

CHESHUNT TEAM MINISTRY
ST MARY THE VIRGIN
CHESHUNT



The Conversion of Mary Magdalene (c.1548) by Paolo Veronese

CHURCH NEWSLETTER

July 2026

Foreword from Revd Elizabeth Fellows

Dear St Mary's Church Community,



June has been a wonderful month at St Mary's Church, Cheshunt, with many new and returning people welcomed through our church doors. It has been a month of deepening faith, joyful celebration and strengthening relationships. We have shared in baptisms and confirmations, published banns of marriage, enjoyed a successful Summer Fête and continued to grow together through training for the PCC and further sessions of the Bible Course, both in person and online.

We were also delighted to participate in a very well-received session led by Revd Helen on the seasons and structure of the Church of England and to see our new Churchwarden officially begin her ministry. Alongside our regular worship and social gatherings, we have much to celebrate and much for which to give God thanks.

We are particularly grateful that St Mary's has been awarded a substantial grant to support a major project of rewiring and replacing the lighting throughout the church building. This investment will help to ensure that our church remains a welcoming and sustainable place of worship and community life for years to come.

As we journey through Ordinary Time - the season in the Church's calendar marked by green, which stretches from Pentecost to Advent - we will continue to reflect on our own journeys of faith. We will also consider how, as a church community, we can continue to welcome new people, helping them to find a place of belonging and drawing them ever more deeply into the heart of Christian faith and worship. There is suggested summer reading for all ages later in the newsletter.

Everyone is warmly invited to our annual Fizz and Chips social evening at 6pm on Friday 17 July in St Mary's Church. Please book your place and join in a fun and relaxed evening of fish and chips, prosecco and friendship.

With every blessing,

Revd Elizabeth

Worship – Dates of Services at St Mary’s Church

- ✠ **Thursday 2 July at 11am – Holy Communion**
- ✠ **Sunday 5 July at 10am – Parish Eucharist**
- ✠ **Monday 6 July at 7pm – Eucharist followed by PCC Meeting**
- ✠ **Thursday 9 July at 11am – Holy Communion**
- ✠ **Sunday 12 July at 10am – All Age Eucharist**
- ✠ **Thursday 16 July at 11am – Holy Communion**
- ✠ **Sunday 19 July at 10am – Parish Eucharist**
- ✠ **Tuesday 21 July at 9am – Dewhurst St Mary’s Leavers’ Service**
- ✠ **Thursday 23 July at 11am – Holy Communion**
- ✠ **Sunday 26 July at 10am – Family Service (with sausages)**
- ✠ **Thursday 30 July at 11am – Holy Communion**

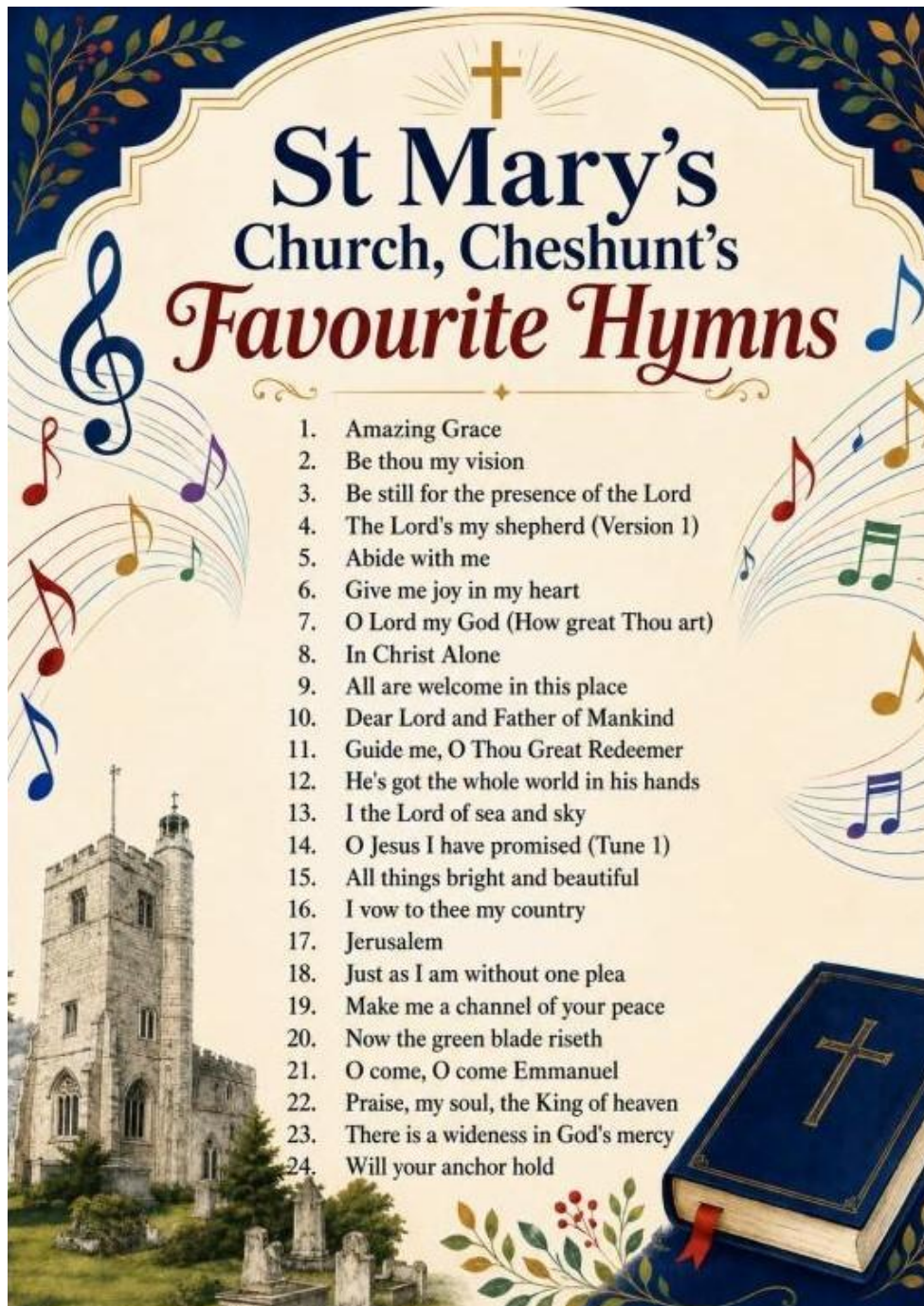
Prayer Points for July

- Give thanks for people who have stepped into St Mary’s for the first time in the last month and for those who are growing in their faith.
- Pray for new and existing relationships at church to be strengthened throughout July, including through Fizz and Chips on 17 July.
- Pray for our new Churchwarden, Cilean, and the 2026-2027 Parochial Church Council (PCC) as they take up their new roles and begin to play a key part in St Mary’s Church, Cheshunt’s mission and ministry.

St Mary's 20 Favourite Hymns

We are pleased to announce the congregation's favourite hymns, chosen by popular vote throughout June. You can listen along to help you join in during worship, and find the sung setting of the Eucharist (Holy Communion) on Spotify by clicking this link or scanning this QR code:

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/0HQEyIgmhP0Rg6AMSyG2MT?si=0208e039107a4035>



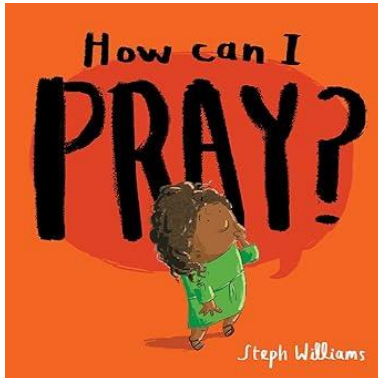
St Mary's
Church, Cheshunt's
Favourite Hymns

1. Amazing Grace
2. Be thou my vision
3. Be still for the presence of the Lord
4. The Lord's my shepherd (Version 1)
5. Abide with me
6. Give me joy in my heart
7. O Lord my God (How great Thou art)
8. In Christ Alone
9. All are welcome in this place
10. Dear Lord and Father of Mankind
11. Guide me, O Thou Great Redeemer
12. He's got the whole world in his hands
13. I the Lord of sea and sky
14. O Jesus I have promised (Tune 1)
15. All things bright and beautiful
16. I vow to thee my country
17. Jerusalem
18. Just as I am without one plea
19. Make me a channel of your peace
20. Now the green blade riseth
21. O come, O come Emmanuel
22. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven
23. There is a wideness in God's mercy
24. Will your anchor hold

Our Journey with Jesus

Suggested Summer Reading

What better way than to deepen your relationship with God over the summer months? Here are some recommended resources for all ages on the theme of prayer.

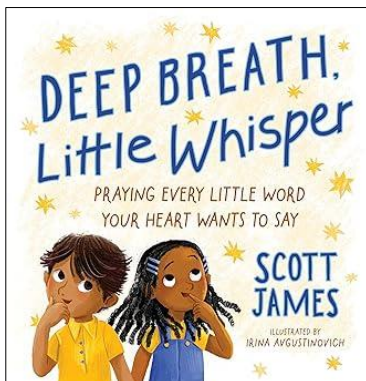


How Can I Pray?

An engaging retelling of Jesus teaching his followers how to pray, including the Lord's Prayer

by Steph Williams

For children up to 4 years old

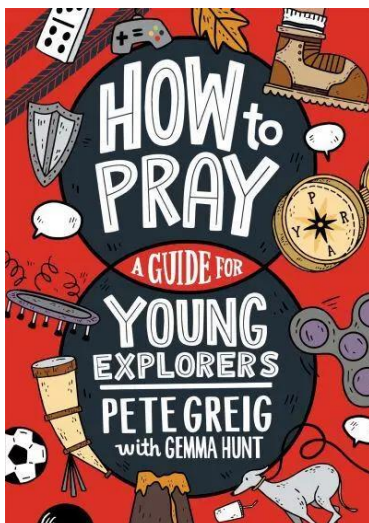


Deep Breath, Little Whisper:

Praying Every Little Word Your Heart Wants to Say

by Scott James

For 4-7 year olds

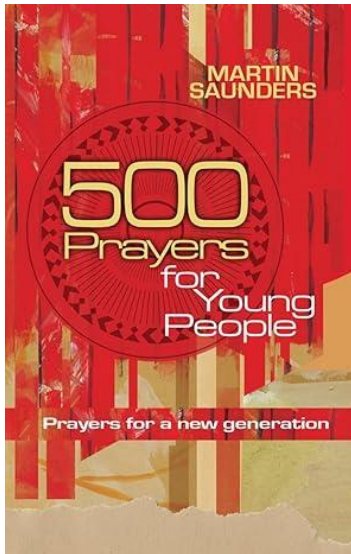


How to Pray:

A Guide for Young Explorers

by Pete Greig, Gemma Hunt

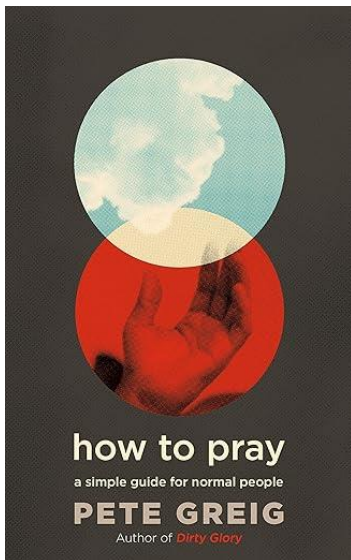
For 8-13 year olds



500 Prayers for Young People:
Prayers for a New Generation

by [Martin Saunders](#)

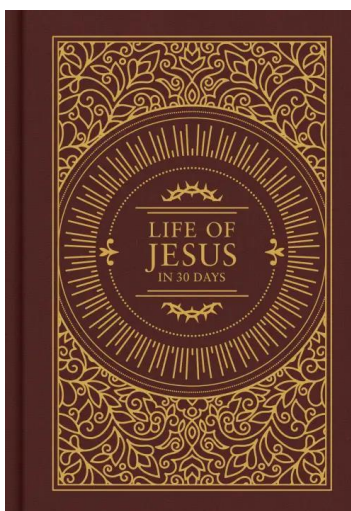
For 14-18 year olds



How to Pray:
A Simple Guide for Normal People

by Pete Greig

A guide to prayer shaped around the
Lord's Prayer



Life of Jesus in 30 Days

by Trevin Wax

A book of prayer and Bible reading for
morning, midday and evening

News from June

Confirmation and Baptism Service

Congratulations to everyone in the Cheshunt Team Ministry who was baptised and confirmed at the Confirmation Service on 6 June in St Mary's Church



We welcomed The Right Reverend Rob Wickham Honorary Assistant Bishop who led the service. St Mary's Church was full of friends and families of those being baptised and confirmed and members of the Team Ministry congregations who supported the candidates.

Our thanks to everyone who helped with preparations and the reception afterwards.

St Mary's Welcomes a New Lay Leader of Worship

Congratulations to Mark Warner who was licensed as a Lay Leader of Worship at St Mary's on 21 June. We pray for Mark as he begins his ministry in the Church.

National Lottery Bonus Ball

You may have heard that the National Lottery is changing. Everyone will now be given two chances to win on the same line. This means that there will now be two bonus ball numbers each draw. The church bonus ball will pay out on both these numbers, but the prize on each will be halved, so you will win £10, but you will have twice the chances of winning! This started on Saturday 13 June.



Many thanks for all your support.

Summer Fête



Saturday 20 June was a perfect day for a Summer Fête and people flocked to St Mary's for strawberries and cream, games, Pimm's, raffle and tombola, to name just a few of the attractions in which adults and children took part and enjoyed.

Thank you to everyone who helped plan the Fête, set up stalls and equipment and manned the various stalls inside and outside the Church.

The takings from each stall are listed below:



Stall	£
Roll a Coin / Play Your Cards	£60.00
Café	£200.91
Outside Games	£93.00
Grand Draw	£577.00
Puzzles	£33.50
Pottery	£75.00
Tombola	£156.50
Beer Tent	£90.00
Clothing	£154.00
Pimm's	£145.00
Food Bank	£126.10
Jam and Plants	£291.00
Cake Stalls	£213.00
Toiletries	£65.25
Donations	£70.00
TOTAL	£2,349.76

Note: some expenses are still to be deducted

Mothers' Union



St Mary's branch of the MU met twice during June. At the regular monthly meeting, members and guests were entertained with poems, readings and songs on the theme "A Good Day Out". Doris recounted a "Mystery Coach Outing", which took place on such an awful day that everyone just ended up in the Wetherspoons! All this excitement was followed by scones and jam and strawberries and cream prepared by the committee.



On 24 June, it was our turn to take part in the Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer. This is a worldwide cycle of prayer which links MU branches across the 84 countries in which it operates. In 2026, the Wave began with prayers dedicated to MU trustees and staff throughout the world. From 5-7 January, prayers were set for The Kingdom of Eswatini (formerly Swaziland), Ruala in Tanzania, Aguatta and Lagos in Nigeria, Norwich in England and Chotanagputu in India.

22-24 June was designated for Rumonge in Burundi, Tabora in Tanzania, Kabba and Bukuru in Nigeria, Nagpur in India and our diocese of St Albans. We held our service at the designated time using the Order of Service provided by the Diocese. Prayers were said for MU members worldwide as we celebrated our common commitment to the work of MU. Candles were lit representing the six linked dioceses. The Wave continued at 10:30 at Hoddesdon and 11am at Sawbridgeworth.

Thursday 30 June is another "fifth" Thursday and the MU would like to invite everyone to church for a Games Evening starting at 7:30pm. No charge, light refreshments, donations to MU projects. We hope to see you there.



Children's Society



Many thanks to all of St Mary's Children's Society box holders who jointly collected **£280** between June 2025 and May 2026.

We are always keen to welcome new box holders. Boxes do not have to be full, nor do they need to contain huge sums of money, but collectively, box holders make a real contribution to the work of the Children's Society. Please contact Marian Coombs (07981 879969) if you would like to become a box holder.

A Brief History

In 1881, Edward Rudolf, a Sunday School teacher and civil servant, was dismayed to find two of his Sunday Schoolchildren begging for food on the streets. Their father had died, leaving their mother to care for seven children under the age of eleven. Realising this was a wider problem, he was determined to help children living in extreme poverty.



This was the beginning of the Church of England's Children's Society. Edward said that workhouses were not suitable places for children and that all children should enjoy loving and safe family environments.

With backing from the Archbishop of Canterbury, he set up Church of England children's homes each for about ten children aged from five to 14. Each home had a master and matron to care for, and act as parents to the children.

The Children's Society has grown and adapted to changing societal situations over the years, but continues to provide support for children and teenagers suffering from neglect, abuse and exploitation.

Marian Coombs

Events in July

Fizz and Chips!



Friday 17th July at 6pm

Medium cod & chips £15
Fish cakes & chips £8
Sausage & chips £7.50
Kids meals with chips £7:
mini cod / sausage / chicken nuggets

Please book your place(s) with either Pat or Geoff

If you wish to attend, please add your name to the list in church and pay Pat Higgins or Geoff Parks so food can be ordered in advance.

Afro-Caribbean-Asian Cultural Celebration Day

Everyone is invited to a special celebration day at Christ Church in Waltham Cross on Saturday 25 July from 12-5pm.

Regular Events in July

- * **Church Cleaning and Gardening** from 10am on **Saturday 4 July**. 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 2 July**.
- * **Handbells** at 7pm on **Thursdays 9 and 23 July**.
- * **Mothers' Union Handicrafts Group** on **Thursday 16 July** at 1:30pm in the Portacabin. All welcome.

Additional Resources

Church of England on WhatsApp



A sharing of prayers, reflections, uplifting stories, news and more. Follow the link to subscribe: <https://ow.ly/Lp8T50XGjGz> or by download the Everyday Faith app: <https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/exploring-faith/everyday-faith>

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>



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

Total Income for May £4,746

Total Expenditure for May £7,049

Budget Surplus/Deficit for May -£2,303

Total Income Year to Date £69,190

Total Expenditure Year to Date £54,135

Budget Surplus/Deficit Year to Date £15,055

Total Parish Share Initial Request 2026 £59,259

11 monthly payments of £4,938, plus a final
payment of £4,941

Parish Share Payment May £4,938

Parish Share Bill Year to Date £24,690

Total Contribution Year to Date £24,690



Angela's July Gardening Tips

- Feed hanging baskets and containers regularly to ensure flowers bloom all summer long.
- Deadhead bedding plants and repeat flowering perennials to ensure continuous flowering.
- Be water wise. Water early morning and late in the day if possible for less evaporation.
- Pinch out tops of tomato plants once five or six trusses have developed to transfer energy into fruit growth. Remove lower leaves for fruit ripening.
- Cut away new runners from strawberry plants to encourage bigger and better fruit.
- Consider giving the lawn a quick-acting summer feed.
- Shade greenhouses to keep them cool and prevent leaf scorch on plants.
- In hot, dry weather, mow lawn on a high setting. Any brown patches will green up when rain arrives.
- Pick early ripening fruit and vegetables such as courgettes, peas, beans and early potatoes.
- Clear algae and blanket weeds from ponds and keep topped up as wildlife needs a drink too!
- Prune stone fruit trees such as plums and cherries to keep growth under control and prevent disease.
- Relax and enjoy the sunshine in your garden – you deserve it!



Contact Information

Clergy:

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

Church Warden:

Cilean Blanchard: 07506 488318, cileanorr@btinternet.com

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/>

