

St Mary's News

Sunday 6 June 2021

Please switch hearing aids to "T". Large print hymn books and service sheets available

Wi-Fi : (network: TalkTalk 5A4B4E) Password QYGEK4GM

Parish website : www.stmaryshadlow.org.uk Find us on Facebook: St Mary's Hadlow

Today

1st Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am Holy Communion in church and via Zoom

Readings:

Genesis 3: 8-15

Mark 3: 20-end



The Collect for the

1st Sunday after Trinity

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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**

Next week

2nd Sunday after Trinity

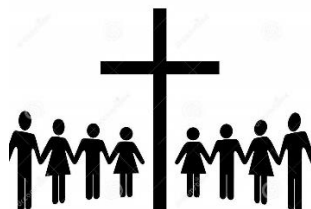
8am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am Parish Communion in church and via Zoom

Readings:

2 Corinthians 5: 6-17

Mark 4: 26-34



Prayers for the Week

We pray today for all who work in agriculture and horticulture in the parish.

We pray for those who have recently died:

Rob Wratten

And from our Book of Remembrance we pray for

Adam Simons (6th)

Patrick O' Sullivan (8th)

John Swinstead (9th)

Harold Fermor (12th)

Ron Pate (12th)

This Week at a glance

Monday

9am Morning Prayer (F)
6pm Compline (F)

Tuesday

9am Morning Prayer (F)
5.30pm Evening Prayer (F)

Wednesday

9.30am Holy Communion
10.30am-12.30pm Church open
6pm Compline (F)

Thursday

9am Morning Prayer (F)
5.30pm Evening Prayer (F)

Friday

7.15pm Choir Practice

Saturday

F = services via Facebook live

Help St Mary's receive £1000!

Ecclesiastical Insurance are offering to donate £1000 to a church – however we have to be nominated and the more nominations we get the better our chance. If you are happy to do this then please follow [this link](#) and nominate us before the closing date of 13 June. Our charity number is 1170577 and our official charity name is The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Mary, Hadlow.

Church Opening **Volunteers?**

As Covid restrictions gradually ease, the PCC would like to open the church for another morning or afternoon each week, preferably on a Friday, as this spaces out our opening times quite nicely (i.e. Wednesday, Friday and Sunday). However, this will need people to volunteer to open and close the church and oversee the food bank. This latter is not onerous and I shall talk you through it. Obviously, the more who volunteer the less time consuming it is for each person, but if you can only spare one morning or afternoon a month do please 'sign up' for this. Please contact either me or Janice and let us know when would work for you and we shall organise a rota. It would be good to see the church even more open.

Rev. Paul

Children's Society **Box Collection**

Offering of Children's Society boxes will take place at the 10am Service on Sunday 20 June. If you are unable to attend the service, please hand your box to a Church Warden or Kirsty beforehand or ring Kirsty on 850404.

Everything you always wanted to know about Church (but were afraid to ask)

For the next several weeks I am going to travel through the order of service for Holy Communion in 'ordinary' time and look at why we do what we do. There will be some diversions along the way as we also look at actions as well as words.

The Gathering ("*In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit*") and **The Greeting** ("*Grace, mercy & peace etc.*")

This is not merely a formal way of saying 'hello!' For most of the week we live our lives apart from one another. But on Sundays (always the day of resurrection) we gather in the church building as the church in this place. The word 'church' comes from 'ecclesia', which has its roots in 'assembly'. Although it is possible to be a lone Christian (and there is a long history of Christian hermits) the church and Christians within it are most fully themselves when we assemble together.

By starting our service in the name of the Trinitarian God we make it clear that this is not a social gathering or business meeting but is a sacred occasion. We are sanctifying (making holy) this place, this time and ourselves for the purpose of worship. Although we want our worship to be interesting, lively, informative, interactive, uplifting and all those good things we are also

making it clear that for one hour in the week we are directing our thoughts and actions unapologetically towards God. The music we hear or sing, the liturgy we say, the prayers we pray, the lessons and sermon we hear, the eucharist we share, the blessing we receive and take into the world are not intended for our entertainment but for the worship of God and for the building up of the body of Christ which is the church.

So we gather as disparate Christians and become a worshipping assembly; we dedicate ourselves to this purpose and greet one another, expressly in the name of Christ. Even if you are private about your faith in every other part of your life here we are saying publicly that we are gathered as followers of Christ and that our time and our worship is directed towards the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

I usually 'cross' myself at the opening words, and at other times during the liturgy, making the sign of the cross over my body. This has been part of the worship of the universal church since about the Second Century and is not merely a 'Catholic' affectation – according to this article even Martin Luther approved. Again it is about sanctification and being sacramental – an outward sign of an inner grace. For me, at least, worship is never just about words and thoughts but also about our senses and physicality. Which is why I also love incense in worship, but more of that another time.

Rev. Paul

Hadlow Scarecrow Trail: 25th – 26th September



It's that time of year again! Covid restrictions allowing, we are hoping to run our scarecrow trail again this year.

Theme: Historical Figures. If you might like to take part or want more details, contact Kirsty at: hadlow.scarecrowtrail@gmail.com. The event this year is being kindly sponsored by Hadlow Pharmacy.

Bishopscourt Garden Open as part of the National Garden Scheme, Sat & Sun June 12 & 13, 1pm-5pm. 24 St Margaret's Street, Rochester, ME1 ITS. Tickets £5, children free. Tea and cake and plant stall. Disabled parking only.

St Mary's Food Bank Update

At the moment we are mostly keeping pace with the steady demand, but there are a few items which would be particularly welcome and some with which we are already well stocked!

Items required:

Toilet rolls, baked beans, UHT skimmed milk, tinned fish, coffee, biscuits, fruit juice .

Items NOT currently needed:

Rice, muesli, tinned tomatoes!

Who's who at St Mary's?

Vicar

The Reverend Paul White
01732 850238
Pauljohnwhite@gmail.com

Church Wardens

Michael Payne (01732 852187)
John Speed (07725 691518)

Honorary Treasurer

Martin Massy (01732 851519)
mhmassy@btinternet.com

Parish Administrator

Janice Massy (07570 941809)
office@stmaryshadlow.org.uk

PCC Members, any of whom can be approached for help or information:

Reverend Paul White; Michael Payne & John Speed; Martin Massy; Val Newell & Barry Wheeler (Deanery Synod reps.); Cathy Brill, Melissa Crawshay-Williams; Kirsty Finch; Mike Harvey; Jenny Hopkins; Richard Hopkinson; Janice Massy; Steve Newell; Katerina Nixon; Lisa Porritt.

PCC Secretary:

Martin Massy
mhmassy@btinternet.com

Minutes of PCC meetings are on the notice board and on St Mary's website.