St. Mary the Virgin, Baldock.

St. Margaret of Antioch, Bygrave.

"Growing in Love"

Harvest Celebration

Worship on Sunday 20th September 2026

8.00am Holy Communion

A simple, peaceful start to the day, taking place at the High Altar. Revd Phillipa Maddox will be leading and James Northern will be preaching at our worship.

9.30am Harvest Parish Praise!

with Brunch

Revd Phillipa Maddox will be leading and James Northern will be preaching at our worship today in the hall. With music by the Praise Be Band and our children's choir, Growing Voices.

6.00pm Choral Evensong

Beautiful music from our choir, to lift us in our worship. Our Lay Minister Katrina Nice will be leading and preaching.

Evening Prayer and Silent (Contemplative) Prayer are Zoomed on the days shown in Week at a Glance (use the link below for both). Everyone is warmly invited to these prayer sessions

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81188370718?pwd=MVVDelNMbEppRldBYnFpN0NwT1hhQT09

Meeting ID: 811 8837 0718 Passcode: 188423

Next Sunday's worship: 27th September 2026 – 17th after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (Revd Lindsay Dew)
9.30am Parish Communion (Revd Lindsay Dew)
11.00am Parish Communion at Bygrave (Revd Lindsay Dew)

Hymns: 133 Come, ye thankful people, come
Blessed be Your Name
202 Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart
172 Fill Your Hearts with Joy and Gladness

Prayers and readings for this Sunday

The Collect

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Blessed Be Your Name

In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

Blessed Be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed Be Your name

Every blessing You pour out
I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord
Still I will say
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's 'all as it should be'
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

[Refrain]

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord, blessed be Your name

Psalm 65

1 Praise is due to you,
O God, in Zion;
and to you shall vows be performed,
2 O you who answer prayer!
To you all flesh shall come.
3 When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,
you forgive our transgressions.

4 Happy are those whom you choose and bring near
to live in your courts.
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
your holy temple.

5 By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,
O God of our salvation;
you are the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas.
6 By your strength you established the mountains;
you are girded with might.
7 You silence the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples.
8 Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;
you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.

9 You visit the earth and water it,
you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain,
for so you have prepared it.
10 You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,
softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.
11 You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.
12 The pastures of the wilderness overflow,
the hills gird themselves with joy,
13 the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,
the valleys deck themselves with grain,
they shout and sing together for joy.

The Gospel: Luke 12.16-31

16 Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. 17 And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" 18 Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." 20 But God said

to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" [21] So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.'

[22] He said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. [23] For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. [24] Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! [25] And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? [26] If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? [27] Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. [28] But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! [29] And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. [30] For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. [31] Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

This week, please remember in your prayers these areas of our parish: Park Street; Drapers Court; Seven Roes Malting; Clover Court; Saddlers Close; Gentle Court

*Those in need of healing: Paula Conder, Nicky Bull, Phil Charsley, Lorraine Northern, Muriel Peterson, Dave Chadwick, Jennie Ledster, Pauline Chilten, Jim McNally, Chris Page, Michael Muir

Those who have died recently: Sylvia Crombie; Joan McLaren

Those whose anniversary of death is remembered this week: Gladys Smith; Victoria Nice; Betty Beech; Anne Dashwood; Bob Thompson; David Dodds

** Please let Revd Phillipa know if you would like your name to remain for longer than 1 month.*

9am – 9.05am: Pre-service Prayer Meeting in the Trinity Chapel – all are welcome to join us as we pray for the spiritual and numerical growth of our church.

A Prayer for Growth

God of Mission,
Who alone brings growth to St Mary's and St Margaret's
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
Joy to our worship
And power to our witness.
Help our churches to grow in numbers,

In spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community.
This week we especially pray for growth in our awareness and thanksgiving to our creator God for all that the earth provides for us and how we can share this fairly with the whole world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

New Bishop of St. Albans – please pray for Bishop Andrew Rumsey, our new diocesan bishop, who was installed on Saturday 19th September at St. Albans Cathedral.

Giving to St. Mary's: As part of our worship, there is an opportunity to make a cash or electronic donation towards the ministry of our church. Please consider becoming a regular supporter by joining the Parish Giving Scheme. See our website to find out how: https://www.stmarysbaldock.org.uk/financial-giving/ or you can contact Parish Giving Scheme directly by telephone - 0333 002 1260.
***Note – today's collection is going to our chosen charities not the church. See notice below for details.**

Harvest Festival Collection - The financial collection from our Harvest Festival this year will be divided between North Herts Homestart and Christian Aid's Venezuela Earthquake Appeal. Donations will be received till the 4th of October. Thank you in advance for your generosity. We are also taking a food collection in aid of the local foodbank.

Harvest Parish Praise! with Brunch –Please join us after the Harvest Parish Praise! service for pastries and bacon rolls.

Foodbank are collecting the items listed below, for people in crisis. They can only use items that are in date. Donations can be dropped off at the local donation points. There is a donation point at the back of church. We are also collecting at our Harvest Parish Praise service. All donations thankfully received.

- Long Life Fruit Juice
- Baked Beans
- Biscuits
- Pasta Sauce
- Pasta/Rice
- Packet Soup
- Tinned Soup
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Tinned Fish
- Shower Gel
- Shampoo
- Carrier Bags/Bags for Life.

CCLI number: 752089

Next week's readings: Exodus 17.1-7, Psalm 78.1-4, 12-16, Philippians 2.1-13, Matthew 21.23-32

NEWS & EVENTS

Bike n Hike – Thank you to those who took part in Bike 'n Hike and helped on the day. We had 27 visitors sign in at St Marys, even cycling from as far as Welwyn. One local lady managed to raise £800. She visited 18 churches.

Last Chance to Support Big Walk
There are only three more legs to go for our congregation members completing the Big Walk around Hertfordshire this year to raise money for church hall improvements. The final walks are on Sat 26 Sept, Sunday 27 Sept and Sunday 4 Oct (finishing at the church). If you would like to walk all, or part of, a leg, or to sponsor the walkers, please visit our web site:
https://www.stmarysbaldock.org.uk/the-big-walk/

Big Walk Celebration Tea - On Sunday 4th October at 3pm, we will be hosting a celebration tea to mark the end of the Big Walk. This will be in the church hall.
All are invited, whether you walked any part of the route, sponsored the walkers, provided transport, prayed for them, encouraged and cheered them on in any way, we would love to see you!
If you are able to donate some cake or help set up/ clear up on the day, it would be very much appreciated! Please speak to Jo if you are interested.

Bible Study groups – Our Bible Study Groups meet fortnightly, one Sundays 7-8.30pm and one on Mondays 1.30-3pm. Please contact the church office for more information.

Classical Contrasts Saturday 10th October 3.30pm – 4.30pm. Hear a variety of instruments sing and dance in a concert designed to spark young imaginations while entertaining audiences of all ages. If you can make a cake for this event, please contact Aileen Barry or speak to the office.

Batman Comes to Baldock Event – Meet Mike Perkins, the acclaimed artist who put St Mary's Church in the pages of The Batman: Second Knight. Watch the iconic 1989 Batman film. Music from the movies. Tower tours. Book Signing. Raffle of themed items. Photo opportunities. Refreshments and much more… For more details and timings please see our website www.stmarysbaldock.org.uk.

Keep the date: Saturday 7th November - Intercession Training with Tim Bull - training for all those currently leading prayers of intercession in church or interested in doing so.

Eco Tip: Could you make a conscious effort to only buy fruit and veg that is in season this week (and better still for the food miles, produce that is grown in the UK!)- reducing your carbon footprint and helping British farmers.

ST MARY'S CHURCH, BALDOCK
CLASSICAL CONTRASTS
JOIN US FOR A CONCERT OF CLASSICAL MUSIC
THE DRAMATIC AND THE DELICATE
Hear a variety of instruments sing and dance in a concert designed to spark young imaginations while entertaining audiences of all ages
SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER
3.30PM - 4.30PM
Entry: Donations
Refreshments available
All money raised for the church hall renovation

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Sun 20th Sept	*Harvest Celebration - 16th Sunday after Trinity*	
	8.00am	Holy Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox, Preacher – James Northern)
	9.30am	Harvest Parish Praise! with Brunch in the hall (Revd Phillipa Maddox, Preacher – James Northern)
	6.00pm	Choral Evensong (Katrina Nice)
Mon 21st	*Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist*	
	2.30pm	Funeral of Sylvia Crombie RIP
	5.00pm	Silent Prayer on Zoom
Tues 22nd	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
Wed 23rd	*Ember Day*	
	10.00am	Tiny Tots in church
	11.15am	Holy Communion (Revd Elizabeth Bunker)
	4.00pm	Growing Voices children's singing club – all welcome
Thu 24th	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
	6.45pm	Choir Practice
Fri 25th	*Lancelot Andrewes, bishop, spiritual writer, 1626*	
Sat 26th	*Ember Day*	
Sun 27th	8.00am	Holy Communion (Revd Lindsay Dew)
	9.30am	Parish Communion (Revd Lindsay Dew)
	11.00am	Parish Communion at Bygrave (Revd Lindsay Dew)

CONTACT DETAILS

Rector: Revd Phillipa Maddox: rev.phillipa@stmarysbaldock.org.uk 01462 545310 (day off: Friday)
Lay Ministers: Katrina Nice: katrina@stmarysbaldock.org.uk
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Parish Giving Scheme: https://www.stmarysbaldock.org.uk/financial-giving/

Bible verse: Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds!