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

*“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”*

Palm Sunday

Worship on Sunday 24th March 2024

**8.00am****Holy Communion**

A simple, peaceful start to the day, taking place at the High Altar. Revd Phillipa Maddox will be leading and our Lay Minister, Katrina Nice, will be preaching.

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

Revd Phillipa Maddox will be leading and our Lay Minister, Katrina Nice, will be preaching at our worship. Junior Church will take place in the church hall.

Today, on Palm Sunday we not only hear about Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem but a dramatised reading of his Passion. We will start our service in the church hall and then process to the church, waving our palm crosses as we go.

Stay and join us for hot cross buns after the service.

**11.00am****Family Worship at Bygrave**

Revd Phillipa Maddox will be leading and our Lay Minister, Katrina Nice, will be preaching at our worship.

**6.00pm****Palm Sunday Choral Concert**

St Mary’s choir are joined by the Orsino Singers for an evening of enchanting music. Drinks and nibbles. Admission is free (retiring collection)

*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 March (Easter Sunday)**

8.00am Holy Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox)

9.30am Parish Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox)

**Prayers and readings for this Sunday**

**Hymns:**

14 All glory, laud and honour

463 My song is love unknown

657 There is a green hill

**The Collect**

True and humble king,

hailed by the crowd as Messiah:

grant us the faith to know you and love you,

that we may be found beside you

on the way of the cross,

which is the path of glory.

**Amen**.

**The Psalm Gospel: Mark 11:1-11**

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples **2**and said to them, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. **3**If anyone says to you, “Why are you doing this?” just say this, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.”’ **4**They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, **5**some of the bystanders said to them, ‘What are you doing, untying the colt?’ **6**They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. **7**Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. **8**Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. **9**Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! **10** Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!’ **11**Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

**The Passion Gospel: Mark 15:1-39**

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. **2**Pilate asked him, ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’ He answered him, ‘You say so.’ **3**Then the chief priests accused him of many things. **4**Pilate asked him again, ‘Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.’ **5**But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. **6**Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. **7**Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. **8**So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. **9**Then he answered them, ‘Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?’ **10**For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. **11**But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. **12**Pilate spoke to them again, ‘Then what do you wish me to dowith the man you callthe King of the Jews?’ **13**They shouted back, ‘Crucify him!’ **14**Pilate asked them, ‘Why, what evil has he done?’ But they shouted all the more, ‘Crucify him!’ **15**So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.**16**Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. **17**And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. **18**And they began saluting him, ‘Hail, King of the Jews!’ **19**They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. **20**After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. **21**They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. **22**Then they brought Jesusto the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). **23**And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. **24**And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. **25**It was nine o’clock in the morning when they crucified him. **26**The inscription of the charge against him read, ‘The King of the Jews.’ **27**And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. **29**Those who passed by deridedhim, shaking their heads and saying, ‘Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, **30**save yourself, and come down from the cross!’ **31**In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, ‘He saved others; he cannot save himself. **32**Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.’ Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. **33**When it was noon, darkness came over the whole landuntil three in the afternoon. **34**At three o’clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, ‘Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?’ which means, ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’ **35**When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, ‘Listen, he is calling for Elijah.’ **36**And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, ‘Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.’ **37**Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. **38**And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. **39**Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way hebreathed his last, he said, ‘Truly this man was God’s Son!’

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, Andy Ball, Nicky Bull, Stephen Collins, Norman Holmes, Nicola Rowe, Claire Farbrother, Ashley Pinn.

Those who have died recently:

Jilly Mercer, Roy Knight.

Those whose anniversary of death is remembered this week:

Peter Walden, Jack Scurr, Peter Flack, Christine Norman, Fred Prentice,

Olive Thompson

*\*please note that we will keep names on this list for up to one month and then remove them. If you would like your name to remain on the list, please contact Revd Phillipa.*

**Choir Anthem:** **'An upper room did our Lord prepare'** (Hymn 38 in the orange hymn book)

**Post Communion**

Lord Jesus Christ,

you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,

and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:

give us the mind to follow you

and to proclaim you as Lord and King,

to the glory of God the Father.

**Amen**

**Easter Monday Pilgrimage**

Hundreds of people will be journeying across the Diocese for a joyful celebration at St. Albans Abbey on 1st April.  This year Rev. Phillipa is one of the speakers, so there is even more reason to come along!  A group of us will be walking together (probably from Hatfield).  Let Phillipa know if you would like to join the group.



**Join our new Group on Facebook!**

We have formed a new group on Facebook called **St Mary’s Church Chat**. This is a space where we can share ideas, discuss activities, highlight worship and promote events – and anything else connected to St Mary’s Church. To join the group, click on this [link](https://www.facebook.com/groups/426129636422913) or use the QR code.

Do come to our special **Messy Church on Good Friday** (29 March) 11:30- 1pm, to make your own mini Easter garden, hear the story of Easter and help make our Easter garden for inside church! Please bring your own picnic and rug as we'll hopefully be outside and let us know on messychurchbaldock@gmail.com if you can come so we get enough mini garden supplies in!

**The Annual Parochial Church Meeting** will be held in church at 11am on Sunday 21st April. All invited to attend.

**Eco Tip Palm Sunday:**  Paper carrier bags have a larger carbon footprint than plastic ones, so it’s best to bring a reusable bag when shopping!

**The Friends of St Mary’s (FOSM) update**

FOSM are still seeking a Treasurer – can you help?

Friends of St Mary’s church, Baldock run various events to fundraise for the repairs and maintenance of our historic church, which is such an important building within Baldock. We are looking for someone to take on the role of our treasurer, to:

* maintain the financial records;
* pay expenses;
* bank income received;
* submit gift aid relief claims;
* and produce the annual accounts.

Might you be that person? Could you spare a couple of hours a month ? The committee meets every 6-8 weeks. If you’d like to learn more about it, email fosmbaldock@gmail.com

Baldock Street Fair – Sat 18th May

FOSM will be hosting a stall at the Baldock Street Fair. If you would like to donate a bottle of wine for the ‘water into wine’ or cake donations for refreshments in the church, we would be very grateful. Wine donations can be left in the vestry and cake donations on the day (or day before) please.

**Could you be a school governor for our church school?** St. Mary’s Infant School is looking for a new governor. School governors are members of our local community who care about our school and the young people we support. Being a school governor can be a very positive experience. Share your skills and passion for the success of our school and become a governor. Talk to Rev. Phillipa, Aileen Barry or Laura Higgins to find out more.

**Maundy Thursday Bring and Share meal and service of Holy Communion.** Thursday 28th March at 7.00pm in the Church Hall**.** The sign-up sheet is available at the back of church for both attending the meal and bringing food.

**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 [here](https://resource.stalbansdiocese.org/courses-events-and-resources/form-for-enrolment-on-electoral-roll/). Completed forms can be put into the black post box outside the church hall.

**Martin & Hazel Frost’s latest Newsletter** will be circulated with this News Sheet.

**CCLI number: 752089**

Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way hebreathed his last, he said, ‘Truly this man was God’s Son!

**Hidden Humour:**

Next Week’s Readings: Acts 10: 34-43, Psalm 118: 14-24, John 20: 1-18



**WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE**

SUNDAY 24th *Palm Sunday*

8.00am Holy Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox; preacher: Katrina Nice)

9.30am Parish Communion with Junior Church (Revd Phillipa Maddox; preacher: Katrina Nice)

11.00am Family Worship at Bygrave (Revd Phillipa Maddox; preacher: Katrina Nice)

6.00pm Palm Sunday Choral Concert

Mon 25th *Monday of Holy Week*

9.30am St Mary’s Infant School Easter Service

12.00pm Pray at Midday

1.30am St Mary’s Junior School Easter Service

4.30pm Silent Prayer on Zoom (contact Katrina Nice)

7.15pm Silent Prayer at Bygrave

8.00pm Compline at Bygrave

Tue 26th *Tuesday of Holy Week*

12.00pm Pray at Midday (Bygrave)

Wed 27th *Wednesday of Holy Week*

9.30am Holy Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox)

 10.30am Tiny Tots

12.00pm Pray at Midday

4.45pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

Thurs 28th  *Maundy Thursday*

5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

7.00pm Bring and Share Meal in the church hall

Fri 29th *Good Friday*

11.30am Messy Church

2.00pm Good Friday Meditative Service (Katrina Nice)

Sat 30th *Easter Eve*

6.00pm Service of Light at Bygrave (Revd Phillipa Maddox)

SUNDAY 31st *Easter Day*

8.00am Holy Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox)

9.30am Parish Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox)

**Rector:** Revd Phillipa Maddox: rev.phillipa@stmarysbaldock.org.uk 01462 545310

**Lay Minister:** Katrina Nice:kmnice2013@gmail.com (day off: Friday)

**Churchwarden:** David Morgan: 07974 913041 churchwarden@stmarysbaldock.org.uk

**Parish Administrator:** Alex Milne: admin@stmarysbaldock.org.uk

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

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

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