

St Mary's News

Sunday 27 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

4th Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am Holy Communion in church and via Zoom

Readings:

Lamentations 3: 23-33

Mark 5: 21-end



The Collect for the

5th Sunday after Trinity

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Next week

5th Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am Parish Communion in church and via Zoom

11.45am Baptism

Readings:

Ezekiel: 2:1-5

Mark 6: 1-13



Prayers for the Week

We pray today for all who live in Monypenny Close and Warren Gardens.

At the anniversary today of her death we pray for

Grace Burrows

And from our Book of Remembrance we pray for

Patricia Robinson (29th)

Mick Giles (2nd July)

Patricia Ann Austin (3rd)

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

Licensed Lay Ministry

Jenny's experience (see right) demonstrates that we can be called, trained and authorised to exercise ministry in church without also being ordained.

There are all sorts of ministries available, including licensed lay ministry, previously known as 'Reader' ministry, The diocesan website is a good starting point and Rev. Paul would be delighted to discuss it further with anyone who might be thinking about that, or any other form of service.

Anna Chaplaincy

Last Tuesday in Rochester Jenny Hopkins was commissioned by Bishop James as the Anna Chaplain for St Mary's. The purpose of Anna Chaplaincy is to be a Christian presence with and friend to the older people in our community, both in church and in the wider village. Jenny has already been exercising an informal ministry in this area for a number of years but she felt particularly called to develop this further as a result of the dementia-friendly nativity service in December 2019.

In the short-term Jenny will be opening the church on two Friday mornings a month (the first and third Friday, starting on 2 July) and would be delighted to see anyone who wishes to pop in for a chat. As covid restrictions lift (hopefully) the plan is that we would be able to re-start some coffee mornings for older people, a bereavement support group and a number of dementia-friendly services each year.

Please pray for Jenny in this new ministry and if you would like to work with her in any way as this work develops please do not hesitate to speak either to her or to Rev. Paul.

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

This week we continue to cover vestments, focusing on those worn during Eucharistic services.

Eucharistic Vestments

Compared with other services, things are a little different when celebrating the eucharist. Instead of a surplice, one would normally wear an 'alb'. Alb simply means 'white' and is a long white garment which completely covers the cassock. This is reminiscent of the long white robe worn at baptism, which reminds us that we are not here primarily by ordination but by baptism. If using an alb then one would also use an 'amice' which ties around the neck and covers the clerical collar, symbolising that this service is not about us personally.

However, for my sins, I currently don't use either an alb or an amice, instead I use a 'cassock alb', which is a combined cassock, alb and amice. The cassock alb is a source of controversy in certain church circles! As mine starts to reach the end of its life (I have used it since ordination) I shall probably replace it with the 'proper' garments.

Over the alb (or cassock alb) goes the stole, in the proper colour for the season. Green for 'ordinary' time, Purple for the penitential seasons of Lent and Advent, White for the celebrations of Christmas,

Easter and other festivals, Red for Pentecost and martyrs and Rose for Gaudete and Laudate Sundays in Advent and Lent respectively.

On top of everything, finally, goes the chasuble. Again, this large top garment is the colour of the season and this is the eucharistic vestment *par excellence*. Whilst the origins of the chasuble are unremarkable (it was simply an adaptation of outer-wear in use in Roman times) it has become deeply associated with the celebration of the eucharist and it is a privilege to vest in it knowing that one is about to celebrate the most central rite of our faith.

Now, you may think, *'what a load of faff, I don't believe that Jesus is the least bit bothered what we wear.'* On one level I understand that: when we stand before God he is not fooled by our covers or vestments! On the other hand it is also clear to me from the bible that God takes our worship seriously. The book of Exodus contains numerous chapters detailing what priests should wear and how worship should be offered. Whilst we are not bound by those laws, because of Jesus, nonetheless God the Father is still the same and I don't believe we are called to worship in a chaotic or careless fashion. If the Queen came to visit we would probably dress up in our best gear so when we come before the King of Kings I see no harm in making an effort!

Rev. Paul

Hadlow Scarecrow Trail 25th – 26th September



We are hoping to run our scarecrow trail again this year. Theme: Historical Figures. The event this year is being kindly sponsored by Hadlow Pharmacy. If you might like to take part or would like more details, contact Kirsty at: hadlow.scarecrowtrail@gmail.com.

Parish Vision Day

Saturday 25 September.

Open to all who are interested in supporting the life and ministry of St Mary's, The day is being led by Graham Wilkinson, Tonbridge Archdeaconry Mission Growth Enabler. The plan is to start at 9.30am with morning prayer and finish at 1pm with lunch. During the morning we shall be looking at all aspects of the life of St Mary's and, specifically, thinking about how we want to rebuild the church and its life and service coming out of covid.

Thank you

To Rev'd Christopher Miles for leading our 8am Holy Communion and preaching at the 10am service.

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.