



ST MARY'S

◆ CUDDINGTON ◆

Pew Sheet for 8 March 2026

A warm welcome to everyone attending today's services

Third Sunday of Lent

Please come into the hall for refreshments after the 09:30 service.

Collect:

Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymns:

CP368	All my hope on God is founded
CP469	I heard the voice of Jesus say
EWS122	Majesty Worship his Majesty
EWS154	Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God
CP556	Praise the Lord ye heavens adore him

Although there is no formal collection during the offertory hymn, please feel free to make a contribution to the work of St. Mary's either in the Treasury box at the back of church, or using the card reader, also at the back of church. Thank you.

Readings

Romans 5 1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

John 4 5-42

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this

water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.” Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

Post-communion prayer:

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.

Dates for the diary

Making Sense of Lent - A series of reflective evenings In the Hall

9th, 16^h March 7.30 pm - tea and coffee for 7.45 pm start. **ALL ARE WELCOME.**

Special Services during Lent

MOTHERING SUNDAY - Sunday 15th March, 9.30 am

PALM SUNDAY EVENING – Sunday 29th March

6.00 pm Stainer’s Crucifixion

HOLY WEEK SERVICES (Monday–Wednesday)

8.00 pm each evening - Holy Communion

MAUNDY THURSDAY

8.00 pm Commemoration of The Last Supper with foot washing.

WEDNESDAY 11TH & THURSDAY 12TH MARCH The Church will be open from 9am to 1pm to offer a space for prayer and reflection following the sad news of the death of Bishop Andrew. A candle will be lit, and anyone who wishes may come in to spend a few moments in prayer for Bishop Andrew’s family or for their own peace.

SATURDAY 14TH MARCH - POSY MAKING FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY -please join us at 10am at the back of the church to make posies. Small pieces of greenery would be much appreciated.

SUNDAY 15TH MARCH “MOTHERING SUNDAY” - HOMEMADE SUNDAY

After the 9.30am service. Please could we have donations of homemade cakes, craft items, plants etc to make this a success!

SATURDAY 21ST MARCH - QUIZ NIGHT - 7pm in the Hall. Mark Hodge will be the quizmaster, and a hot meal will be served. Tickets £12 on sale now! We are holding a raffle at the event so if you have any unwanted new items, could you please leave them under the table at the back of Church.