

St Mary's Church Hitchin, Hertfordshire



www.stmaryshitchin.co.uk

The Second Sunday of Epiphany Sunday 15th January

Welcome to St Mary's. If you are a newcomer please introduce yourself to one of the clergy or fill in and hand to one of us the detachable section of our Welcome Bookmark. Do come and join us for coffee in Church House (opposite the North Door) after the 9.35am service.

The Collect

**Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory;
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.**

8.00am – Holy Communion

President: Canon Michael Roden

9.35am – Sung Communion with storytelling

President:	The Revd Fizz Gibbs
Preacher:	Father Tom O'Brien
Setting:	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Processional Hymn:	Appleford
Seekers' Song:	362 Come, let us join our cheerful songs – Nativity
Lesson Readings:	711 vv 1,4 & 5 Like a mighty river flowing <i>Isaiah 49:1-7 read by Sonia Bloom</i>
Gradual:	1 Corinthians 1:1-9 read by Helen Gimson
Gospel:	Psalm 40: 1-12 (see page 4)
Prayers are led by:	John 1:29-42
Offertory Hymn:	Jasmine Norton
Anthem:	650 Great is thy faithfulness – Faithfulness
Communion Hymn:	The Lamb – Tavener (see page 5)
	805 There is a Redeemer

Recessional Hymn: **507** We have a gospel to proclaim – St Fulda
Voluntary: Prelude and Fugue in C – J S Bach *played by Rose Norris*

11.15am Mattins

Officiant & Preacher: The Revd Fizz Gibbs
Introit: **362** Come, let us join our cheerful songs – Nativity
Hymn: **650** Great is thy faithfulness – Faithfulness
Offertory Hymn: **507** We have a gospel to proclaim – St Fulda

6:30pm Evening Prayer

Officiant & Preacher: Canon Michael Roden
Responses: Said
Psalm: 96
Old Testament Lesson: Ezekiel 2:1-3:4 *read by Jimmy Dawson*
Canticles: Said
New Testament Lesson: Galatians 1:11-end

Forthcoming Services

Morning Prayer (9:05am) is said on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. The Prayer Group meets on the first and third Saturdays of each month at 10am in church

Tuesday 17 th January	10am	Holy Communion
Thursday 19 th January	12.15pm	Holy Communion
Sunday 22 nd January <i>The Third Sunday of Epiphany</i>	8am 9:35am 11.15am 6:30pm	Holy Communion Sung Communion. Holy Communion (BCP) <i>CTH Service at Tilehouse Street Baptist Church (see notice)</i>
Tuesday 24 th January	10am	Holy Communion
Thursday 26 th January	12.15pm	Holy Communion
Sunday 29 th January <i>Presentation of Christ in the Temple</i>	8am 9:35am 11.15am 6:30pm	Holy Communion Sung Communion. with Christingle (see notice) Holy Communion (BCP) Choral Evensong

Readings for 22nd January

Morning Services: Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1,4-13; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18;
Matthew 4:12-23
Evening Service: Psalm 33; Ecclesiastes 3:1-11; 1 Peter 1:3-12



Prayers for people

We pray for all those who are to married, including: Laura Moore & Iestyn Williams

We pray for all who are ill, and by name for: John Lysons, Mary Blake, Melanie, Richard Drury, Daks Hamilton
...and we pray for all who love and care for them.

We continue to pray for: Emma Lacy, Rosemary Read, Charlotte Sabey-Corkindale, Melanie Taylor, John Payne-Cook, Thomas, Caroline & baby Noah Ayres.

We pray for church members at home or in residential care: Colin Atkinson, Sheila Axtens, Charlotte Boydon, Joan Burton, Jill Eve, Terence Hackett, Adrian Haigh, Craig Hamil, Cameron Harrison, Geoff Ingram, Hanna King, Janet Kipping, Irene Meek, José Perry, Jean Scott, Bill Shinn, Mark Vincent.
...and we pray for all who love and care for them.

We also pray for: Anne, Pam Barber, Royston Barker, Sue Bathmaker, Margaret Beddard, Dorothy Chamberlain, Christopher and Sarah and family, Gareth, Helen, Clive Holmes, Anne & Chris Jenkins, Jonathan, Brian Jones, Karen, Judith Kent, Emily Kilby, Alan Lawson, John Lee, Steven Marvell, Angela McNally, Jonathan McNally, Cynthia Myers, Agnes Emmanuel Odiachi, Phoebe, Ray, Betty Reader, Paul Street, Michael Taylor, Sally Thompson, John Toll, Joyce Toll, Bob Turney, Charlotte Wales.

...and we pray for all who love and care for them.

We remember before God those who have died: David Woodbridge, Paul Waldock, Janice Forward, Philip Chamberlain, Shirley Robinson, Fred Snow.
...and we pray for those who mourn.

Prayers for the World Church

A prayer from the Mothers' Union

Father bless those who see the plight of refugees, and who are meeting their needs. Give those who are exhausted renewed strength. Give courage to those who are overwhelmed, and give peace and compassion to those who suffer fear. Amen

Psalm 40:1-12

Alan Rees

Let all who seek you rejoice in you and be glad.

Choir: Let all who seek you rejoice in you and be glad.

All: *Let all who seek you rejoice in you and be glad.*

Choir: I waited patiently for the Lord;

he inclined to me and heard me cry.

He brought me out of the roaring pit, out of the mire and clay;
he set my feet upon a rock and made my footing sure.

All: *Let all who seek you rejoice in you and be glad.*

Choir: He has out a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God;
many shall see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.

Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord,
who does not turn to the proud that follow a lie.

All: *Let all who seek you rejoice in you and be glad.*

Choir: Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God.

How great your designs for us!

There is none that can be compared with you.

If I were to proclaim them and tell of them
they would be more than I am able to express.

All: *Let all who seek you rejoice in you and be glad.*

Choir: Sacrifice and offering you do not desire

but my ears you have opened;

Burnt offering and sacrifice for sin you have not required;
then said I: 'Lo, I come.'

All: *Let all who seek you rejoice in you and be glad.*

Choir: 'In the scroll of the book it is written of me

that I should do your will, O my God;

I delight to do it: your law is with in my heart.'

All: *Let all who seek you rejoice in you and be glad.*

Choir: I have declared your righteousness in the great congregation;

behold, I did not restrain my lips,

and that, O Lord, you know.

All: *Let all who seek you rejoice in you and be glad.*

Choir: Your righteousness I have not hidden in my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your loving-kindness and truth
from the great congregation.
Do not withhold your compassion from me, O Lord;
let your love and your faithfulness always preserve me.

All: *Let all who seek you rejoice in you and be glad.*

Sung Communion Anthem

The Lamb – John Tavener (1944-2013)

Little Lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed
By the stream and o'er the mead;

Gave thee clothing of delight,
Softest clothing, woolly, bright;
Gave thee such a tender voice,
Making all the vales rejoice?

Little Lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?
Little Lamb, I'll tell thee
Little Lamb, I'll tell thee;

He is called by thy name,
For he calls himself a Lamb.
He is meek, and he is mild.
He became a little child.

I, a child, and thou a lamb,
We are called by his name.
Little lamb, God bless thee!
Little lamb, God bless thee!

Words: William Blake (1757-1827)



Future Events

15th-22nd Jan **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** Churches Together in Hitchin is marking this international week of prayer with the following:

Sundays 15th and 22nd January: exchange of ministers at morning services

Sunday 22nd January 6.30pm at Tilehouse Street Baptist Church: united service, including the induction of the Revd Dr Jane Mainwaring of St Mark's as the Chair of Churches Together in Hitchin.

The theme of this year's Week of Prayer, chosen by the churches of Germany, is **Crossing Barriers** based on 2 Corinthians 5:14-20. If you would like to use the material personally, go to www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer

Further information about any of the above from John Richardson on johnrichardson891@btinternet.com or **07505 426876**

19th Jan 8pm **Wives' Group Beetle Drive** in Church House. All members of St Mary's welcome.

29th Jan 3pm **Talk and Tea "Railways in the Nineteenth Century: Connecting Town and Country"** in Holy Saviour Church. A talk by Carlos López Galviz, Lecturer at Lancaster University. The speaker will also touch on the work of Ebenezer Howard and the Garden City movement. Tickets £8 / Friends £7 (including tea and refreshments) are available from Clare Fleck **646257** and the Hitchin Initiative Office.

4th Feb large screen showing in St Mary's in aid of church funds of a double bill of **classic twenties silent films** with live organ accompaniment by Donald Mackenzie: THE GENERAL, starring Buster Keaton, "one of the most revered comedies of the silent era," preceded by the short feature CHASING CHOO CHOOS. Street food and wine served from 6.30pm, film starts 7.30pm.

Tickets £12 available from Hitchin Initiative, David's Bookshop and online at <http://www.wegottickets.com/event/384679>; also in church from *Robin Sternberg* **684588**

9th Feb 8pm **Mothers' Union AGM** in Church House. The meeting will be chaired by Nick Leathers, and include a short talk on the General Meeting at Winchester by Sonia Bloom & Edna Sibley.

11th Feb **Hitchin Deanery Quiet Day** in Turvey Abbey. Cost £10, tea and coffee provided, bring your own lunch and a bible. Further details from Michael Taylor **459611** or Joan Worboys **434179**



Notices

Many thanks to my team of flower arrangers for decorating the church so beautifully at Christmas, and to all those who so kindly donated towards the cost of the flowers. *Margaret*

Christingle Service. This year's Christingle will take place during the 9.35 service on Sunday 29th January. Should you wish to contribute to the valuable work of the Children's Society, envelopes will be available in church for the next three weeks. These can be returned at the Christingle service or another time if you will not be there on the 29th.

Over 18,000 children and young people were helped by the Society last year. This is through their work with those in danger of poverty, abuse, neglect, runaways and young carers also giving advice when needed. *Christine McCutcheon*

Dear fellow church members, We have a great team of **Weekday Welcomers**, otherwise known as Stewards, who give two hours a month to greet visitors to our lovely church on Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays for ten months of the year, March - December. We do this in pairs, and find it very enjoyable to meet visitors who are always most appreciative. No deep knowledge required, just a friendly smile.

The thing is, we really need more Welcomers – so would you like to think about joining the team? Do please contact me to talk about it. Many thanks, *Wendy Sternberg* ☎ 684588

St Mary's Joint Evensong at Wymondham Abbey A small number of congregational places are available (at a cost of £12 per seat) on the coach for St Mary's Choir trip to Wymondham Abbey on Sunday 5th February. The coach will leave St Mary's Square at approximately 11.15am, after the St Mary's 9.35am Service, arriving at lunchtime, with Choral Evensong at 5pm, and return to Hitchin by 8.30-9pm. If you are interested in joining the trip please speak to Ed Kisby or email him - kisbys@ntlworld.com.

Hitchin Foodbank: The most urgent need is for tinned ham and other canned meat; long life fruit juice; dried milk; UHT milk; jam; tinned rice pudding; 500g bags of sugar; tinned fish; tea bags; deodorant; Bags for Life. They are currently over supplied with pasta, rice, baked beans, soup and toilet rolls! Please ensure that all items are undamaged and in date. There is a collection point in church and also at both Waitrose & Sainsbury's. Further information can be found at letchworth.foodbank.org.uk *Thank you for your continuing contributions*

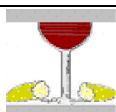


St Mary's Contacts

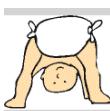
- Team Rector and Vicar – Canon Michael Roden ☎ 452758 in the first instance, otherwise ☎ 434017. Please send all mail to Church House. Michael's day off is Wednesday.
 - Part-time Curate – The Revd Dan Drew ☎ 07738 553264
 - Parish Office ☎ 452758 email: hitchinparishoffice@btinternet.com
 - Team Rector's Secretary - Dorothy Grieves ☎ 432951
 - Churchwardens – Derry Charman ☎ 420665, Warwick Wiggen ☎ 437523, Anne Senechal ☎ 641745
 - Director of Music – Alan Childs ☎ 01582 883420 email: a.j.childs@btinternet.com
 - Verger – Andrew Rogers ☎ 07824 363472 Andrew's days off are Wednesday & Thursday. For access on these days and outside normal hours please contact a Churchwarden.
 - Home Communion Requests: Pauline Sadler ☎ 636265
 - St Mary's Facebook Page:
<http://www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchHitchin>
- All contacts are published monthly in the Bulletin Supplement.*



St Mary's, through its **Charitable Giving Group**, supports AquAid Lifeline Fund's **Philip Veale Children's Centre** in Malawi caring for about 200 orphans in Gomani. AquAid can provide a whole month's child care for just £10. Ask Robin Sternberg ☎ 684588 for more details.



All communicant members of the Christian Church are welcome to receive the bread and the wine at a celebration of Holy Communion. Others are welcome at the altar rail to receive a blessing. If you wish for a blessing please ask.



For very young churchgoers: Please feel free to be in church during the services, but if you feel very distressed the choir vestry (at the back of church) also doubles as the "early years gurgling room". In there you will find a cabinet of toys. The room has glass doors so that you and your parents can see and hear services, but it also has an environment where you can feel at ease to be yourself and gurgle away.

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Details of future notices are needed by Wednesday and should be sent ideally by email to home@tracyandrobert.net or left in the "Bulletin Editor" pigeon hole at Church House.

The e-bulletin If you wish to be included in the email distribution of this bulletin, please send an email as above. Tracy Watson