



Notices for 9th of February 2025

A warm welcome to everyone

Fourth Sunday before Lent

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

Collect:

Lord of the hosts of heaven,
our salvation and our strength,
without you we are lost:
guard us from all that harms or hurts
and raise us when we fall;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymns:

- 470** I the Lord of sea and sky
- 627** Ye servants of God, your master proclaim
- 523** My God how wonderful thou art
- 391** Blest are the pure in heart
- 368** All my hope on God is founded

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:

Isaiah 6.1-8 (9-end)

A Vision of God in the Temple

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.’

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: ‘Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!’

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: ‘Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.’ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am I; send me!’

And he said, ‘Go and say to this people:
“Keep listening, but do not comprehend;
keep looking, but do not understand.”

Make the mind of this people dull,
and stop their ears,
and shut their eyes,
so that they may not look with their eyes,
and listen with their ears,
and comprehend with their minds,
and turn and be healed.’

Then I said, ‘How long, O Lord?’ And he said:
‘Until cities lie waste
without inhabitant,
and houses without people,
and the land is utterly desolate;
until the Lord sends everyone far away,

and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.
Even if a tenth part remains in it,
it will be burned again,
like a terebinth or an oak
whose stump remains standing
when it is felled.'
The holy seed is its stump.

Luke 5.1-11

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

Post-communion prayer:

Go before us, Lord, in all we do
with your most gracious favour,
and guide us with your continual help,
that in all our works
begun, continued and ended in you,
we may glorify your holy name,
and finally by your mercy receive everlasting life;
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 have invited four applicants 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 February is the next meeting of the **Women's Group**. There will be a selection of board games to play, so this could be very relaxing or very competitive! Come along and enjoy playing scrabble, dominoes, tri-ominoes, rubicub, and many others. Coffee and cake at 10am – all are welcome.

Saturday 15th March – Quiz Night Tickets for the quiz night on Saturday 15th March will be available from Sunday 16th February. They will be £10 each to include a meal. **Enquiries: Sara & Daphne**

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 We are delighted that there are some young people and adults who have expressed a wish to be confirmed. There will be a service of confirmation at St Mary's on **Sunday 9th March at 6.30 p.m.** Conducted by Bishop Andrew to which all are welcome.