St. Mary the Virgin, Baldock.

St. Margaret of Antioch, Bygrave.

"Growing in Love"

17th Sunday after Trinity

Worship on Sunday 27th September 2026

8.00am Holy Communion

A simple, peaceful start to the day, taking place in the Trinity Chapel. Revd Lindsay Dew will be leading and preaching at our worship.

9.30am Parish Communion with Junior Church

Revd Lindsay Dew will be leading and preaching at our worship today.

11.00am Parish Communion at Bygrave

Revd Lindsay Dew will be leading and preaching at our worship.

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: 4th October 2026 – 18th after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox)
9.30am Parish Communion with Baptism of Grace Bulley (Revd Phillipa Maddox)
11.30am Messy Church
3.00pm Big Walk Celebration Tea in the hall

Hymns: 352 Jesus is Lord!
274 He is Lord, He is Lord
411 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Come to Us
32 And Can It Be That I Should Gain

Prayers and readings for this Sunday

The Collect

Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief
and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

New Testament Reading: Philippians 2.1-13

2 If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any
sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, [2]make my joy complete: be of the
same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. [3]Do nothing
from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than
yourselves. [4]Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of
others. [5]Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
[6] who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
[7] but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
[8] he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
[9] Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
[10] so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
[11] and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
[12] Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my
presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear
and trembling; [13] for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to
work for his good pleasure.

The Psalm: Psalm 78

1 Hear my law, O my people :
incline your ears unto the words of my mouth.
2 I will open my mouth in a parable :
I will declare hard sentences of old;
3 Which we have heard and known :
and such as our fathers have told us;
4 That we should not hide them from the children of the generations to come :
but to shew the honour of the Lord,
his mighty and wonderful works that he hath done.
13 Marvellous things did he in the sight of our forefathers, in the land of Egypt :
even in the field of Zoan.
14 He divided the sea, and let them go through :
he made the waters to stand on an heap.
15 In the day-time also he led them with a cloud :
and all the night through with a light of fire.
16 He clave the hard rocks in the wilderness :
and gave them drink thereof, as it had been out of the great depth.
17 He brought waters out of the stony rock :
so that it gushed out like the rivers
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:
World without end.

The Gospel: Matthew 21.23-32

23 When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came
to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things,
and who gave you this authority?' 24Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one
question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do
these things. 25Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?'
And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us,
"Why then did you not believe him?" 26But if we say, "Of human origin", we are
afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' 27So they answered Jesus, 'We
do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am
doing these things.

28 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go
and work in the vineyard today." 29He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his
mind and went. 30The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered,
"I go, sir"; but he did not go. 31Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said,
'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes

are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. [32]For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

This week, please remember in your prayers these areas of our parish: Bygrave: Ashwell Road; Wedon Way; Church Lane

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

Those who have died recently: Sylvia Crombie; Myrle McLaren

Those whose anniversary of death is remembered this week: John Flack; Leonard Dashwood; Beryl Dungey; Gwen Keech

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

Post Communion Prayer

Lord, we pray that your grace
may always precede and follow us,
and make us continually to be given to all good works;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen!**

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.
We pray especially this week for growth in numbers using the church hall for events and classes through our church's outreach to the community.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.

NEWS & EVENTS

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 with a Celebration Tea). 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/

Bible Study groups – You are welcome to join us on a Sunday 7-8.30pm or Monday 1.30-3pm. Both groups meet on a fortnightly basis. Please contact the church office for more information.

Messy Church: Do join us for our next Messy Church! 11.30am – 1pm on Sunday 4 October where we are looking at John the Baptist preparing the way for Jesus. 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!

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.

Baby Loss Awareness Week: 9th – 15th October
We will be holding a short candlelit reflection at St Margaret's Bygrave every evening at 7pm during Baby Loss Awareness Week. There will also be resources available in the Trinity Chapel at St Mary's where you can light a candle or say a prayer in memory of babies gone too soon.
More information can be found here: https://babyloss-awareness.org

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.

We were awarded 5* in our recent food hygiene inspection from North Herts Council. Thank you to all our food preparation and kitchen clean volunteers.

Harvest Festival - Thank you to everyone who took part in our Harvest Parish Praise! with Brunch and for all the generous donations of non-perishable goods for the Foodbank. We are continuing our financial collection from our Harvest Festival until the 4th October. It will be divided between North Herts Homestart and Christian Aid's Venezuela Earthquake Appeal. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Thank you to everyone who helped at or visited our Eco Church stall at Baldock Ecofest with the Creationtide theme "Living Water". Children made crafts to do with water and adults wrote either a prayer or eco tip to do with saving water for our "waterfall" which is now displayed outside the Trinity Chapel.

Thank you to everyone involved in Choral Evensong. Our next evening choral service will be on 1st November: a choral communion service for All Souls Day.

Do you enjoy knitting? Please let the office know if you would be interested in helping with a knitting project for North Herts Pride.

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: Do get leaking taps fixed: as well as being irritating they can waste up to 15l a day. A leaking toilet can waste up to 400l a day. This is water we cannot afford to waste (it adds to our bills too!)

CCLI number: 752089

Next week's readings: Exodus 20.1-4, 7-9, 12-20, Psalm 19, Philippians 3.4b-14, Matthew 21.33-end

Growing Voices

Singing Group

Enjoy singing? Try our fun singing group.
All welcome. Ages 5 - 13 years.

Wednesdays 4pm - 4.50pm
Term time
at St Mary's Church
Free to come along
Refreshments included

To find out more,
please contact
Madeleine Middleton
07811 442876
madeleineamiddleton@gmail.com

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Sun 27h Sept	*17th Sunday after Trinity*	
	8.00am	Holy Communion (Revd Lindsay Dew)
	9.30am	Parish Communion with Junior Church (Revd Lindsay Dew)
	11.00am	Parish Communion at Bygrave (Revd Lindsay Dew)
Mon 28th	5.00pm	Silent Prayer on Zoom
	7.30pm	PCC in Church Hall
Tues 29th	*Michael and All Angels*	
	12.30pm	Funeral of Myrle McLaren RIP
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
Wed 30th	10.00am	Tiny Tots in church
	11.15am	Holy Communion
	4.00pm	Growing Voices children's singing club – all welcome
Thu 1st Oct	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
	6.45pm	Choir Practice
Sun 4th	*18th Sunday after Trinity*	
	8.00am	Holy Communion (Revd Phillipa Maddox)
	9.30am	Parish Communion with Baptism of Grace Bulley (Revd Phillipa Maddox)
	11.30am	Messy Church
	3.00pm	Big Walk Celebration Tea in the hall

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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DBS Officer: DBS@stmarysbaldock.org.uk
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Messy Church: messychurchbaldock@gmail.com
Website: www.stmarysbaldock.org.uk
Parish Giving Scheme: https://www.stmarysbaldock.org.uk/financial-giving/

Bible verse: Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.