

*St Mary the Virgin & All Souls Church
Highbury Road, Bulwell, Nottingham
NG6 9AD*

“THE CHURCH ON THE HILL”

PARISH MAGAZINE

July 2026 Vol. 156 No 7



*St Mary's is a down-to-
earth Christian Community
seeking, serving and
worshipping God by
sharing the love of Jesus*



CHURCH SERVICES & GROUPS

WEDNESDAY

Little Acorns Toddler Group 9.30am – 11am

Email Zoe Elliott at: zoejackson000@gmail.com for more information

Bellringing (Practice Night)

(all ages from 11 years, under 18s must be accompanied by an adult). 7.30pm – 9.00pm

Tel: Tower Captain, Michael Varney 07858 653002

THURSDAY

Midweek Mass

9.30am – 10.00am (Said. First Thurs of the month follows the Book of Common Prayer.
Last Thursday of the month Walsingham Mass)

Care Home Service

10.00am – 11.30am at one of the local Care Homes

Bible Study/Nurture Courses

2.00pm Please contact the Vicar for more information

Pub Social

7.30pm First Thursday of the Month at the William Peveril (Wetherspoons) in Bulwell

SATURDAY

10am – 12noon Church Open for Prayer 10am – 12pm **every 2nd Saturday**

Beginning with Tierce, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Rosary and the Angelus

Muddy Church

11.30am Third Saturday of the month during term time

Email Zoe Elliott at: zoejackson000@gmail.com for more information

SUNDAY – SERVICES

10am – 11am First Sunday of the Month – Family Service (and Baptisms)

10am – 11am Second Sunday of the month – Parish Mass (sung) with Whiz Kids Sunday
School during Mass

10am – 11am Third Sunday of the Month – Family Service (led by our Whiz Kids Sunday
School)

10am – 11am Fourth Sunday of the month - Parish Mass (sung) with Whiz Kids Sunday
School during Mass

10am – 11am Fifth Sunday of the Month – Healing Service (with Anointing)
with Whiz Kids Sunday School during the service

Please see notice sheets for any additional and seasonal services.

BELLRINGING

Sunday Service Ringing 9.30am – 10am. Practice Evening (Weds) 7.30pm – 9.00pm

(all ages from 11 years, under 18s must be accompanied by an adult)

Tel: Tower Captain, Michael Varney 07858 653002

SERVERS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Please contact the Vicar for more information

CHURCH CHOIR

(Ages 11 and upwards)

Your Vicar Writes

"Abide in Me as I abide in you" (John 15:4)

Did you know that the first liquid poured and the first bread eaten on the moon were the Communion elements?

In 1969, when Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin descended to the lunar surface in the Apollo 11 spacecraft, Eagle, Aldrin was carrying two specific containers. One, which was left on the moon's surface, contained the text of Psalm 8.

It had been given by Pope Paul VI to the United States of America as a symbol of God's role in space exploration.

The other small container held a small piece of bread and a tiny chalice of wine that Aldrin had brought from a special Communion Service held the week before at his local Presbyterian church. Aldrin had wondered whether it might be possible to take Holy Communion on the moon. His minister enthusiastically supported the idea, and the appropriate arrangements were made.

Aldrin read the words illustrating his trust that in exploring space, humankind was acting in God's name: "They who abide in Me, and I in them, bear much fruit for, without Me, you can do nothing." Then Aldrin

consumed the consecrated bread and wine.

The next time we look up at the moon, we might like to pray: "Loving God, Creator and Sustainer of the Universe, abide with me."

God bless you this month

Fr Andrew





High Days and Holy Days

14th July – St Camillus de Lellis, patron of the sick

Sometimes those who suffer are best at helping others in a similar situation. Discharged from the Venetian army with an incurable leg wound, St Camillus (1550 – 1614) founded a religious order called the Ministers of the Sick (the Camellians). Both in their Holy

Ghost Hospital in Rome, and by travelling to plague-stricken parts of the world, the Camellians dedicated their lives to caring for the sick. Camillus is the patron of the sick and of nurses.

22nd July – What do we really know about Mary Magdalene?

Fake news is not new. Perhaps one old example is the assertion that Mary Magdalene was a prostitute. Back in the 6th Century, Pope Gregory is said to have confused her with two other women in the Bible. Medieval Bible scholars also attempted to name an unidentified sinful woman who had washed and anointed the feet of Jesus. As Mary Magdalene is mentioned in the next chapter, they regarded her as the same person! After this, many classical artists painted Mary in various states of undress, perpetuating a falsehood.

So what do we really know about Mary? The Gospels tell us that she came from Magdala, a town in Galilee, and Jesus healed her by casting out seven evil spirits. After this she followed Jesus, with other women, on His ministry providing resources. Later, Mary watched Jesus die on the cross, and having cared for His needs while He was alive, wanted to care for Him after His death.

It was when Mary went to anoint the body of Jesus at the tomb that the risen Jesus appeared to her. He told Mary to go to His disciples and tell

them about His return to Heaven. She was obedient and became the first emissary of the resurrection. In those days, the witness of a woman was worthless. Despite ridicule, Mary had the courage to speak about Jesus in a place of great disbelief. We have to ask, do we have the same courage as Mary? How prepared are we to stand our ground to share Jesus with others in the face of those who mock and scoff at us?

Although we usually associate Mary with the Easter story, this month on 22nd July, the Church celebrates her Feast Day. In this snapshot of Mary's life we know she had experienced great distress and suffering. After Jesus healed her, Mary expressed her gratitude by being utterly committed and devoted to Him.

Jesus can give everyone a new start; a new purpose and direction in life. Like Mary, we can thank Him for blessing us, loving us and forgiving us and moving into practical forms of service. Only Jesus can transform our lives so that we can glorify God in all that we do.



Christ's Appearance to Mary Magdalene after the Resurrection (1835), Alexander Andreyevich Ivanov



July Reflection with Rev Bob

Change all around us

When I was growing up in west London, we travelled everywhere by Bus and Train or trolleybus. Very often when we arrived at a particular point outside a bus garage, we were told All Change please onto the bus behind, which we all duly did without any comment. Today changes are happening so fast it is difficult to keep up with everything.

July is a time of change for many, Children will be going up a year some will be leaving to start senior school, and others will be leaving for university or a job, also in the church July is the month for ordinations as either deacons or priests. Changes make life sometimes difficult we also have to include changes in family and our own life and those around us. In Jesus's time change was from the occupation by the romans with their harsh laws and taxes and punishment for wrongdoing. Today we have extreme views on both sides of the political spectrum and Jesus and Paul remind us to be on our guard. Social media is becoming a real issue especially with those who are younger and is used by some very nasty people to influence and create ideas which are contrary to civil law and also seeing some posts on social media I wonder if they realise that posting is not only seen by family and friends it is seen by the whole world, it a change we should all be aware of and also concerned about the way it is managed in relation to children and vulnerable adults. So what with changes in the world, this God who created us and gave us Jesus does not change we humans change the world changes, but God does not. This text from the writer to the Hebrews says so much about God's love for each one of us and the people who we have known on our journey of faith.

Hebrews 12

12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so

easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

In all things give the glory to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit



Happy 80th Birthday, Brian Butler!



"Abide in me and I in you" John 15:4

Jesus said with absolute clarity "Apart from me you can do nothing" this was not said to cause us to despair at our weakness, but to emphasise our need for connection and relationship with the divine.

The christian life is about your connection not your performance, as Jesus says "I am the vine, you are the branches." The function of a branch is not to strain to create life, but to stay connected to the source that gives it. When we drift away from Christ and try to handle life on our own, that's when we run dry, emotionally and spiritually, and we feel a deep emptiness because we've disconnected from the source that fulfills and completes us.

Jesus tells us to abide in him many times because he knows our tendency to drift, to disconnect, and to try to go our own way, but Jesus always calls us back to relationship, not performance.

The truth is we can't manufacture joy, we can't force love, and we cannot fake a peace that we don't truly have inside of us, love, joy, and peace are the fruits of the spirit, not the results of our own efforts, you don't need to push yourself harder, you just need to draw closer to Christ.

Abiding is an ongoing relationship with Jesus through the Holy Spirit, God has promised you his spirit to be with you always, it is a relationship that he has initiated to be a source of divine guidance and strength. The world is a noisy place, full of deceptions and distractions, and if pursued will only leave us empty and unfulfilled.

King Solomon, for all his unparalleled wisdom, for all his vast wealth and power, felt profoundly empty, and spiritually unfulfilled. After a life lived chasing pleasure, possessions and accomplishments he concluded that pursuing life apart from God was "vanity" and "striving after the wind." True, abundant, and eternal life is only available through connection with God, and the fruits we bear will only grow through that relationship. All of our holy thoughts, all of our gracious words, and all of our righteous works are altogether the fruit of branches that remain on the vine, let us abide in Christ till the fullness of time and not depart amidst the world's efforts to pull us away.

God bless you, Daniel Newton

(When) should we refuse to receive Holy Communion?

August 20, 2025 by the Revd. Ian Paul

Andrew Atherstone's new publication, *"Draw Near With Faith": Invitations to Holy Communion*, is out now from Grove Books. I asked him why we need the booklet, and what questions it is trying to answer.

IP: What gave you the original idea for this booklet?

AA: It originates in a meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council in Ghana a couple of years ago. The ACC brings together about 120 delegates from across the Anglican Communion, but our provinces are badly out of step with one another on some fundamental aspects of faith and morals. It seemed false to me to nonchalantly proclaim our unity through Holy Communion when in reality our unity is broken.

Therefore, I chose to attend every Holy Communion service at ACC – daily for a week – but did not receive the sacrament. At Ghana I was challenged by some of the other delegates to give a theological defence for my refusal to receive. Is it ever justified? Trying to work through an authentic Anglican answer to that question has led me to write this booklet.

IP: What are some of the obvious problems with refusing to receive?

AA: My specific question is whether it is ever right, as an Anglican, to attend Holy Communion with my fellow Anglicans and still not receive the sacrament. There are plenty of obvious problems with my approach, which as a student of evangelical history I felt acutely embarrassed about. First, I stand in the tradition of John Stott and the Anglican evangelicals of his generation who insisted on an "open table" to which all Christians are invited. Stott said 'No, it's not the Church of England's table, it's the Lord's Table. It is Jesus who invites us, not the bishops or the clergy.' This has always been a key principle in Anglican evangelical eucharistic theology. But if, in Ghana, the Lord Jesus is inviting me, why am I refusing to receive from him?

Some Anglo-Catholics made a habit of attending Holy Communion without receiving and claimed that it did them spiritual benefit. Sometimes only the clergyman would receive, while the whole congregation remained in their pews. But evangelicals replied, 'No, that's foolish, if you attend Holy Communion and refuse to receive it doesn't do you spiritual benefit. In fact, it does you spiritual harm.' And yet here I was, at the ACC, attending but not receiving! Was I doing myself spiritual damage? Was I undermining hundreds of years of evangelical teaching?

IP: Away from Anglican politics, how is this relevant in the local parish?

AA: This subject is highly relevant for all of us in local churches. As soon as you ask the question, "How should I respond to the invitation to receive Holy Communion?", it leads quickly to another question, "How should our local church invite people to receive Holy Communion? Who is invited and on what terms?"

In our village benefice in West Oxfordshire, it is typical for the clergy to offer a brief unscripted invitation to Holy Communion, immediately before the eucharistic prayer, to help the congregation understand how best to respond. Sometimes it is generic, along the lines of: "Everyone here who is trusting in Jesus, and seeking to follow him, is invited to receive." On most Sundays we also use scripted words, and we have printed the following invitation in our parish Communion booklets:

*Come to this table not because you are strong, but because you are weak.
Come not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come,
but because you need mercy and help.*

*Come because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more.
Come not because you are worthy to approach him, but because he died
for sinners.*

Come because he loves you and gave his life for you.

IP: Why is the Book of Common Prayer your main source text?

AA: In seeking authentically Anglican answers to our questions about Holy Communion invitations, it is good to dive into our official Anglican formularies. At the heart of the Holy Communion liturgy in the Book of Common Prayer are three mini-sermons, ‘exhortations’, addressed to the congregation. The third one is the best known, beginning:

Dearly beloved in the Lord, ye that mind to come to the Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ, must consider how Saint Paul exhorteth ...

IP: What are some of the major themes in the Prayer Book invitations?

AA: Each of the Prayer Book invitations is a form of theological meditation on the meaning of Holy Communion, full of pastoral challenge. They emphasize, for example, that Holy Communion is God’s Supper, a banquet over which God presides. Clergy are the messengers, carrying the Lord’s invitation far and wide, but they don’t invite anyone on their own authority. Rather they speak “in the Name of God” and “in Christ’s behalf”. The Prayer Book says we are “lovingly called and bidden by God himself”. Our participation is therefore, at one level, a measure of our response to the gospel.

Cranmer mines two of Jesus’s parables – the Wedding Banquet (Matthew 22) and the Great Dinner (Luke 14) – to draw out practical applications. Cranmer observes how Holy Communion is a Christian duty, and how it reveals our spiritual attitudes. He offers invigorating teaching both about the wideness of God’s invitation and the need to approach in the right way, with heartfelt repentance and lively faith in Jesus.

Another major theme which emerges from the Prayer Book invitations is the importance of participating fully, not merely watching others from the sidelines. There is a lovely phrase in the Second Book of Homilies (1563) which says that Holy Communion is instituted by Jesus as his “heavenly supper”, where all of us must be “guests and not gazers, eaters and not lookers”. But how do we apply that old Anglican principle in our

modern context of the 2020s? Should we broadcast Holy Communion via YouTube for housebound members of our congregations to watch on their laptops? What about visitors who are exploring the Christian faith, not yet converted, who are left as bystanders at Holy Communion, merely watching the action?

IP: So where does all this leave your quest to discover the answers to your original challenge at the Anglican Consultative Council? Is attending Holy Communion without receiving ever defensible?

AA: Personally, I have found writing this booklet a stretching and clarifying exercise. I've been learning a lot! As someone who rejoices unashamedly in the Reformation heritage of the Church of England, I have discovered how Cranmer would take issue with some of my assumptions and behaviour. Cranmer is not a modern evangelical and doesn't always back me up when I wish he would!

Through spending time with Cranmer's invitations, I have found myself more and more convinced that there are sound biblical and theological reasons for receiving Holy Communion even in a confused and fractured context like the Anglican Communion and the Church of England. Yes, it is possible to participate fully with a clear conscience.

To dig in deeper, read the booklet, and see what you think. It is designed as a resource to help our Anglican conversations on this pressing topic, and it includes plenty of questions for reflection and discussion. It can be used by clergy and congregations, to help us think about Holy Communion invitations in our local contexts, or as a springboard to chew over the topic with worship leaders and Church councils. Jesus invites us, how will we respond?





St Marys Bulwell
"Whiz Kids" Sunday School

Join us on a Sunday morning
 during the service 10-11am
 Children from schoolage up welcome

Prayer

FUN!

Friendship

Bible stories

WELCOME

crafts

Singing

FRIENDLY

For childrens under 5years we have a cosy children's corner, parents are welcome to use under parental supervision



Nottingham Hospitals Choir presents:

**Songs, Sonnets, Shows
 and Jazz**

Saturday, 4th July 2026 at 7:30 pm

St Mary the Virgin & All Souls, Highbury Rd, Bulwell NG6 9AD

Registered Charity No. 1158462 Tickets: £7 on the door, raffle and refreshments available

Clergy who liked Railways by Rev Bob Stephens

My first member of the clergy is a Bishop and a renowned photographer of Steam trains.

Eric Treacy, MBE (2 May 1907 – 13 May 1978) was an English railway photographer and Anglican bishop. Notice the Bishop comes after the Railway element, in 1932 he was ordained deacon in the Church of England and priest a year later, serving as curate at Liverpool parish church from 1932 to 1934. He married Mary Leyland 'May' Treacy (née Shone) (1902–1985), a voluntary social worker, in 1932. He took up railway photography, being inspired by visiting Liverpool Lime Street and getting to know his parishioners who worked on the railway. His photographic work appeared in various magazines during the 1930s. His photography was interrupted by the Second World War when he served as Military Chaplain. On 12 March 1940, he was commissioned as Chaplain to the Forces 4th Class. On 24 January 1946, he was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE). In 1946 Treacy published his first book which contained images of L.M.S. locomotives. On demobilisation he became Rector of Keighley and in 1949 was appointed Archdeacon of Halifax. In 1961, Treacy was consecrated a bishop and appointed the Bishop of Pontefract, a suffragan bishop in the Diocese of Wakefield. In 1968, he was made Bishop of Wakefield, the diocesan bishop. He held the post until he retired from full-time ministry in 1976. On 13 May 1978, Treacy died from a heart attack on Appleby Station on the Settle-Carlisle Railway whilst waiting for a rail tour hauled by BR 92220 Evening Star. A slate plaque is displayed on the main station building in his memory. He is buried at St Kentigern's Church, Crosthwaite, Keswick. In 1979 LMS Stanier Class 5 4-6-0 number 45428 was named Eric Treacy.] It is now preserved on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway. I have to show a Southern Region locomotive a Bulleid West Country Pacific leaving Victoria for the Kent coast from the Book Spell of Steam by Eric Treacy published by Ian Allan Publishing 1973



If you would like yourself or a loved one to be prayed for, please speak with/contact St Mary's Pastoral Visitor,

Jackie Bramford,
jackiebramford@hotmail.co.uk

or Daniel Newton
newtondaniel826@gmail.com.



Re: safeguarding/data protection. If you are requesting prayer for somebody other than yourself, please obtain the person's permission in the first instance. Failing that, give their first name only. Any details about health matters should only be shared with the person's permission. Where an individual is seriously ill or not an adult, this permission may be given by the person's caregiver, guardian or family member.

From the Parish Registers

Baptisms

7th June

Shikari Andre Smith

Funerals

10th June

Avis Brown RIP (St Mary's and Bramcote Crematorium)

Weddings

13th June

Renewal of Wedding Vows – Bruce and Ann Mulhall

19th June

Elease Holton and Daniel
Raynor

20th June

Kadie Clarke and Corey Taylor



Confirmation Services 2026



Confirmation is a special service in which folk confirm the promises that been made when they were baptized. During the service the bishop lay's his hands on the candidates' heads and ask God's Holy Spirit to give them the strength and commitment to live God's way for the rest of his life. See:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/life-events/confirmation>

If you would like to be Confirmed please speak with Fr Andrew, Rev Bob or Zoe.

Full Immersion Baptism at St Mary's

On Sunday 17th May St Mary's Bulwell celebrated four baptisms, including the baptism of Brandon Holton who was baptised as part of his journey towards Confirmation at Southwell Minster on Saturday 23rd June. Brandon's baptism was by full immersion, which was a first for St Mary's church (and Brandon of course!).



Confirmations 23rd May, Southwell Minster

Congratulations to Aurora, Isaac, Brandon, Lauren, Jaycee-Leigh, Evie and Lewis who were Confirmed by the Bishop of Sherwood at Southwell Minster, Saturday 23rd May 2026. May the good Lord bless you, and keep you, and always cause his face to shine upon you!







The Aumbry Lamp

The Aumbry Lamp is the 7-day candle that burns before the aumbry in the Lady Chapel, announcing the Sacramental Presence of Our Lord in the aumbry. Sponsoring the aumbry lamp is a wonderful way to show gratitude for answered prayer, or as a tangible way to

extend our petitions before God. Lamp sponsorship covers the cost of a candle for one month and can be sponsored for just £10 for a month. Please speak with Fr Andrew if you would like to sponsor St Mary's aumbry lamp.

The Aumbry Lamp has been kindly sponsored from January 2026 to June 2026 in prayerful memory of Norah who passed away in 2024. Carol and Brian Butler have kindly sponsored the Aumbry Lamp from July 2026 to August 2026. Mavis Polkey has kindly sponsored the Aumbry Lamp for September 2026 in prayerful memory of Alan Polkey who passed away in 2019. Ann Hotson has kindly sponsored the Aumbry Lamp for December 2026 in prayerful memory of Ray Hotson who passed away in 2025.



Holy water in church

Congregation members have asked Fr Andrew if St Mary's has a supply of holy water for folk to use or take away. There is a stoup by the south porch entrance with which folk can cross themselves with as they enter and leave the church building, and a holy water urn folk can fill any suitable small bottles with (please bring your own bottle).



St Marys Church, Bulwell

"the church on the hill"



"Summer loving"

Lunch supplied
sandwiches
cake, yogurts, fruit
and treats

please advise of any allergies or
food preferences

Saturday
July 4th
11:30-1:30
FREE



please contact Zoe to book your place-
zoejackson000@gmail.com

Booking is essential for resource and lunch numbers





Annual Conference 2026

Is Death the End?

Friday 11th to Sunday 13th September 2026
Kents Hill Park Conference Centre, Milton Keynes

www.churchesfellowship.co.uk

Dear Friends,

Have you booked your place on our Annual Conference yet? Entitled *Is Death the End*, we explore the theological and parapsychological thoughts of what happens after death, and especially those who don't pass into this next life as they should.

We have three fantastic speakers lined up for you!

The Right Reverend Peter Eagles was, until retirement, Bishop of Sodor and Man, and the Church of England Lead on Deliverance. He is now a trustee of the Julian of Norwich partnership.

Rev Andrew Fisher is a CFPSS member and trustee, a parish priest, a former hospital chaplain, and has worked in deliverance for a number of years.

Heather Davey is a CFPSS member whose first novel, *The Ghosts of Merry Hall*, was published last year, and her second is to be published later this year. Heather's paranormal story was featured on the televised series of *Uncanny* in 2023.

We do hope you will join us for this excellent conference! Residential tickets are now available on our website:

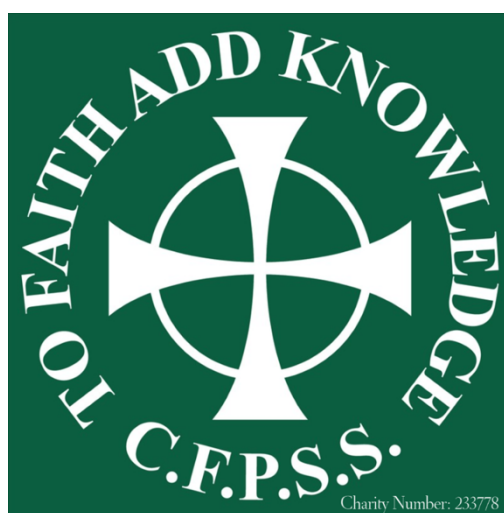
churchesfellowship.co.uk/theme-is-death-the-end

Day and online tickets will be available at the end of June.

Hope to see you there!

Every blessing,

Jo



Jo Arnold
General Secretary

The Churches Fellowship for Psychical and
Spiritual Studies

Office 8, The Creative Suite, Mill 3, Pleasley Vale Business Park
Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, NG19 8RL

Telephone: 01623 812206

Email: genseca@churchesfellowship.co.uk

www.churchesfellowship.co.uk

Christian Aid

A total of £78.75 was raised for Christian Aid. Thank you for your support!



Muddy Church Mini Beast Event, 16th May 2026



St Mary's Church Hall was packed as families came to our Muddy Church to see some more exotic examples of God's sometimes weird and wonderful creation. Folk were given the opportunity to stroke a millipede, cuddle a lizard, hold an African Land Snail and – yes - let Rosie the Rose-Knee Tarantula wander across your hands! Families finished the afternoon by tucking into some delicious chip-butties. At

least, I think they were chips...

Huge thanks to Zoe Elliott, St Mary's Children & Young People's Lead, for organising such a brilliant day.





If you're looking for a place to meet new people, get plugged into your local community, boost your wellbeing, and support a worthy cause, then look no further! Here

are different ways you can get involved by volunteering with St Mary's church today.

Gardening

St Mary's Church is set in beautiful grounds, maintained by the Council and volunteers. There is something hands-on to do in every season, from planting and weeding to cutting grass and raking.

Food Bank

Sadly, with the cost-of-living crisis, food banks have never been more in demand. The support offered is often a lifeline to the most vulnerable members of the community. From processing donations and making up bags of food to listening and praying with people in need, there are many ways to volunteer.

Cleaning and Maintenance

All old buildings require regular attention and St Mary's is no exception! Volunteers work on all kinds of odd jobs and repair work to ensure our building can remain open and safe for the community to use. From cleaning the brass work to hoovering the carpets, painting and decorating to restoration work, there are opportunities to use your skills – or learn new ones – and help preserve our amazing building.

Welcoming

Whether it's someone who's visited the church for generations or someone coming along for the first time, a friendly face can make all the difference. Having someone on hand to welcome people and to sign post them to what they need means that people can get the help they need from their visit – and they will be more likely to recommend St Mary's to others.

Children's Groups

From St Mary's Toddler Group to the Sunday School or Muddy Church, there's always a lot happening at St Mary's church! Our children's groups rely on volunteers to welcome visitors, help with setting up and tidying away, be a listening ear and to get involved in the activities!

Hospitality

St Mary's often serves refreshments after services and is open during the week (not just on Sundays!) From cooking and baking, to serving tea and coffee or talking to guests, there's lots you can be involved in. The City Council has renewed St Mary's Food Hygiene rating - they were very impressed and have awarded St Mary's 5 Stars out of 5 Stars!



Admin and Tech Support

For St Mary's to stay open and run the range of activities we do, admin and tech support is needed. This could be managing databases, updating the church website and social media pages, or even filming or photographing an event or service St Mary's is hosting. We are looking for a volunteer to take on the position of Editor for the weekly newsletter "The Mirror". You will need a computer with internet access and an email address. You need to be able to use word processing software such as Microsoft Word, and the ability to send and receive emails, and attachments. Time commitment - around two hours a week.

Volunteers are needed to help protect the mission and ministry St Mary's offers to our communities. However you choose to volunteer, you'll be making a vital difference to the lives of others as well as helping to keep St Mary's open and in use.

St Mary the Virgin & All Souls

Church Open for Morning Prayer

Every second Saturday of the month

10am until 12pm

10:00 Divine Office

10:30-11:00 Adoration in our Lady Chapel

11:00 Holy Rosary

12:00 The Angelus

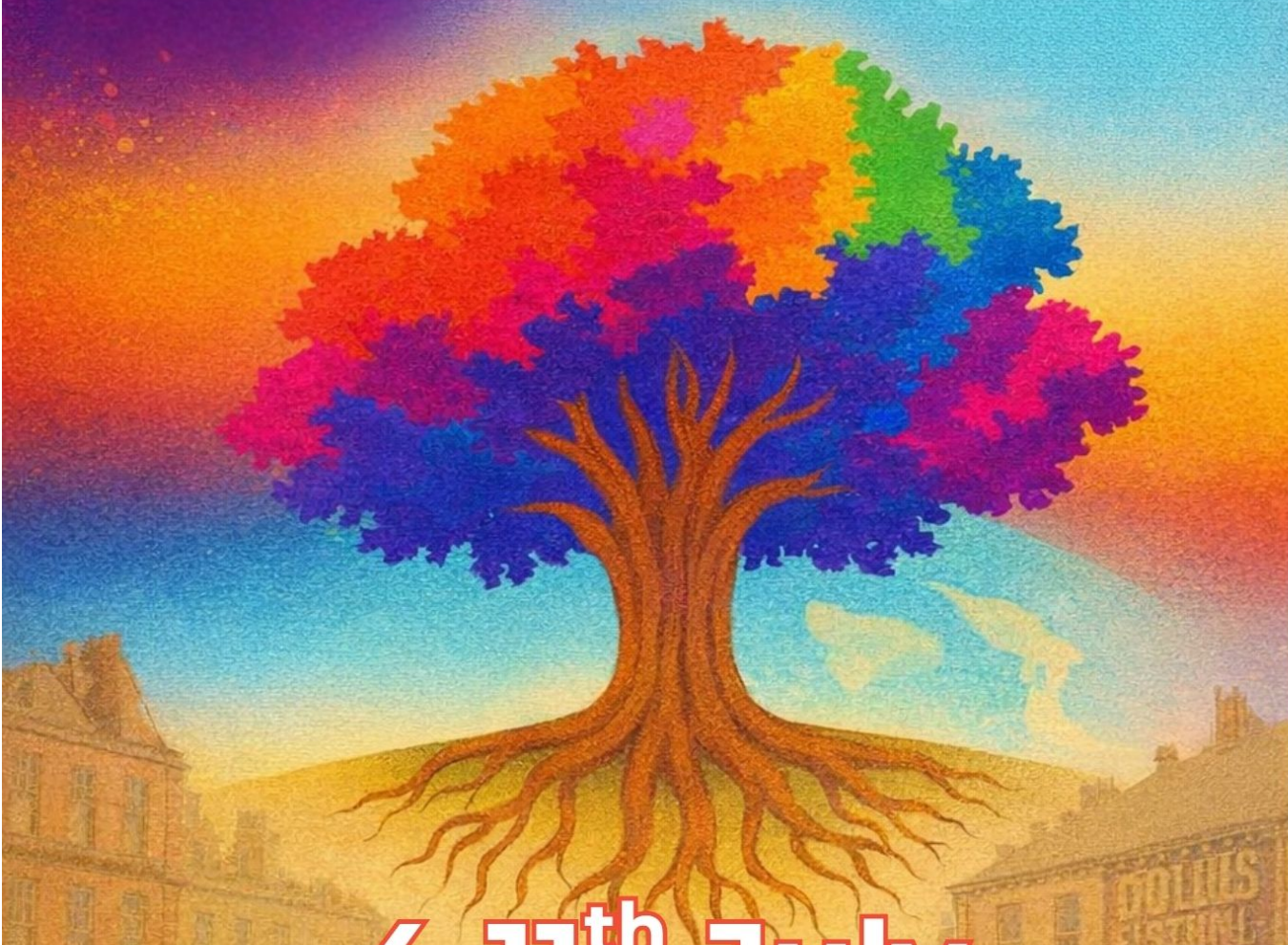
All are welcome



Highbury Road, Bulwell NG6 9AD

BULWELL ARTS FESTIVAL 2026 COMING SOON

Global but Rooted in Bulwell.



4-11th July



Follow for updates: @bulwellartsfestivalofficial
Onevisionpartnership.com

The Gift of Giving



GIVING what we can

What is Parish Share & why do we pay it?

"On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income..." (1Cor 16:2)

We are all reviewing our finances as the cost of living goes up. Churches are also reviewing their finances and are thinking how best they can pay their bills. St Mary's requires money to continue doing what we do – sharing God's love in Bulwell and beyond, and a large proportion of this money comes from our giving as a congregation. Our giving goes towards local costs such as our...

- Worship (including maintaining the organ and paying the organists, CD player/CDs and Digital Hymnal, hymn books, service books, Bibles and lectionaries, robes, candles, bells, bread and wine for Holy Communion, baptism and confirmation gifts and certificates etc).
- Heating and lighting costs, insurance premiums, water rates etc. All of which cost considerably more than a domestic home.
- Printing, photocopying, stationery, flyers, posters and postage.
- Children's work such as Whiz Kids and Muddy Church
- Community, church and social events
- School visits and assemblies
- Services in nursing homes, sheltered housing complexes and Highbury Hospital.
- Expenses incurred as part of the clergy's' ministries.
- Keeping the church, hall and grounds maintained, and arranging for regular inspections.
- Any outward, charitable giving that St Mary's makes.

Our giving also helps Southwell & Nottingham Diocese by means of our Parish Share to pay for:

- The work of the central church organisation on behalf of all the parishes. Negotiating with government departments, working with

other Churches and running the General Synod (the Church's parliament)

- the help given by Diocesan officers to parishes.
- Clergy stipends and the pensions of retired clergy and their dependents.
- Training new clergy for future service.

Each year at Deanery Synod, Treasurers, Churchwardens and Incumbents are invited to pledge their church's amount towards the Diocesan parish share. We have pledged to pay £28,656 in 2026.

Money is part of our following of Jesus. The Bible tells us that a rich man could not let go of his wealth, that Zacchaeus responded to Jesus with joyful generosity, and that St Paul challenged the church in Corinth to give generously. A healthy relationship with money is a normal part of our discipleship, and there are a variety of ways we can support the ongoing mission and ministry at St Mary's:

Envelope Scheme The Envelope scheme is an efficient way of giving, especially for taxpayers. In the packs are a numbered envelope for every Sunday of the year. This enables you to give every week even if you are away.

Standing Order Some people give monthly or weekly standing order direct from their bank account. This is a very efficient way to give to the church as there is less effort required to keep track of your giving to reclaim tax.

Gift Aid If you are a taxpayer and make a Gift Aid Declaration, St Mary's can reclaim the tax you have paid on your giving. This makes every £1.00 given worth £1.25.

Donating Gifts other than Money The rules for Gift Aid mean that the Church cannot reclaim tax from gifts other than money.

If you have any questions on the Envelope Scheme, Gift Aid, using the Blue Envelopes or wish to make a Gift Aid Declaration then please contact our Treasurer, Peter Stanley, our Churchwardens, Eleanor Lang and Martin Walton, or Fr Andrew, and above all, thank you.

BULWELL ARTS FESTIVAL

in partnership with

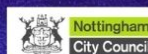
**COMMUNITREE
FESTIVAL**



GLOBAL DAY

Music, Crafts, Stalls, Bulwell History, Global food and much more

Bulwell Hall Park Saturday 11th July 1-5pm



Punk 4 The Homeless, supporting 74 orphan girls in Sierra Leone.
The next art exhibition will be in July (exact dates to be confirmed). If anyone can donate any art work, please contact Eagle, or drop him an email on punk4thehomeless@gmail.com

ART 4 RICE EXHIBITION²

**Any artist wanting
to donate
Work for our
next exhibition**

**Please
get in
Touch
with
Eagle Spits
ASAP**



**YOU GIVE US ART
WE TURN IT INTO
FOOD
FOR
ORPHAN GIRLS
IN
SIERRA LEONE**

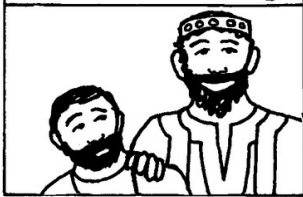
Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
1 Samuel 24

God chose Saul to be the King of Israel, but Saul chose to disobey Him. God said that the next king would not be Saul's son.

Saul didn't know that God had chosen David to be the next king.



David was very successful as a fighter and very popular.



Saul became jealous and angry.

David had to go on the run and hide.



When he wasn't fighting the Philistines, Saul tried to catch David.

One day, Saul and his army were in En-Gedi. Saul needed to pee, so he went into a sheep fold built next to a cave...

David and his men were hiding at the back of the cave!



God has given you a chance to kill him!

David crept over and cut a piece off Saul's robe.



Saul didn't notice.

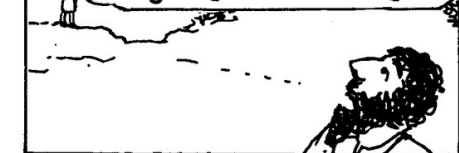
Then David felt bad.



David waited until Saul was far enough away then he shouted to him.



Your majesty, I could have killed you today, but I knew it was wrong. I want to prove to you I'm not trying to harm you.



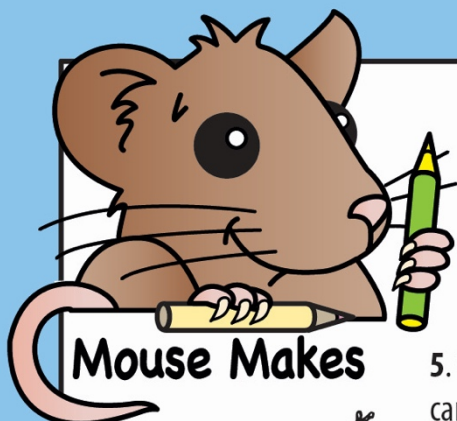
David, you are better than me. I would have killed you but you were kind.



Now I know you will be the next king, but please look after my family.

David promised, and Saul and his army went home.





Mouse Makes

1. What bird makes
it's nest on high?
Job 39:27



2. What ate the seeds along the path?
Matthew 13:4



3. The hair of which animal
was used to make curtains?
Exodus 36:14

4. What insect
can we learn from?
Proverbs 6:6

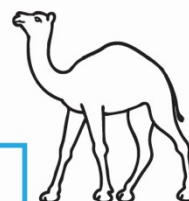
7. Which animal
was Jesus
compared to?
John 1:29



5. What plague
came out of the
River Nile?
Exodus 8:6



6. What animal would
go through the eye
of a needle easier
than a rich person?
Luke 18:25



8. What bird did Noah release
from the ark first?
Genesis 8:7



9 across.
In what creature's mouth
was a coin found?
Matthew 17:27



9 down.
What lives
in holes?
Matthew 8:20



12. Which bird
did the
Holy Spirit
appear as?
Luke 3:22

13. Which animal
did Jesus ride on?
Matthew 21:7

14. What bird did God provide
for food in the wilderness?
Exodus 16:13

15. What insects did John eat in the wilderness?
Matthew 3:4



16. Which animal is the
"mightiest among beasts"?
Proverbs 30:30



B I B L E

C R E A T U R E S

ORGANISATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Some meetings are term-time only – please check with organisers. Meetings are held at St Mary's church unless otherwise stated.

SUNDAY

Choir Practice Warm up 9.00am
Rehearsal after service 11.30 – noon
Please contact the Organist: 07799 331271

Farnaby & Co (First & Third in month) 7.15pm to 9.25pm

MONDAY

48th Nottingham Beavers (boys & girls, 6-8 years) 6.15pm – 7.15pm
Tel: 0115 877 6569 or 07976 300013

TUESDAY

87th Nottingham Brownies (7-10 years) 6.15pm – 7.30pm
Tel: 07596 758440

WEDNESDAY

Trefoil Guild (first Wednesday of the month) 12pm – 2pm
Tel: 0115 916 3249

Bestwood & Bulwell Foodbank 1.00 – 3.00pm Tel: 07527048226
Email: info@bestwoodbulwell.foodbank.org.uk

Polish Speaking Al- Group - Spokoj 6.15pm – 8.15pm

Bellringing (Practice Night) 7.30pm – 9pm. All ages from 11 years.
Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult.
Tel: 07858653002

THURSDAY

88th Nottingham Brownies (7-10 years) 6.00pm – 7.30pm Tel: 07817 3786543

87th Nottingham Guides (10-15 years) 7.00pm – 9.00pm Tel: 07793 823440

Rangers (age 14+) 7.00pm – 9.00pm Tel: 07786 226663

Pub Social First Thursday of the Month at the William Peveril
(Wetherspoons) in Bulwell.

FRIDAY

Rainbows 5.15pm – 6.15pm Tel: 07812 160455

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar	Fr Andrew Fisher	0115 975 5358 a.j.fisher@outlook.com
Honorary Associate Priest	The Revd. Bob Stephens	07757422260 revbob63@sky.com
Reader/Licensed Lay Minister (LLM)	Juliet Twumasi	jto2025@hotmail.com
Churchwardens	Eleanor Lang	0115 9277212 ellielang@btinternet.com
	Martin Walton	07746 535552 martinwalton57@outlook.com
Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)	Maureen Pates	0115 976 4612 maureeni.pates@googlemail.com
Prayer Chain Ministry	Jackie Bramford (Pastoral Care Visitor)	jackiebramford@hotmail.co.uk
	Daniel Newton	newtondaniel826@gmail.com
Children & Young Peoples' Ministry	Zoe Elliott	zoejackson000@gmail.com
Tower Captain	Michael Varney	07858 653002 MichaelVarney2015@outlook.com
Director of Music	Ian Bevell	07799 331271 ianbevell@gmail.com
Temporary Notice Sheet Editor <i>Submissions please on the Monday prior to the Sunday of publication</i>	Karen Wolf	07853 668160 1Karenwolf1@gmail.com
Magazine Editor <i>Submissions please first week prior to the month of publication</i>	Jackie Pichowicz	jackie.habegger@gmail.com
Foodbank	Nigel Webster	07527 048226 info@bestwoodbulwell.foodbank.org.uk