



St Mary and St Margaret Church

Castle Bromwich

February/March 2024

Newsletter

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER



A Message from Revd Fiona

One of the stories we had in church recently was the wedding at Cana – Jesus' first miracle – where the wine had run out and there wasn't enough to celebrate the wedding. Many in our area find they simply don't have enough. Not enough to pay the bills, not enough to give our kids what we want to, not enough heat, not enough to be healthy, not enough time and energy, not enough company and support, not enough compassion and love.

We can sometimes feel like this in our Church community – we can feel we have worked so hard and given so much – some of us have been faithful to God for such a long time – yet we can feel despite our faithfulness there isn't enough [energy, money or people] to be who God is calling us to be now and into the future. The needs of our community and world around us calling out to us like a crowd of guests at a wedding thirsty for wine that is in short supply!

Yet when we return to the story what do we find – the water with Jesus has been replaced with the best wine – better than they could ever have afforded themselves. It is in the fear and reality of not having enough, it is in approaching humiliation and dismay that Jesus' glory is to be glimpsed and the guests experience a transformation of what seemed like a dire situation.

It is a hard thing to really trust Jesus isn't it? To lay aside our own agendas and dreams and tune into the present and future that God is calling us into. It is often only at those points of realising that we can't do things ourselves – when it has all become too much – where we learn to rely on God to shape us into the church that is needed now and into the future – and trust that God will provide what is needed. It will look different to the past and we will have to let go of things that we might not want to – but that's okay – we are not called to follow Jesus in the past, we are called to follow Jesus now and into the future.

As Christians we are not called to be successful or to try and recreate the past or keep things going as they used to be, we are simply called to be faithful to Christ now, today – to pray – listen to the Spirit and trust in God to give what is needed for this time. Jesus always points us to the future and we are invited to turn and walk with hope into God's future that we are being called into. In Christ the old has gone, behold everything has become new; faithfulness to Christ is everything because at the end of the day whose glory is all of this for?

Revd Fiona

Upcoming Services

Saturday 3rd February

11am Celebration of Reader Ministry
Birmingham Cathedral

Sunday 4th February

11am All Age Communion & Baptism

Wednesday 7th February

9.30am Family Communion

Sunday 11th February

9.30am Sunday Communion &
Messy Church

Wednesday 14th February

Ash Wednesday

10am Morning Communion with
ashing at St Clements

7pm Evening Communion with
imposition of ashes

Sunday 18th February

11am Sunday Communion (Church)
Cafe Worship (Community Hall)

Wednesday 21st February

9.30am Family Communion

Sunday 25th February

9.30am All Age Communion

Sunday 3rd March

11am All Age Communion & Baptism

Wednesday 6th March

9.30am Family Communion

Sunday 10th March

9.30am Sunday Communion &
Messy Church

Sunday 17th March

11am Sunday Communion (Church)
Cafe Worship (Community Hall)

Wednesday 20th March

9.30am Family Communion

Sunday 24th March

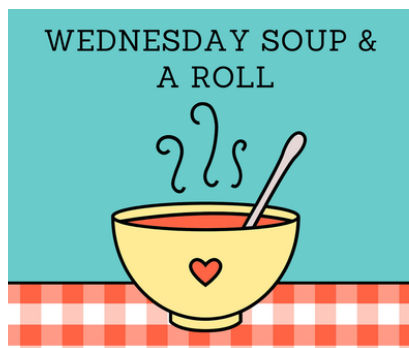
9.30am Palm Sunday - All Age

Sunday 31st March

9.30am All Age Easter Communion

FOR ALL HOLY WEEK SERVICES

SEE PAGE 4 BELOW



Soup & a Roll Lunch
2nd Wednesday of the Month
14th Feb & 13th March
12 - 1.30pm Community Hall

Join us for our monthly Soup & a Roll Lunch for a £1 donation, on every 2nd Wednesday of the month following our Family Service and Wednesday Drop In. Everyone is welcome!



MU Friendship Afternoon
Weds 21st Feb & 20th March
2 - 3.30pm Community Hall

Join us for an afternoon of fellowship & fun with a cuppa, a piece of cake & a chat!

All are welcome to join us - we would love to see you!

Collective Worship
Monday 5th & 26th Feb & 11th March

9.30am

St Mary & St Margaret School Hall

Everyone is welcome to join our collective worship with children from St Mary & St Margaret CofE School in the school hall.



Wednesday Drop In
2nd & 4th Wednesday of the Month
14th & 28th February
10 - 11.30am Community Hall
Join us for a cuppa and a chat - everyone is welcome!



Baby & Me Friendship Cafe
1st & 3rd Wednesday of the Month
(Unless otherwise stated & term time only)
7th & 21st February, 6th & 20th March
10 - 11.30am Community Hall

£1.50 per family

Our inclusive baby & parent group, suitable for children upto 2 years old, invites you to join them for a morning of fun and companionship along with a cuppa & a biscuit!

Unfortunately the group will be having a hiatus whilst we search for new leadership, and there are no further sessions planned after March for the foreseeable future. Leigh and the team would like to thank all the parents and babies who have supported the group over the last 5 years - it has been a real pleasure and honour meeting everyone and offering a safe space for new parents.

If you haven't attended before please complete the form via below link:
<https://forms.gle/Y1XNsoAWrmBy5eHy9>

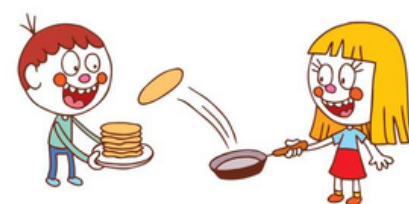


The Coffee Pot - Bereavement Group
2nd Monday of the Month
12th February
1.30 - 3pm Community Hall

Everyone is welcome for refreshments and conversation, at this welcoming support group that provides help and companionship for anyone experiencing difficult times.

All Age Pancake Dash
Sunday 18th February
Following Service
Church Grounds

All ages are invited to take part in our annual Pancake Dash. Races for different age categories and prizes for the winners! Bring your own frying pan and pancake to take part!



If you do not currently receive this directly or know someone who would like to receive this digitally please email
stmaryandstmargaretchurchcb@gmail.com



Wayfarers - Messy Church

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF
SUNDAY - 2nd Sunday of the
Month**

**Sunday 11th Feb & 10th March
9.30 am Starting in Church
before moving to Community
Hall**

Join us for fun & fellowship in this interactive session, featuring craft activities and worship. Suitable for children aged 4 - 11 however 3 year olds are welcome if accompanied by an adult.

****Please note all children must have a parent or guardian in attendance in our Sunday Worship and should not be left on site unattended.****



Café Worship

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF
SUNDAY - 3rd Sunday of the
Month**

**Sunday 18th Feb & 17th March
11am Community Hall**

Join us for informal, all age worship which runs alongside our main Sunday Worship with refreshments, songs, activities and crafts. Everyone is welcome!



Morning Prayer & Bible Reflection

**Thurs 1st, 15th & 29th Feb
14th, March**

**9.30 - 10.15am
Community Hall**

Join Revd Fiona for morning prayer & Bible reflection.



Lent Series

**Wednesdays 14/02 - 20/03
& Sunday 24/03**

**Online & In Person
Hodge Hill Church**

This year, everyone in our oversight area are being encouraged to join Hodge Hill's Lent talks - either in person or to watch & discuss in groups. For more information & to book [Click Here](#)



Luncheon Club

Thursday 22nd February

12pm - 2pm Community Hall

Join our pastoral team for an afternoon of good company and good food. Everyone is welcome to join us - whether you have been before or not. If you wish to book a place please email stmaryandstmargarechurchcb@gmail.com or add your name to the sign up sheet in the Community Hall.

HOW TO KEEP UP TO DATE



Official Church FB Page

[facebook.com/](https://facebook.com/stmaryandstmargarechurch)

[stmaryandstmargarechurch](https://facebook.com/stmaryandstmargarechurch)



Church & Community Hall Group

facebook.com/groups/106452275854

Or visit our website

www.stmaryandstmargaret.co.uk

Community Hall Page

facebook.com/stmaryandstmargaretcommunityhall



Palm Sunday

Sunday 24th March
9.30am All Age Communion
St Mary & St Margaret

Wednesday 27th March

10am Holy Communion
St Clements



Maundy Thursday

Thursday 28th March
6pm St Clements
7.30pm St Mary & St Margaret
Followed by the Watch



Good Friday

Friday 29th March
10am Family Easter Craft Workshop
St Mary & St Margaret
Fun & interactive craft workshop & worship - following in the footsteps of Jesus. Followed by Hot Cross Buns & refreshments in the Community Hall.

12pm Good Friday Service
St Mary & St Margaret

2pm Good Friday Service
St Clements



Holy Saturday

Saturday 30th March
7pm All Age Service of Light
St Mary & St Margaret Church Grounds & Community Hall
Followed by toasting marshmallows & hot chocolate (weather permitting)



Easter Sunday

Sunday 31st March
9.30am All Age Easter Day Communion
St Mary & St Margaret

Family Easter Egg Trail in the Church grounds - following All Age Communion
Solve the puzzle and claim a prize!