

CHESHUNT TEAM MINISTRY
ST MARY THE VIRGIN
CHESHUNT



CHURCH NEWSLETTER

April 2026

Foreword from Revd Elizabeth Fellows



It has been wonderful to journey with you through Lent. I have enjoyed gathering with around 20 people each week for the Lent Bible Studies when we have listened for God in the Bible and taken tips from those in the Bible who heard God. It has also been a real privilege to hear from members of the congregation in Sunday Services about their experiences of hearing God. Thank you so much to all who shared.

It has been a significant month for the Church of England and the Anglican Communion with the installation of the new Archbishop of Canterbury on 25 March.

Closer to home, the new Bishop of St Albans has been announced. Bishop Andrew Rumsey is expected to be licensed at St Albans Cathedral in the autumn. Here are two videos that he has shared with the diocese:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hLWC8InAhY8>, and
<https://youtu.be/kjhQfrOOjKY?si=wd-6rfPsk-HD11Ta>.

I am looking forward to journeying through Holy Week and into Easter with you all. I pray every blessing on you as you go.

All good wishes,

Elizabeth



Worship – Dates of Services at St Mary’s Church

- † **Thursday 2 April at 7:30pm – Maundy Thursday Service**
(There will be no Holy Communion at 11am on Maundy Thursday)

- † **Friday 3 April at 2pm – Good Friday Service:**
 - 12pm – All Age Service
 - 1pm – Open Church for Private Prayer
 - 2pm – Good Friday Service

- † **Sunday 5 April - Easter Day Services:**
 - 6am – Dawn Service
 - 10am – Easter Day Festal Eucharist

- † **Thursday 9 April at 11am – Holy Communion** with Fr Jake Pass to lead and preside

- † **Sunday 12 April at 10am – Service of the Word** led by Mark Warner, St Mary’s Church Lay Leader of Worship in training

- † **Thursday 16 April at 11am – Holy Communion**

- † **Sunday 19 April at 10am – Parish Eucharist** with Fr Jake Pass to lead and preside

- † **Thursday 23 April at 11am – Holy Communion**

- † **Sunday 26 April at 10am – Family Service** (with sausages)

- † **Thursday 30 April at 11am – Holy Communion**



Our Journey with Jesus


Bible Course (New Edition)

Saturdays at 10am, beginning 27 April. Venue to be confirmed.

Register your interest here: hello@cheshunt.church or on 07352 324584.

You can also order an optional course book, cost £10.

Whether you're new to the Bible or have read it for years, the Bible Course is a journey designed to help you make sense of it all, from Genesis to Revelation (the beginning to end). Run over eight sessions, the course uses video and discussion. The course is free and open to everyone. You can watch a trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lh795sgYfxc>



The Bible Course
NEW EDITION

**We are running
The Bible Course New Edition,
and you are invited to
join.**

[biblesociety.org.uk/thebiblecourse](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lh795sgYfxc)

OS B I B L E
C I E T Y



You can receive daily inspirational reflections year-round on the Church of England's Whatsapp channel:

<https://ow.ly/Lp8T50XGjGz> or by downloading the Everyday Faith app: <https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/exploringfaith/everyday-faith>

Confirmation Service on Saturday 6 June at 6:30pm at St Mary's Church



The Cheshunt Team's

Confirmation Service

6.30PM SATURDAY 6TH JUNE 2026
ST MARY'S CHURCH, CHESHUNT

Let Revd Elizabeth know if you or your child(ren) are interested in being confirmed, or affirming baptism promises. Joining a Lent Group would be great initial preparation, especially for adults.

It is not too late to express an interest in being confirmed! Just speak with Revd Elizabeth.



Confirmation Preparation

There will be a rehearsal for everyone (adults and young people) on Sunday 31 May 2026, time to be confirmed.

Adults

The Bible Course will form most of the preparation for adults. There will be an additional session run by Revd Helen.

Children and Young People

Young people's
CONFIRMATION

Preparation ST MARY'S CHURCH
CHESHUNT

READY FOR A LIFE TIME OF FAITH

Just bring
YOU!

PREPARATION: 11AM-12PM
3 MAY, 10 MAY, 17 MAY, 24 MAY
REHEARSAL: 31 MAY TIME TBC
CONFIRMATION SERVICE:
6.30PM SATURDAY 6TH JUNE 2026

 ST MARY'S
CHURCH
CHESHUNT

News from March

Appreciation for Pat



Many congratulations to Pat Higgins for receiving a well-deserved Borough of Broxbourne Award.

The accolade was presented to Pat for her dedication to St Mary's Church, for her kindness, warmth, genuine care for others and for the responsibilities she has taken on including the weekly coffee mornings and ladies' Puddings and Prosecco evenings.

Pat was also recognised for her work as a Governor at St Mary's Secondary School and the support she gives to local residents in the community.

Mothers' Union



At the March meeting of the St Mary's branch of Mothers' Union, members were led in a Lent reflection by Revd Elizabeth. We were all given a stone to help focus on our faith journeys. Different parts of the Christian Church describe stages of belief in different ways and we were encouraged to think about what stage we were at. Revd Elizabeth shared an outline of her own journey. It was a thought-provoking afternoon.

On 25 March, it was Lady Day the Feast of the Annunciation and members from the East Cluster gathered at Christ Church Waltham Cross for a special Eucharist Service led by Fr Jake. The banners from four churches were paraded and **£161** was raised for MU charities.

In April, the branch will be attending the Chrism Service at St Albans Abbey so there will not be the usual meeting in church. However, 30 April is the fifth Thursday in the month and there will be a special MU evening of Prayer, Praise and Pimm's.



Vicky Clarke

A March of Fundraising and Mission

Film Night

The Friends of St Mary's organised a Friday film night with a screening of "The Lion King" on 6 March.

Thanks to the organisers, refreshment providers and adults and children who enjoyed the film.



£70 was raised.

Table Top Sale



Thanks to everyone who worked so hard before, during and after the Table Top Sale on 14 March.

An amazing **£649.50** was raised for Church funds. See the stall breakdown below.

Stall	Money Taken
Knitted toys	£91.00
Refreshments	£157.50
Jigsaws	£26.00
Clothing	£83.50
Books	£22.50
Plants and gifts	£46.00
Bric-a-brac	£42.50
Table hire	£50.00
Raffle	£57.00
Goods sold on Sunday	£73.50
Total	£649.50

Lent Lunch

£250 was raised at the Lent Lunch on 19 March in aid of the Children's Society. Thank you to everyone who made, served and enjoyed the delicious lunch.



Bunny Fun



What a fantastic event for the children! “Hunt the Bunny”, “Name the Bunny” and “Scrambled Eggs” were just a few of the many bunny-related activities to enjoy.

Thanks to everyone who made this event so much fun and for raising **£321.75**.



Coming up in April



PRAYER, PRAISE AND PIMM'S

on

Thursday 30 April

at

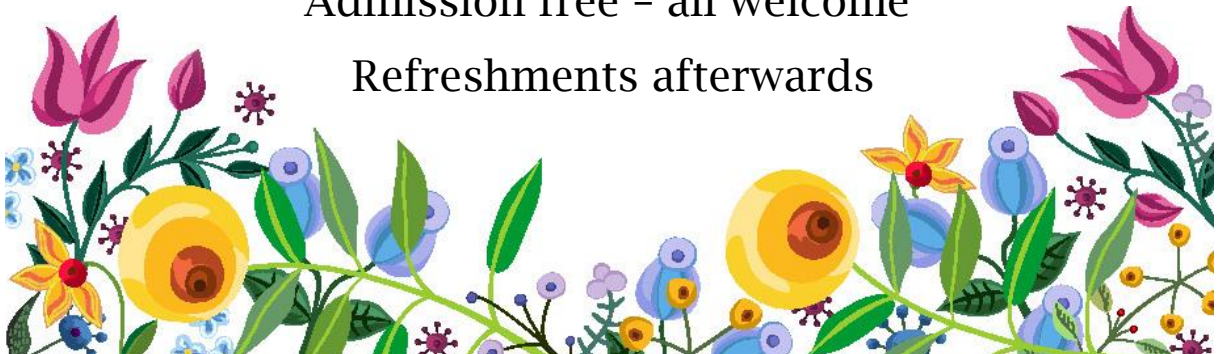
7.30pm

Please join members of the Mothers' Union
as we get together to sing, read and pray on the theme

"REJOICE"

Admission free - all welcome

Refreshments afterwards





Church of England, Church of England

St Clement's Quiz



Saturday 25th April

7pm for a 7:30pm start.

Tickets £5* in advance

Call Gill to book on 07721 086 062, tables of six.

*£7 on the door.



**Bring your own nibbles,
tea & coffee offered
during the break.**

(Find us between the Lea Valley Park (Turnford brook)
& Churchfields school, opposite Hillview Gardens)

The Electoral Roll

The annual revision of the Electoral Roll begins on 12 April 2026. This is a two-week period in which you can inform Lynne Flower, the Electoral Roll officer, of any changes to your details eg change of address, phone number or email before the new Roll is published. It is also a good time to consider putting your name on the Electoral Roll if you have not done so before.



What is the Electoral Roll?

It is your parish church's register of electors. In the same way that being on the civic Electoral Roll allows you to vote in parliamentary and local elections and referenda, joining the Church Electoral Roll means that you can vote on Church matters, attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC).

Being on the Electoral Roll does NOT make you a "member" of the Church; simply regarding St Mary's as your spiritual home does that.

Do I have to join?

You can, of course, be a full and active member of St Mary's Church without joining the Roll. Being on the Electoral Roll does not entail signing up to any additional commitments; however, it does help the Church show its strength. Representation on the governing bodies of the church depends on the number on the Electoral Roll.

Joining the Roll is compulsory if you wish to:

- Stand for election to the PCC or other synodical council (such as the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synod).
- Attend the APCM and participate in votes.

Who can be included on the Electoral Roll?

To be entitled to be included on the Electoral Roll, a lay person must have been Baptised, and attained their sixteenth birthday on or before the date of the annual parochial church meeting, and submitted a signed application form for enrolment, and must be one of the following:

- a member of the Church of England, or of a Church in communion with the Church of England, and resident in the parish; or
- a member of the Church of England and, not being resident in the parish, to have habitually attended public worship in the parish during a period of six months prior to enrolment; or

- a member in good standing of a Church which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity (not being a Church in communion with the Church of England) and also prepared to declare himself to be a member of the Church of England having habitually attended public worship in the parish during a period of six months prior to enrolment.

The electoral roll is fully renewed every six years (everyone needs to reapply). The current cycle started in May 2025.

If you have any further questions don't hesitate to ask Revd Elizabeth Fellowes, one of the Churchwardens or Lynne Flower, the Electoral Roll Officer.

Application forms are available at the back of the church. Please return to one of the Churchwardens or to Lynne Flower.

What's Happening in St Mary's?

There is a new flyer with St Mary's regular events on it. Please take one for your reference. Please also use them to invite others along to events at St Mary's Church, Cheshunt.



St.Mary's Church, Cheshunt

SERVICES - everyone is welcome

Parish Eucharist 1st & 3rd Sunday at 10am
All Age Eucharist 2nd Sunday at 10am
All age Service 4th Sunday at 10am
Cheshunt Team Service 5th Sunday as advertised
Holy Communion Thursday 11am

SOCIAL

Coffee Morning - everyone is welcome
 Wednesday 8:45 - 10:30 (term time)
Chaps, Chips & Chat - for men
 1st & 3rd Thursday at 7pm
Pudding & Prosecco - for women
 3rd Friday at 7pm

Bells

Handbells 2nd & 4th Thursday at 7pm
 everyone over age 11 welcome

St Mary's Calendar:

See all forthcoming events at St Mary's Church using the QR code or link below:

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=c_26f51d0230dfcdec3d21f5e3033b098afd032e5b31874208c2c2ab1e6e6f1e81%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=Europe%2FLondon



Regular Events

- * There will be no Mothers' Union meeting in April because of the Chrism Service at St Albans.
- * **Church Cleaning and Gardening** from 10am on **Saturday 4 April**. All welcome.
- * **Coffee Mornings every Wednesday** from 8.45 to 10.30am (in term time), all welcome and no charge.
- * **Chaps, Chips and Chat** at 6pm on **Thursday 16 April**.
(There will be no Chaps, Chips and Chat on Maundy Thursday)
- * **Handbells** at 7pm on **Thursdays 9 and 23 April**.
- * **Mothers' Union Handicrafts Group** on **Thursday 16 April** at 1:30pm in the Portacabin. All welcome.
- * **Ladies' Puddings and Prosecco** at 7 pm on **Friday 17 April**, at 7pm.



**PCC of St Mary Cheshunt
Church Income/Expenditure
February 2026**

Total Income for February	£5,049
Total Expenditure for February	£7,451
Total	-£2,402
Total Income Year to Date	£20,452
Total Expenditure Year to Date	£27,324
Budget Surplus/Deficit Year to Date	-£6,872
Total Parish Share Annual Request 2026	£59,259
11 monthly payments of £4,938, plus a final payment of £4,941	
Parish Share Payment February	£4,938
Parish Share Bill Year to Date	£9,876
Total Contribution Year to Date	£9,876



Angela's April Gardening Tips

- Sow hardy annuals and wildflowers in borders, and flowering companion plants such as borage and pot marigolds in vegetable plot.
- Prune hydrangeas, cutting back old stems to healthy shoots lower down.
- Spray new leaves of roses to control mildew, rust and black spot later in the season.
- Reinvigorate mature perennials such as Hosta, asters, day lilies by dividing and replanting.
- Transplant greenhouse tomatoes into grow bags or large containers.
- Plant up hanging baskets and pots with summer bedding, but keep indoors until after last frosts.
- Sow tomatoes, chillies, sweet peppers indoors, they need some warmth.
- Sow outdoor varieties of tomatoes, courgettes, cucumbers, sweetcorn and beans in pots, protected from frost, ready to plant out in May.
- Plant second early and main crop potatoes.
- Open greenhouse vents on sunny days to prevent humidity build-up.
- Put slug barriers around Hostas and other tender perennials.
- Remove moss and weeds in turf and boost growth with a nitrogen-rich lawn feed.
- Look out for small clusters of aphids on shoots and young leaves and remove before they multiply.



Other Resources

Sung Worship at St Mary's Church, Cheshunt
Listen to St Mary's, Cheshunt All Age songs on Spotify:



<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/0HXDMSdphUGw2AqrEcRfVh?si=9360889c305b42f1>



Sung Liturgy in Eucharist Services

Be an expert in the sung liturgy in Eucharist Services. Listen to it here:

https://open.spotify.com/playlist/4ju5s9BNxdGhfaBZigI5JM?si=Xe1n5iU5ROiqVKsihOXAvw&pi=FFyaWSb9RI-_g



Contact Information

Clergy:

The Revd Elizabeth Fellows: 07352 324584, elizabeth@cheshunt.church
(usual day off is Friday)

Church Wardens:

Mrs Vicky Clarke and Mrs Angela Dronyi

Parish Safeguarding Officer:

Vicky Clarke: 07803 203 438, vickyclareclarke@aol.com

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor:

Jez Hurst: 01727 818107, safeguarding@stalbans.anglican.org

Parish Office: 01992 635190 (messages picked up regularly)

Email: cheshunt.church@stmary1418.onmicrosoft.com
(emails checked regularly)

Newsletter: marian.coombs@cheshunt.church

St Mary's Calendar:

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=c_26f51d0230dfcdec3d21f5e3033b098afd032e5b31874208c2c2ab1e6e6f1e81%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=Europe%2FLondon



St Mary's Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StMaryCheshunt>

Please follow it and interact with posts.

Information about St Mary's is available on a page on "A Church Near You":

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7854/>

