

St Mary the Virgin and All Saints, Potters Bar**3rd March 2024****The Third Sunday of Lent***A warm welcome to St Mary's**Please do join us for refreshments after the Parish Eucharist***TODAY'S SERVICES****8.00am HOLY COMMUNION****10.00am PARISH EUCHARIST***We welcome **Mr John Bier**, Chair of the Trustees of Homeless Action in Barnet, as our speaker*Old Testament Reading: Exodus 20 vv 1-17 *The Ten Commandments – the epitome of man's duties towards God and his neighbour.*New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 1 vv 18-25 *Those who are saved are not the wise of this world, but those who believe.*Gospel: John 2 vv 13-22 *Jesus drives out the traders and money-changers from the Temple in Jerusalem.***Hymns:** 234, 360, 405, 94, 437

During Lent, when we do not sing Alleluia, the response before the Gospel reading at the Parish Eucharist is:
"Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!"

The Week Ahead

Monday	10.30am	Friendship Group meets at the Oakmere Tea Rooms
	8.00pm	Lent study group
Tuesday	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	12.30pm	Organ Recital by Anthony Gritten <i>Light lunches available from 12 noon</i>
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer
Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion <i>Celebrant: Fr Ayoub Adwar</i>
	10.30am – 12 noon	Church open for private prayer
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday		St Perpetua, St Felicity & companions
	9.30am	Holy Communion <i>(Book of Common Prayer)</i>
	10.15am	Lent study group
	10.30am – 12 noon	Church open for private prayer
Friday	5.00pm	Evening Prayer
		Edward King, bishop
	9.00am	St John's School service for Mothering Sunday
Saturday	12.30pm	Stations of the Cross
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer
	7.30pm	Hertfordshire Philharmonia concert <i>(rehearsal during the afternoon)</i>
Next Sunday is MOTHERING SUNDAY (Lent 4)		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	FAMILY EUCHARIST
	5.00pm	Evensong

Fr Stefan Chrysostomou, Vicar Tel: 01707 859028
 Email: vicar@stmaryspb.org.uk

Please send any items for this sheet to **Richard Osborn**
 Email: rmosborn@hotmail.com
 Tel: 07803 756088 / 020 8363 8197
 Website: www.stmaryspb.org.uk

Parish Notices**LENT 2024 at ST MARY'S**

Worship As part of your Lenten discipline, in addition to the Sunday Eucharist, why not try to attend one of our regular **weekday Eucharists**? Or possibly **Morning & Evening Prayer**? A half-hour **silent prayer** session will take place on **Tuesdays** at **12 noon** (except for this Tuesday). **Stations of the Cross** will take place **every Friday** at **12.30pm**.

Group Study Study groups are meeting at church on Monday evenings at 8.00pm (focusing on The Creeds) and Thursday mornings at 10.15am after the 9.30am Eucharist (focusing on Church and Kingdom). All are welcome, even if you have missed the earlier sessions.

Lent Sacrificial Giving This year we are supporting Homeless Action in Barnet (HAB). Donations can be made using the yellow Gift Aid envelopes or by bank transfer which should be marked "HAB" or "Lent Appeal".

We are hosting two concerts on Saturdays in March:

- **Next Saturday** at 7.30pm – Hertfordshire Philharmonia
 - **16th March** at 7.30pm – Potters Bar Choral Society
- Details are available on the posters in the narthex.

The next church cleaning session will be on **Tuesday 19th March** from 10.00am. If you are able to lend a hand, that would be much appreciated.

The PCC will meet on **Wednesday 20th March** at 8.00pm, preceded by a celebration of the Eucharist at 7.30pm.

If you are a regular worshipper here, we would like to encourage you to join our **Electoral Roll** which is being revised in preparation for our Annual Meeting on Sunday 28th April. Please ask Elizabeth Liney or Richard for an application form - only new applicants need to complete a form this year. Forms to be returned by Sunday 7th April.

As is our tradition, we shall remember our departed loved ones with **lilies at Easter**, with their names listed on a scroll in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Please write names of those you wish to be remembered on a piece of paper and enclose it in an envelope with **£1.50** for each lily (*using a Gift Aid envelope, if possible*). Names & money to be given to Richard or Pearl by **Sunday 17th March**. Names can also be emailed or phoned through to Richard with payment made by electronic bank transfer.

For your prayers

The sick Bishop Alan, Paul Camp, Francoise Groves-de-Milleret, Bill Peters, Elinor Battersby, Valerie Taylor, Ricky Mella, Thomas Dey, Regina, Laura Page, Vilma Bonnici

We give thanks for the improvement in the health of Janice Neal

We also pray for Ron & Joan Golden, Jackie Plummer, Doreen Whittle, Kate Schofield, David Hancock, Tess, Keith Downes, Jayne Hutton, Susan North, Robert Peters, Brooke Martin, David Evans, Nicola Stiff, Alison Stevens, Brian Warren, Desmond Haynes, Marjorie Zerfahs, John Stanton, Johanna Stanton, Betty Lockton, Stephen Disley, Zanna Bloomfield, Keith Probert, Ann Williams

The recently departed Trevor Eldon, Andrew Billington, June Bell

Those whose anniversary of death falls this week Harry Halsey, Lily Holmes, Joan Rutter, John Munday

Our parish We remember those who live and work in Mountway, Mutton Lane and Northlands

COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy
but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was
crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way
of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life
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.

FIRST READING Exodus 20:1-17

A reading from the book of Exodus.

Then God spoke all these words: I am
the LORD your God, who brought you
out of the land of Egypt, out of the house
of slavery; you shall have no other gods
before me. You shall not make for yourself
an idol, whether in the form of anything
that is in heaven above, or that is on the
earth beneath, or that is in the water under
the earth. You shall not bow down to them
or worship them; for I the LORD your God
am a jealous God, punishing children for
the iniquity of parents, to the third and
the fourth generation of those who reject
me, but showing steadfast love to the
thousandth generation of those who love
me and keep my commandments. You
shall not make wrongful use of the name
of the LORD your God, for the LORD will
not acquit anyone who misuses his name.
Remember the sabbath day, and keep
it holy. Six days you shall labour and do
all your work. But the seventh day is a
sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall
not do any work – you, your son or your
daughter, your male or female slave, your
livestock, or the alien resident in your
towns. For in six days the LORD made
heaven and earth, the sea, and all that
is in them, but rested the seventh day;
therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath
day and consecrated it. Honour your father
and your mother, so that your days may be
long in the land that the LORD your God is
giving you. You shall not murder. You shall
not commit adultery. You shall not steal.
You shall not bear false witness against
your neighbour. You shall not covet your
neighbour's house; you shall not covet
your neighbour's wife, or male or female
slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that
belongs to your neighbour.

PSALM Psalm 19 (or 19:7-end)

R *The commandment of the Lord is
pure and gives light to the eyes.*

The heavens are telling the glory of God
and the firmament proclaims his
handiwork.

One day pours out its song to another
and one night unfolds knowledge to
another. **R**

They have neither speech nor language
and their voices are not heard,
Yet their sound has gone out into all lands
and their words to the ends of the world.
In them has he set a tabernacle for the
sun,
that comes forth as a bridegroom out of
his chamber
and rejoices as a champion to run his
course. **R**

It goes forth from the end of the heavens
and runs to the very end again,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.
The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the
soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the simple. **R**

The statutes of the Lord are right and
rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is pure
and gives light to the eyes.
The fear of the Lord is clean and endures
for ever;
the judgements of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether. **R**

More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold,
sweeter also than honey,
dripping from the honeycomb.
By them also is your servant taught
and in keeping them there is great reward. **R**

Who can tell how often they offend?
O cleanse me from my secret faults!
Keep your servant also from presumptuous
sins
lest they get dominion over me;
so shall I be undefiled,
and innocent of great offence. **R**

Let the words of my mouth and the
meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. **R**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

*A reading from the first letter of Paul to
the Corinthians.*

The message about the cross is foolishness
to those who are perishing, but to us who

are being saved it is the power of God.
For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom
of the wise, and the discernment of the
discerning I will thwart." Where is the one
who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where
is the debater of this age? Has not God
made foolish the wisdom of the world?
For since, in the wisdom of God, the world
did not know God through wisdom, God
decided, through the foolishness of our
proclamation, to save those who believe.
For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire
wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a
stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to
Gentiles, but to those who are called,
both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power
of God and the wisdom of God. For God's
foolishness is wiser than human wisdom,
and God's weakness is stronger than
human strength.

GOSPEL John 2:13-22

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.*

The Passover of the Jews was near, and
Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple
he found people selling cattle, sheep, and
doves, and the money-changers seated at
their tables. Making a whip of cords, he
drove all of them out of the temple, both
the sheep and the cattle. He also poured
out the coins of the money-changers and
overturned their tables. He told those who
were selling the doves, "Take these things
out of here! Stop making my Father's
house a market-place!" His disciples
remembered that it was written, "Zeal for
your house will consume me." The Jews
then said to him, "What sign can you show
us for doing this?" Jesus answered them,
"Destroy this temple, and in three days
I will raise it up." They then said, "This
temple has been under construction for
forty-six years, and will you raise it up in
three days?" But he was speaking of the
temple of his body. After he was raised
from the dead, his disciples remembered
that he had said this; and they believed
the scripture and the word that Jesus had
spoken.

POST COMMUNION

Merciful Lord,
grant your people grace to withstand the
temptations of the world, the flesh and
the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to follow
you, the only God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

