

St Mary the Virgin and All Saints

Potters Bar

18th January 2026

The Second Sunday of Epiphany

A warm welcome to St Mary's,
especially if this is your first time here.
Please stay for refreshments after the Sung Eucharist

TODAY'S SERVICES

8.00am **SAID EUCHARIST**

10.00am **SUNG EUCHARIST**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 49 vv 1-7 *Isaiah foretells a servant who by his suffering will redeem God's people.*

New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 1 vv 1-9 *Paul addresses the Christians in Corinth, remarking on their advanced understanding of the gospel and the variety of their spiritual gifts.*

Gospel: John 1 vv 29-42 *Jesus' ministry begins following his baptism. We hear about the calling of the first disciples*

Hymns: 334, 360, 271, 276, 359

Our flowers this week have been donated and arranged by Jessica Hollings in loving memory of her husband Chris

The Week Ahead

Tuesday 9.30am Morning Prayer
10.30am – 12 noon Church open for visitors
5.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday **St Agnes, child martyr**
9.30am Said Eucharist
10.30am – 12 noon Church open for visitors
5.00pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 9.30am Said Eucharist (BCP)
10.15am – 12 noon Church cleaning
5.00pm Evening Prayer

Friday 9.30am Morning Prayer
12 noon Funeral of Ann Bainbridge
5.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

Saturday 11.15am Barnet Deanery Walsingham Day at Holy Trinity, Lyonsdown
(see next column)

Next Sunday is the **Feast of the Conversion of St Paul**
(Third Sunday of Epiphany)

8.00am Said Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Alec Corio, Rector of East Barnet

10.00am **SUNG EUCHARIST**

Celebrant & Preacher: The Revd Rachel Phillips, formerly Team Rector of Dunstable and Vicar of Northaw & Cuffley

5.00pm Evensong

The Sung Eucharist readings will be: Jeremiah 1 vv 4-10; Acts 9 vv 1-22 and Matthew 19 vv 27-end.

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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

Today is the start of the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**. Please pray for all the churches in our town and their ministers and for the work of Churches Together in Potters Bar.

The next church cleaning session will be this **Thursday** from 10.15am to 12 noon. If you can lend a hand, even if just for an hour, that would be much appreciated.

Next Saturday, Barnet Deanery is holding another **Walsingham Day** at Holy Trinity, Lyonsdown, EN5 1JE. The Eucharist will be celebrated at 11.15am, followed by lunch (please bring packed lunch; drinks provided). Ministry of healing & Benediction will then follow at 1.00pm. If you want more details about this event, please ask Fr Stefan or Richard. Transport can be provided.

Please could **Children's Society collecting boxes** be returned to church by next Sunday. Thank you.

The Knit and Natter group meets for the first time this year on **Tuesday 27th January** at 12 noon in the choir vestry.

The next lunchtime recital will be on **Tuesday 3rd February** at 12.30pm when we shall be joined by Thomas Jesty and Lucy Cox (piano & soprano). Lunches will be served before and after the recital.

The Friendship Group will meet on **Monday 9th February** at 10.30am at the Oakmere Tea Rooms. All welcome.

Once again this year, we shall enjoy a **pre-Lent lunch** in the hall on **Sunday 15th February** from 12 noon. Graham and Aoy Jones (Julia's parents) have again kindly offered to provide a lunch of Thai food for us. Please sign the list on the noticeboard if you want to come. A donation towards the lunch (**£10 minimum**) is requested; proceeds will be shared between St Mary's and our Lent charity. Please give your donation to either **Richard, Jenny Pearce or Liz Nethercott**. There will be wine and soft drinks available with the lunch but you can also bring your own drinks if you wish.

£639.60 was collected for the **Children's Society** at the Crib & Christingle service. This included **£117.63** collected by the Brownies during the year, so many thanks to them. We are also grateful to Sainsburys for their donation of 100 oranges for the service.

Watchers and Welcomers Please let Heather Hawkes know about holiday dates in March and April.

For your prayers

The sick Anna Downes, Valerie Taylor, Elizabeth Liney, Joan Golden, Carlos Perez, Lisa Collins, Linda, Daren Elis, Maureen Alderman, Alison Stevens, Bob Keefe, Lindsey Lyons, Steven Seal

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

The recently departed Marion North, Ann Bainbridge, Leslie Britton, Theresa Wager

Those whose anniversary of death falls this week

Chris Hollings, Fr Donald Harris, Rosemary Benson, Janet Dear, John Pond, Irene Jones, Mary Overton, the victims of the Flying Rocket 1945

Our parish We remember those who live in Park View, Penshurst Road and Powis Court

Sunday

18 January 2026 Second Sunday of Epiphany

COLLECT

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the
riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
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 Isaiah 49:1-7

A reading from the book of the prophet
Isaiah.

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention,
you peoples from far away! The LORD
called me before I was born, while I was
in my mother's womb he named me. He
made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the
shadow of his hand he hid me; he made
me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid
me away. And he said to me, "You are my
servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
But I said, "I have laboured in vain, I have
spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and
my reward with my God." And now the
LORD says, who formed me in the womb
to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to
him, and that Israel might be gathered
to him, for I am honoured in the sight of
the LORD, and my God has become my
strength. The LORD says, "It is too light
a thing that you should be my servant to
raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore
the survivors of Israel; I will give you as
a light to the nations, that my salvation
may reach to the end of the earth."

Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of
Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply
despised, abhorred by the nations, the
slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand
up, princes, and they shall prostrate
themselves, because of the LORD, who is
faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has
chosen you."

PSALM Psalm 40:1-12

R Great are the wonders you have done,
O Lord my God.

I waited patiently for the Lord;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.
He brought me out of the roaring pit,
out of the mire and clay;
he set my feet upon a rock and made my
footing sure. R

He has put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God;
many shall see and fear
and put their trust in the Lord.
Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord,
who does not turn to the proud that follow
a lie. R

Great are the wonders you have done,
O Lord my God.
How great your designs for us!
There is none that can be compared with
you.
If I were to proclaim them and tell of them
they would be more than I am able to
express. R

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire
but my ears you have opened;
Burnt offering and sacrifice for sin you
have not required,
then said I: "Lo, I come. R

"In the scroll of the book it is written of
me that I should do your will, O my God;
I delight to do it: your law is within my
heart."

I have declared your righteousness in the
great congregation;
behold, I did not restrain my lips;
and that, O Lord, you know. R

Your righteousness I have not hidden in
my heart; I have spoken of your
faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your loving-kindness
and truth from the great congregation.
Do not withhold your compassion from
me, O Lord;
let your love and your faithfulness always
preserve me. R

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

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

From Paul, called to be an apostle of
Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our
brother Sosthenes, To the church of
God that is in Corinth, to those who are
sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be
saints, together with all those who in every
place call on the name of our Lord Jesus
Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to
you and peace from God our Father and
the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my
God always for you because of the grace
of God that has been given you in Christ
Jesus, for in every way you have been
enriched in him, in speech and knowledge
of every kind – just as the testimony of
Christ has been strengthened among
you – so that you are not lacking in any
spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing
of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also

strengthen you to the end, so that you
may be blameless on the day of our Lord
Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you
were called into the fellowship of his Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

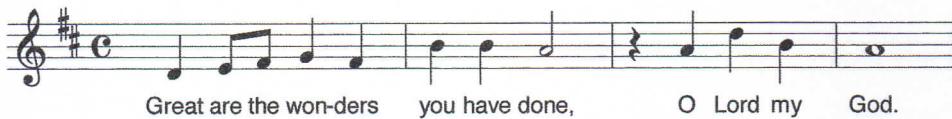
GOSPEL John 1:29-42

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

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming
towards him and declared, "Here is the
Lamb of God who takes away the sin of
the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After
me comes a man who ranks ahead of me
because he was before me.' I myself did
not know him; but I came baptising with
water for this reason, that he might be
revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I
saw the Spirit descending from heaven
like a dove, and it remained on him. I
myself did not know him, but the one who
sent me to baptise with water said to me,
'He on whom you see the Spirit descend
and remain is the one who baptises with
the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen
and have testified that this is the Son
of God." The next day John again was
standing with two of his disciples, and as
he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed,
"Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The
two disciples heard him say this, and they
followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and
saw them following, he said to them,
"What are you looking for?" They said
to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means
Teacher), "where are you staying?" He
said to them, "Come and see." They came
and saw where he was staying, and they
remained with him that day. It was about
four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the
two who heard John speak and followed
him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.
He first found his brother Simon and said
to him, "We have found the Messiah"
(which is translated Anointed). He brought
Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and
said, "You are Simon son of John. You are
to be called Cephas" (which is translated
Peter).

POST COMMUNION

God of glory,
you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ
our Lord.



Great are the won-ders you have done,
O Lord my God.