

# St Mary's News

## Sunday 1 August 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

#### 9th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00am Parish Communion in church and via Zoom

#### Readings:

Ephesians 4: 1-16

John 6: 24-35



#### The Collect for the

#### 9th Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; 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

#### 10th Sunday after Trinity

No 8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Service of the Word in church and via Zoom

#### Readings:

I Kings 19: 4-8

John 6: 35, 41-51



#### Prayers for the Week

We pray today for all who live in Carpenters Lane and Steers Place, and for Joy and Mark who were married here on Friday.

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

Patricia Howells (1<sup>st</sup> Aug)

Ada Marion Rose Sibun (2<sup>nd</sup>)

Joyce Rayner (4<sup>th</sup>)

George Edwin Bowden (7<sup>th</sup>)

## This Week at a glance

**Monday**

**Tuesday**

**Wednesday**

9.30am Holy Communion (F)  
10.30am-12.30pm Church open  
7.30pm Bell ringing practice

**Thursday**

**Friday**

10.30am-12.30 Seniors' Coffee  
Morning and church open  
7.15pm Choir practice

**Saturday**

(F) = available on Facebook

## **Wednesday Morning Services and Church Opening**

On Wednesdays 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> August there will be no 9.30am Communion. However, it would be great to have the church and the food bank open from 10.30am to 12.30pm on those days if possible. If you might be able to open the church and greet people on those days then please let either Paul or Janice know.

## **Seniors Coffee Mornings**

Fridays 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> August,  
10.30am to 12.30pm. All  
welcome.

## **Covid Measures in Church**

Just a reminder that last week's Covid-prevention measures will remain as follows until the date of the September PCC meeting, unless there are any dramatic changes.

- There is no limit on numbers in the choir, although they do need to space themselves, and they are able to sing without masks.
- The congregation may join in with the hymns, although we do ask everyone to remain masked and to sing without bellowing.
- Signing in for the service, using hand sanitiser, social distancing and mask wearing is not **compulsory**. However, we would request that everyone continues to do these things on a voluntary basis out of love and consideration for one another. **This does not apply to those who are medically exempt from mask wearing.**
- If you decide not to wear a mask when singing or not to observe social distancing in church, please ask those around you if they are comfortable with your choices.
- The current arrangement for sharing the peace will continue and the chalice will not currently be offered.

## **Everything you always wanted to know about Church**

After the sermon we stand together to recite the Creed. The word 'creed' comes from the Latin 'credo', meaning 'believe' which is both the opening words of the creed and summarises what we are doing – saying together what the church believes.

We most commonly use the Nicene Creed, named after the Council of Nicea where it was approved in 325 AD as the universal statement of the church's beliefs and was amended in 381 AD. So this is not new stuff! Despite Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Anglican churches not being 'in communion' with one another, the fact that we say this statement of beliefs, dating to pre-schism days, comforts us that we are in continuity with the deep roots of the church.

The whole point of the creed is to state concisely what the church believes about the central tenets of the Christian faith. So, it is Trinitarian – Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all God. I have nothing against Unitarians, for example, but to deny the Trinity, I would suggest, is to stand outside the boundaries of the universal church. The creed is clear about Jesus' humanity and his divinity, a view not shared by Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses and others.

The creed concisely tells the story of Jesus' incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection and return as King. Every line is packed with meaning and rewards prayerful reading in its own right.

The purpose of the creed is not to exclude those who don't share beliefs

but rather to preserve the inheritance of faith. If the church changed those core beliefs with every passing generation, or simply said 'believe whatever you like' then it would soon bear no relation to those who followed Christ from the beginning.

Of course, *practices* within the church can and do change; recent examples include the ordination of women and questions such as same-sex marriage, neither actually being credal matters. In addition to the Nicene Creed we sometimes use the Apostle's Creed, and Kelly will be using this in her service on 8 August. Although this is the shorter form of the creed its history and development is less clear-cut than the Nicene Creed. The Orthodox Church don't use the Apostle's Creed, not because they disagree with any of its statements (it is thoroughly Trinitarian) but simply because it does not say as much as the Nicene Creed and, therefore, makes the boundaries of belief too fuzzy for them.

Finally, despite all this talk of boundaries and fuzziness, I should make it clear that no individual needs to be able to fully assent to every line of the creed – I know many on a journey of faith who may struggle with bits of it, whilst still seeking after Jesus. It is the church together which asserts the creed ("we believe"), so provided we are each clinging to something larger than ourselves which asserts those beliefs, then we are each still part of the church whilst also seeking after understanding.

*Rev'd Paul*

## **Food Bank**

We have had a bit of a run on the food bank over the last few weeks, and now have gaps in most areas, other than rice and cereals.

We would gratefully receive pastas, UHT milk, tinned food of any description, loo rolls or other toiletries. Donations can come into church on Wednesday, Friday or Sunday mornings or may be left at the Vicarage whenever suits.

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



Where Hadlow leads, Ambridge follows. Our popular scarecrow trail returns this year for the third time. If you would like to take part or want

more details, please contact Kirsty: [hadlow.scarecrowtrail@gmail.com](mailto:hadlow.scarecrowtrail@gmail.com)  
The event this year is being kindly sponsored by Hadlow Pharmacy.

## **Housekeeper Wanted**

We need someone to order supplies for the upper room kitchen and toilets. It does not require a lot of time – just an occasional check to see that stocks do not run out. If you would be interested in helping out or would like more information, please speak to Paul or one of the churchwardens.

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

### **Vicar**

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

### **Anna Chaplain**

Jenny Hopkins (01732 852386)

### **Church Wardens**

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

### **Honorary Treasurer**

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

### **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.*