



# St Mary's Church Newsletter

9th October 2022

## Harvest Celebration

- 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

**9th October: 10.30 All Age Communion Harvest Thanksgiving** -followed by a meal together.

**Next Sunday 16th October - Morning Worship** led by our Young People

### ST MARY'S PRAYER COMMUNITY

**A Prayer for St Mary's**

***We give thanks to the living God for the life of St Mary's.***

***We praise God for the faithful witness of St Mary's over the years.***

***We pray for the challenges of this season and that as the people of God we may be wise and courageous, compassionate and just to enable your Kingdom to grow in our midst.***

***Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.***

We are going to start a Community of Prayer at St Mary's. Jesus asks us to pray; it is part of being a disciple, it draws us to the heart of God

and sustains life. We will aim to pray in person at St Mary's Chapel 9am Monday and 12pm Thursday. We will hold a zoom prayer meeting 7pm on Wednesdays (see link below). Over the next few weeks we will be sending out rhythm of prayer - areas of life for us to focus our prayers on together as a community.

St Mary's faces a number of challenges at this time. Jon Sparkes the new Centre Manager is off on long term sick- this situation needs really careful management and wise decision making for St Mary's future.

#### Join Zoom Meeting

It will be the same link each week – Wednesdays 7pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82463467989?pwd=Y2NKVXNjeHBudFFnZXhMRStBcTdEUT09>

Meeting ID: 824 6346 7989

Passcode: 976916

### REGULAR ACTIVITY

**Thursday Community Lunch served 12.30**

### UPCOMING SERVICES

**23rd October 10.30am Holy Communion** -with separate group for children.

**30th October 10.30am Morning Worship**

### MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church will meet on **Friday 14th October 4pm**- we host about 60 people each time so we welcome volunteers to help in the kitchen, with crafts, at the meal and clearing up. If you are able to help in any way please speak to Karen. Come and join us - welcome and crafts from 4pm, a shared worship and story time about 5pm and a shared meal at 5.30pm.

## ECO CHURCH INITIATIVE

We have signed up to the Eco church initiative. To achieve the aims there are many criteria under the headings of Worship & Teaching, Building, Land, Community Engagement and Lifestyle, to be worked through. If anyone is interested in being part of a small group looking at this please contact Ann Brownhill. Any meetings would probably be on Zoom in evenings.

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY GROUPS

We are limited in what we can currently provide so the children's sessions will aim to broadly cater for the 5-11 age group. Children under 5 are welcome to come out but need to have a parent with them- this would also help for children under 7yrs.

There will always be a carpet and a few quiet toys and books for under 5s in church.

Please do speak to Karen about our group for children if you have any thoughts or suggestions or could volunteer to help with that group.

## OUR HARVEST FLOWERS

Our Harvest Flowers have been offered this year in memory of : George Rees' mum Tricia; Julie Walters stepdad Derek; Steve Tozer-Loft's mum Valerie; Yo's parents Iris and Reg; Rachel Morrisons parents Mark and Janet; and Alison, remembered by Stevie Bratt's sister Sally.



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

October is Black History Month and we will be celebrating this at St Mary's. You are encouraged to check out the resources on the website and find out more

<https://www.ibhm-uk.org/>

This year's theme is A Time for Change – Action not Words : “Our stories are your stories”.

You are encouraged to read and reflect, a suggested book is Black & British by David Olusoga – we have a few copies available in church.



### Collect for Black History Month

*Compassionate God,  
who sent Jesus Christ  
to deliver us from all manner of injustices and  
inequalities,  
create in us new hearts and enlarged visions,  
to see the image of God in every person  
irrespective of background, race and ethnicity.  
May we be generous in our love of others  
as we work towards ending misunderstanding,  
racism and injustice; creating communities  
of human flourishing,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.*

**Amen.**

## GIVING TO ST MARY'S

There is always an offering plate for your cash gifts on a Sunday, we also have a “tap and give” machine for card/phone payments. It is also possible to give regularly by standing order/ direct debit. If you are a tax payer please complete a Gift Aid form, this is a valuable source of additional income we can claim back from the government – please ask for more details.

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

Follow @marys\_church on twitter for congregational news.



Vicar:

Revd. Claire Dawson

[cdawson@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:cdawson@blueyonder.co.uk)

0114 272 4987/0749 3912127 (day off Friday)

[stmarys-church.co.uk](http://stmarys-church.co.uk)

Newsletters available online  
news to [steve@to-lo.co.uk](mailto:steve@to-lo.co.uk) or  
0783 5420392

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



Associate Vicar:

Revd. Karen Cribb

[revkaren@stmarys-church.co.uk](mailto:revkaren@stmarys-church.co.uk)

0758 0378507 (day off Tuesday)