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

*“BUILDING WITH CHRIST”*

3rd Sunday of Easter

Worship on Sunday 14th April 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 preaching today.

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

Revd Phillipa Maddox will be leading and preaching today at our worship. We hear the story of Jesus appearing to his Disciples in our Gospel reading. Junior Church will be taking place in the church hall.

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

Revd Phillipa Maddox will be leading and preaching today at our worship.

*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: 21st April (4th Sunday of Easter)**

8.00am Holy Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox)

9.30am Communion for All Ages (Revd Phillipa Maddox)

11.00am Annual Parochial Church Meeting

12.00pm Fellowship Lunch in the church hall

**Prayers and readings for this Sunday**

**Hymns:**

580 Rejoice the Lord is King!

74 Blessed assurance

144 Dear Lord and Father of mankind

553 Peace is flowing like a river

**The Collect**

Risen Christ,

you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:

strengthen us to proclaim your risen life

and fill us with your peace,

to the glory of God the Father.

**Amen**.

**The New Testament Reading Acts 3: 12-19**

 **12**When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, ‘You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? **13**The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. **14**But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, **15**and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. **16**And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. **17**‘And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. **18**In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. **19**Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.

**Psalm 4: True Security**

*Loving God, you put joy in our hearts.*

When I call, answer me,

you, my just and faithful God!

**From my oppression, set me free!**

**Have mercy on me! Hear my prayer!**

All you people:

How long will you humiliate me?

**How long will you love empty nonsense?**

How long will you persist in lies?

**Don’t you know that the Holy One respects faithful people?**

**That when they call, God responds?**

*Loving God, you put joy in our hearts.*

So be deeply troubled, but don’t be wicked.

**Look into your own self;**

**lie on your bed.**

**Be silent!**

Offer sincere and fitting worship;

trust your God.

**Many say, “Who will show us prosperity?**

**May your face light us up,**

**O Holy One!”**

*Loving God, you put joy in our hearts.*

You have put joy in my heart,

more joy than at the harvest of wine and corn.

**Let me lie down and sleep in peace.**

**Only you, Holy One,**

**make me live securely.**

*Loving God, you put joy in our hearts.*

**The Gospel Luke 24: 36b-48**

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ **37**They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. **38**He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? **39**Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ **40**And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. **41**While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ **42**They gave him a piece of broiled fish, **43**and he took it and ate in their presence. **44**Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you - that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ **45**Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, **46**and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, **47**and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. **48**You are witnesses of these things. **49**And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.’

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

London Road, Anchor Road, Turpins Way, Byrd Walk, Pryor Road, Ivel Way

\*Those in need of healing:

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

Those whose anniversary of death is remembered this week:

David Davies, Paul Browne, Maud Castle, Olive Elves, Rose Myers, Vivian Bain, John Bassett, Charlie Farrow, Doris Thompson, Margaret Palmer

*\*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:** **Peace, perfect peace** (Hymn 554 in hymn book)

Peace, perfect peace,

in this dark world of sin?

The blood of Jesus

whispers peace within.

Peace, perfect peace,

by thronging duties pressed?

To do the will of Jesus,

this is rest.

Peace, perfect peace,

with sorrows surging round?

In Jesus’ presence

naught but calm is found.

Peace, perfect peace,

with loved ones far away?

In Jesus’ keeping

we are safe, and they.

Peace, perfect peace,

our future all unknown?

Jesus we know,

and he is on the throne.

Peace, perfect peace,

death shad’wing us and ours?

Jesus has vanquished death

and all its pow’rs.

It is enough: earth’s struggles

soon shall cease,

and Jesus call us

to heav’ns perfect peace.

**Post Communion**

Living God,

your Son made himself known to his disciples

in the breaking of bread:

open the eyes of our faith,

that we may see him in all his redeeming work;

who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

**Amen**

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

**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.

Tower Trips – Sat 18th May

We are also having tower trips on 18th May – if you can help to staff the tower (four volunteers per shift are needed to keep the tower open), please contact Paul MacArthur on stmarystowertrips@gmail.com

**Eco Tip Easter 3:** Could you or your council, church or school join in with Plantlife's annual "No Mow May" <https://www.plantlife.org.uk/>  ? Encouraging native wild flowers to thrive is vital to helping pollinators and biodiversity - even just a small patch or a window box will help!

**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.

**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.

**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.

The next **Fellowship Lunch** will be on Sunday 21st April (immediately after the APCM). The sign up sheet is at the back of church.



**Do join us for our next Messy Church!**

11.30am – 1pm on Sunday 5th May – ‘Pentecost’! Fun for all the family with crafts, short worship and a hot meal. Book your place by emailing Katrina at messychurchbaldock@gmail.com All welcome! (Note – there is no Messy Church this Sunday as we had an extra one in March to celebrate Easter).

**Hidden Humour:**

Sam was shipwrecked and lived alone on a desert island for many years until he was finally rescued. Before leaving the island, he gave the rescue party a tour. "I built myself a house. That's it there. Here's the barn, and over here is the church I worshipped in." "What's that derelict old building over there?" one of the rescuers asked. Sam sneered. "That's the church I used to belong to."

**Friends of St Mary’s - Forthcoming Events**

We have lots of exciting events coming up in the church and church hall during the Baldock Festival next month.

Tickets go on sale next weekend (Saturday 13th April) at the Community Centre or on the Festival website: <https://baldockfestival.org.uk/events> There will also be a limited number of tickets available in church.

**Afternoon Tea to celebrate the first anniversary of the Coronation of King Charles III – Monday 6th May at 3pm (Church Hall)**

Come and join us for an Afternoon Tea whilst singing along to some traditional patriotic songs, as we celebrate the first anniversary of the Coronation of King Charles III.

A welcome glass of Prosecco upon arrival. Bring your Union Jacks!

Tickets: £10 per person from Baldock Community Centre or the Festival Website

**Entertainer Jude Simpson (Poet\*Wordsmith\*Writer\*Performer) - Friday 17th May at 7.30pm (Church)**

Jude Simpson writes and performs joyful comedy, combining quirky observational humour with poetry, wordplay and song.

Jude has performed at the Edinburgh Festival, as well as literature festivals, studio theatres and poetry clubs all over the country. Her work is witty, uplifting, funny, clever and has wide appeal. Pay bar available.

Tickets: £10 per person available from the Baldock Community Centre or Festival Website

**Tower Trips and refreshments - Saturday 18th May: 11am - 4pm (church)**

Tower trips will take place, weather permitting, throughout the day during the above times. Come and see Baldock from a different perspective!

No entry for children under 8. Sensible footwear is required.
Tickets: £5 adult / £1 child (8-16) on the day. No Advance Tickets

**Church tours and refreshments - Saturday 18th May: 11am - 4pm (church)**

Free Church Tours will take place on the hour, every hour.

Come and find out more about our historic building.

Refreshments available.

**Can you help?** If you would be willing to staff a level on the tower, the FOSM stand in the High Street, bake a cake for the refreshment stand or staff the refreshments (all of which happen on Saturday 18th May) please sign the list at the back of church – and please come and support any of the above events!

**WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE**

SUNDAY 14th *3rd Sunday of Easter*

8.00am Holy Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox)

9.30am Parish Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox)

11.00am Parish Communion at Bygrave (Revd Phillipa Maddox)

Mon 15th 4.30pm Silent Prayer on Zoom (contact Katrina Nice)

Wed 17th 9.30am Holy Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox)

 10.30am Tiny Tots

4.45pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

Thurs 18th 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

 6.45pm Choir practice

SUNDAY 21st *4th Sunday of Easter*

8.00am Holy Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox)

9.30am Parish Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox)

11.00am APCM in St Mary’s Church, Baldock

12.00pm Fellowship Lunch

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

(day off: Friday)

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

**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)

Next Week’s Readings: Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23, 1 John 3:16-end, John 10: 11-18

**CCLI number: 752089**

Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’