

# St Mary's News

Sunday 4 July 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](http://www.stmaryshadlow.org.uk) Find us on Facebook: St Mary's Hadlow

## Today

### 5th Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am Holy Communion in church and via Zoom

11.45am Baptism: Hugo Ansell

### Readings:

Ezekiel: 2:1-5

Mark 6: 1-13



### The Collect for the 5th Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## Next week

### 6th Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am Parish Communion in church and via Zoom

### Readings:

Amos 7:7-15

Mark 6:14-29



### Prayers for the Week

We pray today for all who live in Tonbridge Road and Ashes Lane, and for Hugo being baptised today.

### **And from our Book of Remembrance we pray for**

George Temperley Kirk (4<sup>th</sup>)

Damacio Patnett (7<sup>th</sup>)

Dora Huckans (9<sup>th</sup>)

## **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**

2pm Wedding: Joe Parsons &  
Emily Stubbs

## **Hospital Car Service**

If you would like transport to a hospital or other medical appointment, please contact Mike Harvey on 01732 851881

## **Are you a UK taxpayer?**

For every pound you Gift Aid to St Mary's, the government will add 25p. It can also be claimed retrospectively. Gift Aid envelopes are available for one-off cash donations. You can also gift aid donations to charity appeals.

## **Parish Vision Day**

### **Saturday 9 October.**

The day will start at 9.30am with Morning Prayer and will end at lunchtime, with a 'bring and share' style lunch and/or a ploughman's. We will be chaired by Graham Wilkinson who is the Growth Enabler for our Archdeaconry. The purpose of the day is to help us 'Build Back Better' from a, frankly, weird and challenging couple of years. We will look at everything from how we worship to how we interact with the wider community of Hadlow and, most importantly, discussing how we want to do those things into the future. Whilst Covid presented us with significant challenges it has also given us a unique opportunity to take stock and make a plan for the life and mission of St Mary's. It would be great to have as many people as possible there on the day and, most importantly, to ensure a cross-section from all areas of church life.

## **Church Open**

### **1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays**

Just a reminder that Jenny Hopkins, our Anna Chaplain, will be in church and happy to chat on the first and third Friday of each month, but we hope that this will quickly develop further as Covid restrictions lift.

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

Following a brief diversion into the subject of vestments we now return to what happens in our communion service:

*"Let us prepare our hearts and minds to enter into the presence of God"*

Having dedicated this time and space to worship, and having greeted one another not merely as friends but as fellow-disciples of Christ, we now journey further into the presence of God in both word and sacrament. Some faiths require their followers to leave their shoes at the door, to cover (or uncover) their heads or to ritually wash themselves before praying. In our tradition we seek purity of heart through prayer and, in Common Worship, we say the **Prayer of Preparation**, and the **Prayers of Penitence**, which include both confession and absolution.

Christianity sometimes gets a 'bad rap' for being all about sin and guilt, and sometimes we over-react to that charge by saying 'come as you are', which is fine but if we also 'leave as we were' then nothing much has happened. However, we all know that none of us are perfect and, moment by moment, we all fail to be the

people that God wants us to be. But, and this is the good news, we are not stuck in that place. Every week, or more frequently if we wish, we consciously open our hearts to God, confess that we have got it wrong and hear the words of absolution.

Provided that we have truly confessed our sins, which does mean examining our consciences in the light of the Gospel, then we should know that the absolution is real - God forgives us and makes us clean and new again. Although the absolution is pronounced by the priest it is not the priest forgiving your sins but telling you in no uncertain terms that God forgives you.

I want to reframe 'sin and guilt' into 'forgiveness and joy'.

We can't approach God in our sin or because of our own goodness. We draw close to him because he has the grace to forgive us, because we seek to follow Jesus, and that should give us joy.

As with all the words of the liturgy if we say things in a perfunctory way then they will not scratch the surface. But if we truly open our hearts to the cleansing of the Holy Spirit and truly know that God's cleansing has burned away our sin. And, as we are freed from our sins, we give thanks by singing to God's glory!

*Rev. Paul*

## Hadlow Scarecrow Trail 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> September



We are hoping to run our scarecrow trail again this year. Theme: Historical Figures. This year's

event is being kindly sponsored by Hadlow Pharmacy. If you might like to take part or would like more details, contact Kirsty: [hadlow.scarecrowtrail@gmail.com](mailto:hadlow.scarecrowtrail@gmail.com).

### The Vicarage Telephone – a request

Like many of us, the landline number at the Vicarage gets a huge number of nuisance or spam calls. The majority of these show up on the telephone either as 'International' call or 'Number Withheld'. I will therefore not answer those calls as a matter of course. However, if it is you calling then you will get through to the Vicarage answerphone. Please leave a message and **I will get back to you.**

If you are using your regular number and I am not picking up the landline it is because I am either not there or am otherwise engaged. So please use the answerphone or, even better, send me an email because that will reach me wherever I am.

*Rev. Paul*

## Who's who at St Mary's?

### Vicar

The Reverend Paul White  
01732 850238  
[Pauljohnwhite@gmail.com](mailto:Pauljohnwhite@gmail.com)

### Church Wardens

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

### Honorary Treasurer

Martin Massy (01732 851519)  
[mhmassy@btinternet.com](mailto:mhmassy@btinternet.com)

### Anna Chaplain

Jenny Hopkins (01732 852386)

### Parish Administrator

Janice Massy (07570 941809)  
[office@stmaryshadlow.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:mhmassy@btinternet.com)

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