

St Mary the Virgin & All Saints Potters Bar

16th November 2025

The Second Sunday before Advent

*A warm welcome to St Mary's
especially if this is your first time here.*

Refreshments are served in the hall after the Parish Eucharist

TODAY'S SERVICES

8.00am **HOLY COMMUNION**

10.00am **PARISH EUCHARIST**

Old Testament Reading: Malachi 4 vv 1-2a *When the day of judgement comes, true worshippers will be spared.*

New Testament Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3 vv 6-13 *St Paul rebukes those who, because of the supposed imminence of Christ's coming, had ceased to work and were living on the generosity of others.*

Gospel: Luke 21 vv 5-19 *Jesus' prediction of the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem leads into a discourse in which he states that life will not be easy – there will be division, conflict, unrest – but we must persevere in the faith.*

Hymns: 234, 490, 452, 306, 440 (omit verses 4 & 5)

*Our flowers this week have been arranged by Jessica Hollings
and donated by Mavis Haylock in memory of Julie Moore.*

The Week Ahead

Tuesday *St Elizabeth of Hungary, princess & philanthropist*

9.30am Morning Prayer

10.30am – 12 noon Church open for visitors

5.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday *St Hilda of Whitby, abbess*

9.30am Holy Communion

10.15am Pastoral Care Group meets

10.30am – 12 noon Church open for visitors

3.00pm – 8.00pm Canada Life Place & Maple House
development consultation event in
church (no Evening Prayer today)

Thursday *St Edmund, king and martyr*

9.30am Morning Prayer (BCP)

10.30am – 12 noon Church open for visitors

5.00pm Evening Prayer

Friday 9.30am Morning Prayer

5.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

Saturday 7.00pm **QUIZ NIGHT** in church hall

Next Sunday is the **FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING**

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am **PARISH EUCHARIST**

Preacher: Archie Hadfield

5.00pm Evensong

The readings next Sunday will be: Jeremiah 23 vv 1-6;
Colossians 1 vv 11-20 and Luke 23 vv 33-43.

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Please send any items for this sheet to **Richard Osborn**

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Our livestreamed services are available at:

www.facebook.com/stmaryspb

Parish Notices

We were shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden death of **Peter Smith** on Tuesday. Peter had worshipped at St Mary's for just over 5 years and we shall miss him. We send our condolences to his family. May Peter rest in peace and rise in glory.

TODAY is the last chance to sign up for next Saturday's **Quiz Night**. This will begin at **7.00pm prompt** in the hall. Tickets are £12 (including light supper) and it would be most helpful if you could pay for your tickets in advance – either by cash or by bank transfer. Many thanks to those who have already done so. We would be grateful for help in **setting up the hall** on Saturday afternoon from 2.00pm. Please let Jenny Pearce know if you can help with this.

The Knit and Natter Group will meet on **Tuesday 25th November**, 12 noon to 2.00pm. This is the last meeting of 2025. The group resumes on Tuesday 27th January 2026.

The PCC will meet on **Wednesday 26th November** at 8.00pm, preceded by a Eucharist at 7.30pm.

The Hertfordshire Philharmonia will present a concert of works by Beethoven, Haydn and Hummel on **Saturday 29th November** at 7.30pm. Tickets, priced at £18, will be available on the door, with concession rates for students (£5) and under 16s (£1).

The season of **Advent** begins on **Sunday 30th November**. We shall mark this with the Advent Procession at **5.00pm** – an atmospheric service of music and readings when we shall be joined by members of other churches. We would like to offer tea, coffee and biscuits after this service. Please let Richard know if you could help with this.

From the start of Advent, we are proposing to withdraw the hand sanitizer for people to use as they come up for communion. If you have concerns about this, please let Fr Stefan or Richard know.

Watchers & Welcomers Please inform Heather of dates when you will be unavailable in January & February.

You can support fundraising for St Mary's by signing up to the **Easyfundraising** online shopping website at: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmaryspb We have raised over £1,680 for St Mary's since joining this initiative. Thank you to all our supporters.

We are updating our **prayer lists for the sick** for the start of the new church year at Advent. If you wish names to remain on the lists, please indicate this on the sheet on the noticeboard.

For your prayers

The sick Anna Downes, Valerie Taylor, Elizabeth Liney, Jean Cotton, Jenny Blumson, Marion North, Joan Golden, Joanne Crouch, Carlos Perez, Daren Elis, Maureen Alderman, Linda, Alison Stevens, Diane Christy, Cynthia Moorman, Sergio Lever, Bob Keefe, Gill Efstathiou

We also pray for Keith Downes, Jayne Hutton, Janet Daniels, Francoise Groves-de-Milleret, Ron Golden, Susan North, Harry Hadfield, Tessa, Sasha Burt, Nicola Stiff, Ricky Mella, Keith Probert, Betty Lockton, David Evans, Richard Barnes, Dave Gough, Pauline Phillips

The recently departed Peter Smith, Dawn Cruickshank, Colin Barnes, Carsten Jespersen, Josephine Murphy, Betty Oaten

Anniversaries of death this week Marjorie Butcher, Hugh Wiggins, Geoff Follett, Ron Johnson, Ian Blackwood, Pat Brett

Our parish We remember those who live in Ladbroke Close, Ladbroke Drive and Lake View

COLLECT

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed to
destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God
and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he
is pure;
that when he shall appear in power
and great glory
we may be made like him in his
eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Malachi 4:1-2a

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.

See, the day is coming, burning like
an oven, when all the arrogant and
all evildoers will be stubble; the day
that comes shall burn them up, says
the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave
them neither root nor branch. But for
you who revere my name the sun of
righteousness shall rise, with healing
in its wings. You shall go out leaping
like calves from the stall.

PSALM Psalm 98

R *The Lord has made known his
salvation.*

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.
His own right hand and his holy arm
have won for him the victory.
The Lord has made known his
salvation;
his deliverance has he openly shown
in the sight of the nations. **R**

He has remembered his mercy and
faithfulness towards the house of
Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have
seen the salvation of our God.
Sound praises to the Lord, all the
earth;
break into singing and make music. **R**

Make music to the Lord with the lyre,
with the lyre and the voice of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the
horn
sound praises before the Lord, the
King. **R**

Let the sea thunder and all that fills it,
the world and all that dwell upon it.
Let the rivers clap their hands
and let the hills ring out together
before the Lord, for he comes to
judge the earth.
In righteousness shall he judge the
world
and the peoples with equity. **R**

SECOND READING

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

*A reading from the second letter of
Paul to the Thessalonians.*

We command you, beloved, in the
name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to
keep away from believers who are
living in idleness and not according
to the tradition that they received
from us. For you yourselves know how
you ought to imitate us; we were not
idle when we were with you, and we
did not eat anyone's bread without
paying for it; but with toil and labour
we worked night and day, so that we
might not burden any of you. This
was not because we do not have
that right, but in order to give you an
example to imitate. For even when
we were with you, we gave you this
command: Anyone unwilling to work
should not eat. For we hear that some
of you are living in idleness, mere
busybodies, not doing any work. Now
such persons we command and exhort
in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their
work quietly and to earn their own
living. Brothers and sisters, do not be
weary in doing what is right.

GOSPEL Luke 21:5-19

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

When some were speaking about
the temple, how it was adorned with

beautiful stones and gifts dedicated
to God, Jesus said, "As for these
things that you see, the days will
come when not one stone will be
left upon another; all will be thrown
down." They asked him, "Teacher,
when will this be, and what will be
the sign that this is about to take
place?" And Jesus said, "Beware
that you are not led astray; for many
will come in my name and say, 'I
am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do
not go after them. When you hear
of wars and insurrections, do not be
terrified; for these things must take
place first, but the end will not follow
immediately." Then he said to them,
"Nation will rise against nation, and
kingdom against kingdom; there will
be great earthquakes, and in various
places famines and plagues; and
there will be dreadful portents and
great signs from heaven. But before
all this occurs, they will arrest you
and persecute you; they will hand
you over to synagogues and prisons,
and you will be brought before kings
and governors because of my name.
This will give you an opportunity to
testify. So make up your minds not to
prepare your defence in advance; for
I will give you words and a wisdom
that none of your opponents will be
able to withstand or contradict. You
will be betrayed even by parents and
brothers, by relatives and friends; and
they will put some of you to death.
You will be hated by all because of
my name. But not a hair of your head
will perish. By your endurance you will
gain your souls."

POST COMMUNION

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we
long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

