



St Mary's Church Newsletter

6th March 2022

First Sunday in Lent

- Refreshments including tea and coffee will be available at the end of the service.
- There are supervised activities for children of all ages during the service, please follow us out after opening worship. Parents are welcome to leave their children or stay with them.
- Gluten free wafers are available for communion. Please ask a steward or member of the clergy.
- An induction loop is available for those who are hard of hearing. Please turn your hearing aid to the 'T' setting.
- Toilets, including disabled and nappy changing facilities are situated at the far end of the church. Follow signs past reception and the main hall.

WELCOME TO ST MARYS PRAYER FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE

(from the Methodist Church)

Holy and Gracious God

We pray for the people of Ukraine and the people of Russia; for their countries and their leaders.

We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.

We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fullness.

We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn our swords into ploughshares and seek for peace.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace for Ukraine.

And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son.

Lord have mercy.

Amen

COVID SAFETY AT ST MARYS

We ask people to wear masks on the move and whilst singing.

In order for us to operate safely it REALLY HELPS IF YOU BOOK IN FOR THE SERVICE. To book a seat please contact Ann Brownhill.

liz.a.brownhill@gmail.com

FAMILY CHOIRS PERFORMANCE

This afternoon is Family Choir's first indoor Choirs Performance (with Yo's other choirs; 40 singers!) since before lockdown...

We will be eating a vegi lunch together at 12.30 then 2pm singing songs made famous by Nat King Cole.....



There are a few tickets left £5 each, plus you can buy an icecream and play lucky bucket in the interval.....

Family Choir restarts **Wednesday 16th March 4pm** with a set of Gospel Songs. Everyone welcome whether you think you can sing or not. Any enquiries phone Yo 07925-634-420

THIS WEEK AT ST MARYS

Parent and Toddler Group

Has restarted and continues to meet every **Wednesday morning** – Please see Miriam for more information.

Community Meal

Served every **Thursday 12.30** and all are welcome – please speak to Maureen, Claire or Karen for more information – or just turn up and enjoy good food and good company.

Messy Church **Friday 11th March 4.00pm.**

please come and enjoy the fun, come and eat with us, come and help – we set up from about

3.30 We open up at 4pm when there are crafts and activities including a time of worship with storytelling and prayers. Food is served from about 5.30 and then its clearing up! Please ask Karen or Miriam or Margaret more about it – or just turn up !!

SERVICES IN MARCH

Sundays at 10.30am:

6th March Holy Communion for All Ages (1st Sunday in Lent)

13th March All Age Service

20th March Holy Communion with separate groups for children and young people (3rd Sunday in Lent)

27th March All Age Holy Communion for Mothering Sunday

EASTER AT ST MARY'S

Palm Sunday 10th April – no 10.30 service but we gather at 1 - 3pm for an outside celebration with the local community - sharing the Easter story with storytelling, food and activities. There will be donkeys!

Good Friday 15th April 10am – 12 noon A Morning of Reflections – come and go as you please – prayer stations reflecting on the issues of our time through the stations of the Cross. After the service there will be hot cross buns and tea/coffee.

Easter Sunday
Breakfast from 9.30am before an All Age Celebration of Holy Communion

St Mary's Church Mondays in Lent 2022 6.30pm – 8.30pm



The last 2 years have been tough. This Lent we are using the time to re-gather and reconnect with each other and hopefully with God.

We have set aside Monday evenings in March for this.

We will meet to share food – baked potatoes and various fillings!

And then think about our faith and our own stories. Sharing prayers, bible verses, songs of faith ... and on the fourth evening thinking about our own walk with Jesus. Please come to all or any that you can make.

It would be helpful to know numbers for catering – please could you let Claire or Karen know or sign the list in church – thank you!

Claire: cdawson@blueyonder.co.uk

Karen: revkaren@stmarys-church.co.uk

Each evening will be based around a different theme but the structure of the evening will follow the same format:

6.30pm – meet to eat and have conversation

7.30pm – theme for the evening introduced

8.20pm – short service of compline

8.30pm – we leave to go home

Themes

Monday 7th March: Prayer

Monday 14th March: Bible

Monday 21st March: Songs

Monday 28th March: 'Come and see'

A prayer for Ash Wednesday

From the shadows of isolation and shutdowns, We gather to be with our God, who brings us the light of hope.

From the silence of our homes or in socially distanced worship spaces, We gather to be with Jesus, who will not let anything, now or ever, separate us.

From the hollowness of our hearts and with the hunger for human touch, We gather to be with the Spirit, who feeds us for the Lenten journey, who marks us as God's very own.

Iona – Wild Goose Publications

...find out more...talk to someone...send some news...

Follow @marys_church on twitter for congregational news.



Vicar:

Revd. Claire Dawson

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Newsletters available online

news to steve@to-lo.co.uk or

0783 5420392

St Marys facebook group
[facebook.com/groups/stmarysbl](https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmarysbl)



Associate Vicar:

Revd. Karen Cribb

revkaren@stmarys-church.co.uk

0758 0378507 (day off Tuesday)