**St Mary the Virgin Ware**

**Sunday 31st August – Eleventh Sunday after Trinity**

**Welcome to St Mary's this morning**

If you are visiting or here for the first time, we hope you feel at home, and please do make yourself known. Those of you with small children may wish to make use of the Children’s Corner during the service, if that is helpful for you. At the offertory a collection will be taken for the work of the church. If you are able to use a Gift Aid envelope please do. There is a card reader, and further information about giving to St Mary’s, by the door where you came in. When we come to share communion please follow the stewards. Refreshments are served in the hall after the service – please stay if you can.

**Services this Sunday**

8am Eucharist, in Church and on Facebook

10am Eucharist, in Church and on Zoom

**Hymns**

Processional 253 For the beauty of the earth

Gradual 272 Praise and thanksgiving, Father we offer

Offertory Let us build a house (*separate sheet*)

Communion 505 Lord Jesus Christ

548 One more step along the world I go

Final 262 O Lord my God

**Music**

Setting The Addington Service, *Shephard*

Voluntary Toccata *from* Three Pieces *Temmingh*

**Rota for Sunday 31st August**

**Welcomers** Ann Sandford, Bonnie West

**Sidespeople** Ann Robinson, Mary Millett

**Servers**  Sue Austin, Mike Franklin, Derek Day, Roti Tunis

**Readers** Mike West, Ann Robinson

**Intercessor** Roger Hawkins

**Lay Admin** Derek Day, Roti Tunis

**Coffee** Marion Mountjoy, Linn Parker

**For your Prayers**

**Any who are sick or suffering:** Andrew Hanson, Howard Marshall, Hazel Bayford, Barbara Pearson

**The housebound, among them:** Sheila Brown, Chris Skinner

**Those who have died**: Maureen Finn, Aarron Smart, Les Kuypers, David Stump, Valerie Couling

**Those whose anniversaries fall at this time**: Margaret Bishop, Daniel Toms, Kitty Wedgwood, Jenny Lennox

**In our Deanery:** St Mary’s, Thundridge with St John the Evangelist, High Cross

**From our Parish Prayer Cycle:** Church cleaners

**Those that live in:** Tudor Walk, Vallans Close

**Collect**

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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**

**First Reading, Ecclesiasticus 10:12-18**

**12**The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord; the heart has withdrawn from its Maker. **13**For the beginning of pride is sin, and the one who clings to it pours out abominations. Therefore the Lord brings upon them unheard-of calamities, and destroys them completely. **14**The Lord overthrows the thrones of rulers, and enthrones the lowly in their place. **15**The Lord plucks up the roots of the nations,and plants the humble in their place. **16**The Lord lays waste the lands of the nations, and destroys them to the foundations of the earth. **17**He removes some of them and destroys them, and erases the memory of them from the earth. **18**Pride was not created for human beings, or violent anger for those born of women.

**Second Reading, Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16**

**1**Let mutual love continue. **2**Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. **3**Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. **4**Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. **5**Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, ‘I will never leave you or forsake you.’ **6**So we can say with confidence, ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?’

**7**Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. **8**Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. **15**Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. **16**Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

**Gospel Reading, Luke 14:1, 7-14**

**1**On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

**7**When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. **8**‘When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; **9**and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, “Give this person your place”, and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. **10**But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, “Friend, move up higher”; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. **11**For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.’

**12**He said also to the one who had invited him, ‘When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. **13**But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. **14**And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.’

**Diary for the rest of this week**

Monday – Thursday 9.15am Morning Prayer

Monday – Thursday 5pm Evening Prayer

Monday 1st September 11.30am Café

12.30pm Lunchtime Concert

2pm Board Games Café

7.30pm PCC Meeting

Wednesday 3rd September 11am Eucharist

Friday 5th September 4.15pm Handbell Ringing

Saturday 6th September 1pm Wedding Rehearsal

*This diary includes just congregational services and major events/meetings. For full details of the weekly diary please look at the Link Way and South Porch notices.*

**Rota for Sunday 7th September**

**Children’s Church** Daphne Footer, Jackie Turner

**Welcomers** Brenda Furnival Jones, Roti Tunis

**Sidespeople** John Budworth, Gillian Budworth

**Servers**  Mike Franklin, Malcolm Furnival Jones, Noah Clarke

**Readers** Mat Wilson, Lizzie Hastings-Clarke

**Intercessor** David Perman

**Lay Admin** Sue Austin, Roti Tunis

**Coffee** Roger Hawkins, Rob Herd

**Notices**

**October-December Rota** email has gone out. Can you please ensure you respond by 12 noon on Tuesday 9th September with any dates you are unavailable. Thank you.

**Bike ‘n Hike** - Saturday 13th September. Sponsor forms and information on the churches taking part are on the table near the books for collection. If you (and your family and friends) are Biking or Hiking, please add your name(s) to the list of Bikers and Hikers. If you have an hour or two to spare on that day and would like to be included on the rota to welcome Bikers and Hikers to St Mary’s, please add your name and available time to the welcomers’ list. For further information please speak to Karen John. Thank You.

**Food Bank** urgently requires food of all types. Unfortunately, there has been a real downturn in donations, so anything you can put into the dedicated baskets in the supermarkets (not Church) would be gratefully received. The foodbank is particularly requesting: tinned meat/fish; UHT milk; long life fruit juice; tinned potatoes/instant mash; toiletries (men and women). Thank you

**Our choirs** are recruiting adults of all voice parts. If you are interested in joining or would like more information, please contact our Director of Music, Stephen Crookes, at [music@stmarysware.co.uk](mailto:music@stmarysware.co.uk). Some knowledge of reading music will be useful, but is not essential.

**Jam Jars needed!** Celia Higson would be grateful for your spare, clean jam jars. Please leave any donations in the labelled box at the back of church. Thank you.

**Next Pub Theology**, Monday 15th September 7:30pm at The Maltings pub. Subject ‘The Creeds.’ Pre-reading available! See Ysmena.

**St Michael & All Angels Waterford** are presenting an afternoon talk on Sir Edward Burne-Jones, one of the leading pre-Raphaelite designers of stained-glass windows, on 20th September at 1.30pm. Free entry, but donations welcome. Please see posters.

**Sunday 21st September** Choral Evensong with former choristers. Choir members from any era are invited to join the current choir for a service of Choral Evensong. There will be a practice at 3pm for the service at 5pm, followed by drinks reception. If you have ever sung with St Mary’s Choir, do sign up. If you know a former chorister, or several, please pass on the message and ask them to share too. To register interest, please email Norah Hickman on [norah@henryhickman.com](mailto:norah@henryhickman.com).

**Ware Brass “Angels & Dragons”** the music of myth and fantasy. A family concert given by Ware Brass on Sunday 28th September at 4pm. Tickets now on sale – see posters and flyers for details. Please take a poster to display if you are able to.

**Next Lunchtime Concerts**

Monday 1st September, Mezzacapo Ensemble – Guitar & Mandolin Recital

Thursday 18th September, Lin Xu-Zhang – Piano Recital

Monday 6th October, Sarah Boxall – Cello Recital

Some Autumn/Winter dates and times for your diaries, in addition to those already in these notices. **Please note the new start times for Evensong and Midnight Mass**.

Sunday 5th October Harvest Festival (8am, 10am, and Choral Evensong at 5pm)

Sunday 19th October All Souls Memorial Service (refreshments 3:30pm, service at 5pm)

Tuesday 28th October October half-term activity day

Friday 31st October Halloween, evening opening

Sunday 2nd November All Saints Sunday (8am, 10am, Choral Evensong at 5pm)

Saturday 8th Nov Quiz Night, Friends of St Mary’s event,

Saturday 22nd Nov Christmas Fayre

Sunday 23rd Nov Visit by Bishop Christine at 10am

Sunday 30th Nov Advent Sunday (8am, 10am and evening service at 5pm)

Friday 5th December Dickensian Night

Sunday 7th December Christingle at 4pm

Tuesday 23rd Dec Carol Service at 7:30pm

Christmas Eve Crib Service at 4pm; Midnight Mass at 11pm

Christmas Day Service at 10am

**Contact Information**

**Vicar:** Revd Ysmena Pentelow, [vicar@stmarysware.co.uk](mailto:vicar@stmarysware.co.uk) 07423 812238 *Usual day off Friday*

**Parish Office:** Mel Pedder [officestmarys@btinternet.com](mailto:officestmarys@btinternet.com) 01920 462539 *(Tues/Wed AM)*

**Director of Music:** Stephen Crookes email: [music@stmarysware.co.uk](mailto:music@stmarysware.co.uk)

**Website:** [www.stmarysware.co.uk](http://www.stmarysware.co.uk). You can also find us on Facebook