



23 February 2025

Third Sunday before Lent

Welcome to our services today

9am: Parish Eucharist at St John's
10.30am: Parish Eucharist at St Mary's
4pm: Lego Church

Music: Organist St. John's: Hilary Goodman, **Hymns: 623, 236, 810.**
Organist St. Mary's: Rosemary Nayyar, **Hymns: 354, 393, 306, 297.**
Anthem: God be in my head, *Walford Davies*

The Benefice Online Services; 'Meeting Point' and 'Celtic Midweek Liturgy' are for you if you missed our services in church, or for further reflection during the week. <https://www.stmaryhighamferrers.org/online-worship>

Mon 24 6pm Evening Prayer in the Chantry Chapel
Tues 25 1-3pm Knit & Natter at St John's
Tues 25 7.30pm Bellringing practice at St Mary's
Wed 26 10am Morning Prayer at St Mary's
Thurs 27 10am Said Eucharist with Coffee & chat to 12noon at St Mary's

Sunday 2 March 2025 Sunday next before Lent

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's
10.30am All Age Eucharist at St Mary's

Collect Prayer.

Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Revelation 4

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their

heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal.

Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing,

‘Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.’ And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,

‘You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.’

Luke 8:22-25

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, ‘Let us go across to the other side of the lake.’ So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, ‘Master, Master, we are perishing!’ And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, ‘Where is your faith?’ They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, ‘Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?’

Post Communion Prayer.

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour’s cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Children are welcome at all our Services in both churches, we have children’s areas with colouring and toys and are looking at ways to better include them in all we do. We understand that some of our services can seem long to little ones, and it is absolutely fine if they need to wriggle or play or move around.

For your Prayers.

Our prayers have been asked for: Karen Addis, Brian Bond, Liz Boughton, Nola Brockhouse, Simon Brown, Ian Challen, Mary Coleman, Marian Cox, Lynda & Peter Etheridge, Freda Fernyhough, Christine Franklin, Andrew Fulcher, Colin Gilkes, Sandra Hill, Margaret Janowski, Sarah Knight, Marion Knott, Sally Mayes, Lorcan McLaren (age 11), Emily Ogden, Freda Pack, Val Robinson, Fr. Nichols Spencer, Elizabeth Swindley, Stewart Wiles, Clare Yorke.

St John's: Jo Barrie, Pauline Brown, Nick Kirk, Lesley Littlejohn, Dr Northover, Brenda May, Lynn Redgagte, Arthur & Anita Wright.

In memoriam: Ken Robinson

Year's mind anniversaries: Frank Pridmore, Edward Wright, Dan Horsfield, Cecil Kilsby, Elsie Pack, Tony Norman, Phyllis Tipler, Jules Lienberger, Janet Boddington, Edward Mountford, Ivy Freeman, John Hill, Ivy Brown, Rufus Jephcote (Snr), Violet Sculthorpe, Rose Baxter, Herbert Fry (Priest), Lilian Pettit, Arthur Bates, John Martin, Arthur Batt, Gordon Allen, Andrew Spencer, Phyllis Lowder, Brenda Miles, Lilian Clark, Winifred Wilson, Alice Upton, Yvonne Burgon, Constance Johnson, Ernest Coker, Albert Dickens, Isobella Powell, William Pettit, Evelyn Hunt, Douglas Gilbert, William Maycock, Linda Johnson, Kenneth Smith, Leonard Meredith, Nicholas Murphy, Constance Baker, Collis Baxter, Peter Mayes.

NOTICES

BENEFICE

Last call for your old palm crosses to make the new ash for Ash Wednesday – a basket is available in each church. Thank you.

5 March - Ash Wednesday Eucharist, with imposition of ashes

St John's at 10am and St Mary's at 7.30pm.

30 March – Mothering Sunday

This is a 5th Sunday and usually we would have a joint service, but because of the special nature of the day we will have services at both churches.

In the afternoon there will be another **Mothering Sunday – It's complicated!** service and space for all who find the day hard, emotional or complicated.

The clocks also change on this day, be warned!

ST. MARY'S



Lego Church – Sunday 23 February

All welcome as we discover more about St Paul's exciting travels, with a chance to build part of the story. Fun, fellowship, food and lots of Lego building!

Please let Mthr Louise know if you are planning to come, for catering purposes.

Celtic Evening services will restart on Thursday 13 March in the Chantry Chapel. A short service with time to sit in silence with our Lord.

ST JOHN'S



Snowdrop Weekend

A very big thank you to the team who put this weekend together, and to all who visited St John's. It was a great time despite the slightly damp and grey weather, and lovely to see a packed church. We raised an amazing £8,000.

Snowdrops are for more than just Snowdrop Weekend however, do visit anytime to enjoy their beauty along with the aconites. The church is open between 10am and 4pm daily, and currently there are still some snowdrops for sale in the porch.

Knit and Natter, 1-3pm 25 Feb. Tea and Cakes returns in March

For all enquiries and requests for pastoral help:

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Bede House Bookings only:	thebedehouse@gmail.com
Website	www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk

Churchwardens:

St. John's; Arthur Wright 01933 624530, and Andrew Wager 07789 286398

St. Mary's; Sandy Coleman 07519 396654

The office is open Tuesdays and Fridays, 9.30am-2.30pm.

Please send enquiries by email if possible, and a reply will be sent as soon as our administrator Ria is next in the office.

Mthr Louise is off duty Friday 21 February.