



Notices for 23rd of February 2025

A warm welcome to everyone

We welcome Reverend Des Williamson who will take today's service.

The Second Sunday before Lent

Please come into the hall for refreshments after the 09:30 service.

Collect:

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymns:

- 2** Christ whose glory fills the skies
- 485** Jesu the very thought of thee
- 582** Take up thy cross the Saviour said
- 439** God be in my head
- 467** How sweet the name of Jesus sounds

Although there is no formal collection during the offertory hymn, please feel free to make a contribution to the work of St. Mary's either in the Treasury box at the back of church, or using the card reader, also at the back of church. Thank you.

Readings:

Revelation 4

The Heavenly Worship

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal.

Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing,
'Holy, holy, holy,
the Lord God the Almighty,
who was and is and is to come.'

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,
'You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created.'

Luke 8.22-25

Jesus Calms a Storm

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling

with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

Post-communion prayer:

God our creator,
by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your table on earth
be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Vacancy News – Peter & Dan

Peter & Dan met with Bishop Paul, Archdeacon Martin and Revd Alex Stevens on Weds 5th Feb and three candidates have confirmed they will come for formal interview on Tuesday 4th March. The PCC will join an informal gathering on Monday 3rd March to welcome and meet the candidates.

8am SERVICES will be held only once a month on the first Sunday of each month. Any questions please talk to Dan or Peter.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 15th March – Quiz Night

Tickets for the quiz night on Saturday 15th March are available from this Sunday. Tickets cost £10 and include a meal. The quizmaster is Mark Hodge. We would like to hold a raffle at this event, so could you please bring any donated raffle prizes and put them at the back of the Church. Many thanks.

The social committee has also planned some dates for our diaries:-

Homemade Sunday - Sunday 30th March (Mothering Sunday)

Lunch with guest singer Wendy Edwards - Saturday 7th June

Homemade Sunday - Sunday 29th June

Quiz Night on Saturday 25th October

Enquiries: Sara & Daphne

This year the **Electoral Roll for St. Mary's** needs to be fully revised and, hence, everyone currently on the Electoral Roll will need to complete a new Electoral Roll form. Electoral Roll forms, and an explanatory letter, are available for everyone on the existing Electoral Roll at the back of Church.

These should be returned by 9th March. For those who are not on the existing Roll but would wish to be included blank Electoral Roll forms are available at the back of Church. Kind Regards, Paul.

Confirmation service

There will be 26 candidates for confirmation, including 3 adult baptisms, from across the Deanery on Sunday 9th March at 6.30pm. Please come and support the 7 candidates from St. Mary's.

We are providing the refreshments after the service, and we would be most grateful if you could help by signing the sheet on the table at the back of the Church. We are expecting a large number of people! Any further inquiries please contact Sara Tomlin. Thank you.