

St Mary's Church Hitchin, Hertfordshire



www.stmaryshitchin.co.uk

Mothering Sunday Sunday 26th March 2017

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

**God of love,
passionate and strong, tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

8.00am – Holy Communion (BCP)

President: Canon Michael Roden

9.35am – Service of the Word

Officiant: Canon Michael Roden
Preacher: The Revd Dan Drew
Processional Hymn: **136** Fathers and mothers - Buessan
Lesson Readings: Exodus 2:1-10 *read by Rosie Morgan-Males*
Colossians 3:12-17 *read by William Morgan-Males*
Training Choir: Mother's Day - Bryant Oden
Offertory Hymn: **138** Our Father God in heaven - Ellacombe
Prayers are led by: Noah, Grace & Naomi Hart
Anthem: Ave Maria - Elgar
Recessional Hymn: **394** Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord! - Woodlands

11.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

President & Preacher: Canon Michael Roden
Introit: **313** (omit *) For Mary, Mother of our Lord
Offertory Hymn: **537** For the beauty of the earth – Englands Lane
Final Hymn: **739** Now thank we all our God – Nun Danket

Please take your bulletin home

6:30pm Evensong

Music Before Evensong:	Slow – Stanley <i>played by Tristan Rodway</i>
Officiant:	The Revd Dan Drew
Preacher:	Belinda Copson
Responses:	Ferial
Psalm:	34:11-20 (Chant page 4)
Old Testament Lesson:	1 Samuel 1:20-28 <i>read by Susie & Aaron Powell</i>
Office Hymn:	137 God of Eve and God of Mary – Love Divine
Canticles:	Chants page 4
New Testament Lesson:	2 Corinthians 1:3-7
Anthem:	Hail! Blessed Virgin Mary – arr. Wood (see page 4)
Offertory Hymn:	739 Now thank we all our God – Nun Danket
Voluntary:	Lamento – Guillmant <i>played by James Watson</i>

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 28 th March	10am	Holy Communion
Thursday 30 th March	12.15pm	Holy Communion
Sunday 2 nd April <i>Passion Sunday</i>	8am 9:35am 11.15am 6:30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Sung Communion <i>with a dramatic reading of the Passion Gospel</i> Storyteller Service Evensong
Tuesday 4 th April	10am	Mothers' Union Corporate Communion
Thursday 6 th April	12.15pm	Holy Communion
Sunday 9 th April <i>Palm Sunday</i>	8am 9:35am 11.15am 6:30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Sung Communion, <i>starting from the Market Square</i> Mattins Evensong

Readings for 2nd April:

Morning Services: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

Evening Service: Psalm 30; Lamentations 3:19-33; Matthew 20:17-end.



Prayers for people

We pray for all those who are to married, including: Sian Clark & Vittorio Frosini; Nicola Orme & Martin Finey; Karina Burrowes & Matthew Ladds; Stella Robinson & Michael King; Claire Storey & John Odong

We pray for all who are ill, and by name for: Isobel, Tokani, Jean Harris, Mavis Bird, Colin Atkinson, Luke Heaphy, Marjorie Weedon
...and we pray for all who love and care for them.

We continue to pray for: Daks Hamilton, Richard Drury, Jean Scott, Emma Lacy, Rosemary Read, Charlotte Sabey-Corkindale, Michael Taylor.

We pray for church members at home or in residential care: Sheila Axtens, Charlie Boydon, Joan Burton, Jill Eve, Terence Hackett, Adrian Haigh, Craig Hamil, Cameron Harrison, Geoff Ingram, Judith Kent, Hanna King, Janet Kipping, John & Margaret Lysons, Irene Meek, José Perry, Bill Shinn, Joyce Toll, Mark Vincent, Ron & Bertha Walters.
...and we pray for all who love and care for them.

We also pray for: Rex Agg, Anne, Pam Barber, Royston Barker, Sue Bathmaker, Margaret Beddard, Dorothy Chamberlain, Christopher and Sarah and family, Gareth, Helen, Carolyn Herbert, Anne & Chris Jenkins, Jonathan, Brian Jones, Emily Kilby, Alan Lawson, Steven Marvell, Angela McNally, Jonathan McNally, Melanie, Monika, Cynthia Myers, Agnes Emmanuel Odiachi, Linda Page, Ray, Betty Reader, Paul Street, Melanie Taylor, Sally Thompson, Bob Turney, Charlotte Wales.
...and we pray for all who love and care for them.

We remember before God those who have died: Renata, Audrey Huggins, Mary Blake.
...and we pray for those who mourn.

Prayers for the World Church

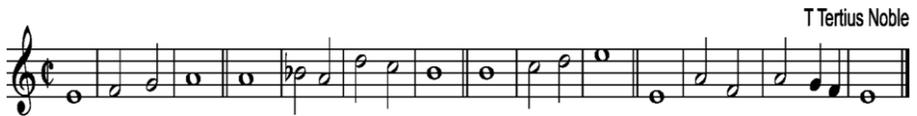
The Disasters Emergency Committee reports that 'hunger on a massive scale is looming across East Africa'. Famine is already declared in South Sudan – included in that region, and one of the countries where CMS (Church Mission Society) is much committed. Let us pray for an urgent response to save lives where children are especially at risk, and for God's work to continue unhindered.

Chants for Evensong

Psalm 34:11-20



Magnificat



Nunc Dimittis



Evensong Anthem

Hail! Blessed Virgin Mary! – Italian carol arr. Charles Wood (1866-1926)

Hail! Blessed Virgin Mary!

For so when he did meet thee,
spake mighty Gabriel,
and thus we greet thee.

come weal, come woe,
our hymn shall never vary.

Hail! Blessed Virgin Mary!

Hail! Blessed Virgin Mary!

Ave, ave Maria!

To gladden priest and people,
the angelus shall ring
from every steeple,
To sound his Virgin birth. Alleluia!

Ave, ave Maria!

Ave, ave Maria!

Archangels chant, "Osanna!"
And, "Holy, Holy, Holy,"
Before the Infant born
of thee, thou lowly,
Aye- maiden child of Joachim and Anna.
Archangels chant, "Osanna!"
Archangels chant, "Osanna!"

Words: G R Woodward (1848-1934)

Becoming an Inclusive Church – next steps

We have been working as a church for some time towards formal membership of Inclusive Church, and have now reached a further stage in that journey. On 8th March, the DCC unanimously approved the following resolution:

"We support the following Inclusive Church statement of belief:

We believe in an inclusive Church – Church which does not discriminate on any level, on grounds of economic power, gender, mental health, mental ability, physical ability, race or sexuality. We believe in a Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ.

And we hereby apply to become a member church of the Inclusive Church Network".

The next step is for us to apply for membership to the trustees of The Inclusive Church Network – we hope this will be approved in April. This is not the end of the process though – we will continue to try to develop good practice so that St Mary's is a place where all are truly welcome.

You can read more about Inclusive Church online at <https://inclusive-church.org.uk/> or speak to the St Mary's Inclusive Church Working Group reps - *Helen Gimson, Robin Sternberg, Belinda Copson.*



Notices

Many thanks to all those who helped assemble the Mother's Day flowers.
Margaret

We would be most grateful to receive donations for Easter flowers. We have two designated collection boxes marked "Donations for Flowers" where you may put your donations safely, they can be found on the ends of the pews nearest the North and South doors at the back of church. If anybody would like to help with arranging flowers on Easter Saturday please contact me. *Many thanks, Margaret*

Easter Bulletin: Due to Church House being closed during Holy Week, the bulletin published on 9th April will be a double edition, covering Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Sunday. All notices for these two weeks will be required by Wednesday 5th April. *Tracy Watson.*

Good Friday Walk of Witness Churches Together in Hitchin is organising its annual Good Friday Walk of Witness and United Service on 14th April. All are invited to assemble for prayer in Bancroft Gardens at 10.30am and to walk along Bancroft and High Street for a service in Market Place led by our ministers and a group of singers and musicians drawn from different churches. Hot cross buns will be distributed in the town centre. Further details from John Richardson on 07505 426876. Contact Harold Liberty (Walsworth Road Baptist Church) if you would like to be part of the music group 01582 881344 or harold.liberty@btinternet

Christian Aid Week Help Needed

St Mary's Christian Aid Representative for Christian Aid Week: I've now reached the point at which I need to hand over my role as Christian Aid Rep for St Mary's and am looking for a volunteer to take over. Christian Aid Week is usually in May and prior to that there is a meeting for Church Reps to attend to make arrangements for the Week: following that there will be some posters to distribute and display in Church House and/or Church, and then to discuss with our Rector if he wishes to continue to commission St Mary's collectors at the 9.35am service at the start of Christian Aid week. It isn't a very big commitment. If anyone feels they could take it on please contact David Norman on 01462 434778 or at dw.norman@btinternet.com.

Administration Help Needed. The person in charge of collecting in one of the areas in Hitchin has retired. The area has 13 voluntary door to door collectors. This job is once a year in April to count out the envelopes and distribute to each collector, then count the envelopes back at the end of Christian Aid Week in May. If you could help, or would like to know more please

contact Helen Richardson, Hitchin Christian Aid Organiser 07880 682681
helenwrich@btinternet.com

Request from Christchurch The people of Christchurch are holding an "Imagine Day" on 2nd April to look into what might be their church's vision for the future. They would appreciate the prayers of St Mary's people to support them in their discussions.

St Andrew's School: seeking a new governor St Andrew's School is looking for a new PCC-appointed foundation governor. This is a rewarding voluntary opportunity to contribute to the life of the school.

The need is for someone with good IT and/or finance skills who will strongly support the school's Christian ethos. To ensure diversity on the governing body, this vacancy is for someone who is not a parent of a child currently at the school.

Governors provide a strategic overview, act as 'critical friend' and ensure financial accountability. Foundation governors have an additional responsibility to promote the Christian ethos of the school. The term of office is for four years. A DBS check on appointment is required.

To find out more about what's involved, please contact Revd Ian Todd on ☎456140 or Robert Crowley on ☎456842 robertwcrowley@btinternet.com Please send applications to Revd Canon Michael Roden michaelroden@btinternet.com

The District Church Council met on 8th March and the minutes are at the back of church. I would be pleased to email them on request to me at jd.burns@btinternet.com Thank you. *Sylvia Burns*

Weekly Envelope Sets: If you are a member of this scheme, please collect your new set of envelopes from the back of the Church. You will find them near the South Door, on the table above the wooden chest.

Each set is contained in a personally addressed envelope, so please ensure that you pick up the correct one. If you no longer wish to be part of the Scheme, or would like to change your method of Regular Giving to Standing Order, please contact Lesley Davies, ☎625372, leldavies@outlook.com

Hitchin Foodbank: The most urgent need is for tinned meat; long life fruit juice; dried milk; small tins of potatoes; tinned pulses; tinned rice pudding and strong carrier bags. They are currently over supplied with pasta; rice; baked beans; soup and soap. Please ensure that all items are undamaged and in date. There is a collection point in church and also at both Waitrose and 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 Wigger ☎ 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