and preaching at this service.

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 Parish Communion 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/F3ogJGJadAs>

**11am****Parish Communion at Bygrave**

Reverend Robert Evens will be leading and preaching today.

*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.*

**Next Sunday’s worship** 31st July 2022

8.00am Communion

9.30am Parish Communion

**Prayers and readings for this Sunday**

**Hymns:**

690 - Thy kingdom come!

1 - Abba, Father, let me be

165 - Father of heaven, whose love profound

Choir Anthem - Hymn 544, Our Father (Caribbean)

379 - Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

**The Collect**

Creator God,

you made us all in your image:

may we discern you in all that we see,

and serve you in all that we do;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**The Old Testament Reading Genesis 18: 20 – 32**

**20**Then the Lord said, ‘How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! **21**I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know.’ **22**So the men turned from there, and went towards Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. **23**Then Abraham came near and said, ‘Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? **24**Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? **25**Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?’ **26**And the Lord said, ‘If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.’ **27**Abraham answered, ‘Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. **28**Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?’ And he said, ‘I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.’ **29**Again he spoke to him, ‘Suppose forty are found there.’ He answered, ‘For the sake of forty I will not do it.’ **30**Then he said, ‘Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.’ He answered, ‘I will not do it, if I find thirty there.’ **31**He said, ‘Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.’ He answered, ‘For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.’ **32**Then he said, ‘Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.’ He answered, ‘For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.’

**The Choir will sing between the readings:**

Word of God, burn within us, be a lamp unto our feet.

Test our hearts and our spirits, true disciples let us be.

**The New Testament Reading Colossians 2: 6 – 15**

**6**As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, **7**rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. **8**See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. **9**For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, **10**and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. **11**In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; **12**when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. **13**And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, **14**erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. **15**He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

**The Gospel Luke 11:1-13**

1Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.’ 2He said to them, ‘When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. 3Give us each day our daily bread. 4And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.’ 5And he said to them, ‘Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, “Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; 6for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.” 7And he answers from within, “Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.” 8I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. 9So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. 10For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. 11Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? 12Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? 13If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!’

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, Martyn Gray, Tracy Copping, Karen Kynman, Shaun Trussell, Andy Ball,

Jeanette Jackson, Stuart Hodges, Nicky Bull, Daniel Muir, Laurie Browne.

Those who have died recently:

 Pearl Dawkins

Those whose anniversary of death is remembered this week

Margaret Woods, Edith Holehouse

**Choir Anthem - Hymn 544, Our Father**

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

hallowed be thy name. (x2)

On earth as it is in heaven.

hallowed be thy name.

Give us this day our daily bread,

hallowed be thy name. (x2)

Forgive us our trespasses,

hallowed be thy name.

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

hallowed be thy name. (x2)

Lead us not into temptation,

hallowed be thy name.

but deliver us from all that is evil.

hallowed be thy name. (x2)

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,

hallowed be thy name.

for ever, and for ever and ever.

hallowed be thy name. (x2)

Amen, amen, it shall be so.

hallowed be thy name.

Amen, amen, it shall be so.

hallowed be thy name. (x2)

**Post Communion**

God of our pilgrimage,

you have led us to the living water:

refresh and sustain us

as we go forward on our journey,

in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**Message from Andrew and Helen**

We were absolutely blown away by the generosity and love from so many people at our final service on June 26th and on the days either side of it. I think the trade in greetings cards would have enabled a start-up grant for a new card shop in Baldock (not to mention a flower shop, a book shop and an off-licence!) Thank you also for your most generous collections from both Baldock and separately from Bygrave. In our new house in Sandy we have just finished knocking through the kitchen and the room next door to make a kitchen-diner and we want to find a kitchen farmhouse style table to fill it. We’ll be able to buy a splendid one so hope you will come and help us eat off it. And in between we can think of you whilst eating our cornflakes! We also have a garden which is sorely in need of some TLC so we will also be able to buy a battery operated lawn mower with the money. Thank you so much.

As I hope you know our 18 years in the parishes have been incredibly important for us. When I look at the churches, as I implied in my final sermon, I can see lots and lots of examples of a Christian community living love in action. Thank you for being who you are, and being prepared to wrestle with how to live a coherent Christian life in 2022 in an imperfect and compromised world. We will continue to pray for you as we know you do for us, and we hope that it is not ‘Good-Bye’, but ‘Till we meet again’! Please do keep in touch. And don’t look back too much. You’ll plough a crooked furrow. Look to the future in hope and trust!

We move into our new house on Monday July 25th. Our new address is:
33 Bedford Road, Sandy, SG19 1EP

Our new phone number is: 01767 449873

Mobile numbers stay the same
Andrew 07519 125875
Helen 07896 805009

Every blessing and much love,

Andrew and Helen

**Eco Tip Trinity 6:** Please don't be tempted to replace natural grass with artificial - it is a death-knell for biodiversity and another step away from our connection with the natural world leading to damaging humanity's future even more on this fragile planet. We're trying to cut down on plastic use!



## Can you help rehabilitated hedgehogs? Woody’s Wildlife Rescue Centre in Stotfold is our nearest hedgehog rehabilitation centre.  It is bursting at the seams with hedgehogs – often autumn juveniles who arrived late last year; these hedgehogs need to be released to make room for the influx of spring hoglets which need help. Suitable release sites are needed to help these longer term residents get back to the wild/ semi wild. If you have a garden you might be able to help!

We are looking for volunteers in each of these categories please:

(1) Provide a release site (i.e. garden has ways in and out for them) & leave out food/ water for 2 weeks

(2) Provide a walled garden or enclosure with a run for hedgehogswho were born in the rescue centre or came in as small babies; these have never felt grass beneath their feet and need more support whilst they learn to be a hedgehog. They would need food/ water for 4 weeks then we would re-locate and follow (1)

(3) Provide a permanent home with food/water in a walled garden for a hedgehog (a big character!) who has a skew-whiff leg!

Hedgehogs eat dry or wet cat food and ideally they need a shelter (can be improvised, built or bought).

If you think you can help, please contact me to discuss.  I would also need a quick look at your garden in order to proceed and would be pleased to answer any questions you may have. Kathryn Mackenzie (volunteer at Woody’s)

Kathryn.mackenzie1@outlook.com

**Sunday 4 September 12-2pm Family's Hands-On Eco Event**

with David Chandler from A Rocha, the environmental Christian Charity who run the Eco Church scheme of which we are part (and going for our silver award). Come along for food and Eco fun as we all discover how important it is to care for all of God's creation as we seek to combat Climate Change.

**Free Piano Recital – Sunday 7th August at 11.15am**

Join us for an informal piano recital after Parish Communion on the above date. Jill Crossland will be performing pieces from Bach, Scarlatti and Brahms on the grand piano. Jill will be performing at St Mary’s Church in the autumn, so do join us for the short taster! Admission is free but a retiring collection will go to the restoration work of the church. To find out more about Jill, follow this link: [www.jillcrossland.org](http://www.jillcrossland.org)

**Hidden Humour**



**Volunteers needed to assist with duties on Sundays**
Since Andrew and Helen have departed the fold, and Emma and Sharon have also left our band of volunteers, we find ourselves struggling to fill positions each Sunday that are needed for the service to function.  Whilst we are incredibly grateful to our volunteers who willingly assist during Sunday services, there are times when we are stretched to the limit, notably during holiday times and particularly during this interregnum period.  Each Sunday we require between up to 19 volunteers to help with church duties and we currently only have 35 named volunteers that we can call on.  You will see from these numbers that it means several volunteers are doubling up many times over, often requiring them to be in church nearly every Sunday just to do duties, meaning some are then unable to participate fully in the service.  If we worked on the principle of a volunteer doing only one Sunday duty a month as a commitment, we would be looking for something in the order of a total of 72 volunteers to cover a four-week month (90 volunteers during the month of July), a target which is unrealistic to meet. Therefore we are very keen to see if more volunteers could come forward - perhaps to do a reading or to help the two sidespeople, to serve coffee/tea, and for those with a technical interest to assist with streaming or to work the powerpoint during the service, or indeed help with after-service clearing up…. Please let David or Alex know if you can help in any way or would like to find out more about the roles. Thank you in advance!

**The next phase of restoration has started!** The scaffolding is up around the East end of the church, a temporary roof structure over the chancel and more scaffolding round the side of the South aisle porch to allow essential masonry repair to the turret adjacent to the porch. We hope to have a fully watertight church by the time the scaffolding is removed which is expected to be the end of October. We are fortunate in that there is likely to be little disruption to worship and other activities going on in the church or the churchyard. The work is expected to cost about £230,000 plus VAT so thank you to everyone who has been so generous to enable it to happen.

**WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE**

SUNDAY 24th 6th *Sunday after Trinity*

 8.00am Holy Communion (Reverend Robert Evens)

 9.30am Parish Communion (Reverend Robert Evens)

 11.00am Parish Communion at Bygrave (Reverend Robert Evens)

Mon 25th *James the Apostle*

Tues 26th *Anne and Joachim, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Wed 27th 9.30am Holy Communion (Reverend Elizabeth Bunker) 10.30am **No Tiny Tots today**

4.15pm Junior Choir

4.45pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

Thurs 28th 6.45pm Senior Choir in church

SUNDAY 31st *7th Sunday after Trinity*

 8.00am Holy Communion (Reverend Robert Evens)

 9.30am Parish Communion (Reverend Robert Evens)

**Lay Minister:** Katrina Nice: kmnice2013@gmail.com

**Churchwarden:** David Morgan: churchwarden@churchwarden.plus.com

 07974 913041

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

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

**Messy Church:** messychurchbaldock@gmail.com

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

Next week’s readings: Ecclesiastes 1: 2, 12-14; 2: 18-23, Psalm 49: 1-12, Colossians 3: 1-11, Luke 12: 13-21

**CCLI number: 752089**

10For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.