

St Mary the Virgin and All Saints Potters Bar

6th September 2026

The Blessed Virgin Mary

A warm welcome to St Mary's for our Patronal Festival especially if this is your first time here.

TODAY'S SERVICES

8.00am **SAID EUCHARIST**

10.00am **FESTIVAL EUCHARIST**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61 vv 10-11 *The prophet echoes the words that will be used by Mary.*

New Testament Reading: Galatians 4 vv 4-7 *St Paul reminds us that we are the children of God.*

Gospel: Luke 1 vv 39-56 *Mary visits her relative Elizabeth. Both mothers-to-be praise the God active in their lives, recognising their role in His plan of salvation.*

Hymns: 188 (omit * verses), 161, 185, 187, 186

Choir items: Responsorial Magnificat – Miller
This lovely lady – Bryan Kelly

The service will be followed by lunch in the church hall

*Our flowers this week have been arranged by
Trisha Salmon & Pearl Shepherd
and donated by Steve Reid in memory of baby Finley Reid*

The Week Ahead

Tuesday **Accession of King Charles III, 2022**

9.00am Morning Prayer
10.30am – 12 noon Church open for visitors
5.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 9.30am Said Eucharist
10.30am – 12 noon Church open for visitors
10.00am – 12 noon Carers' coffee morning in hall
5.00pm Evening Prayer
7.30pm Said Eucharist
8.00pm PCC meeting

Thursday 9.30am Said Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am – 12 noon Church open for visitors
5.00pm Evening Prayer

Friday 9.00am St John's School start of term service
5.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

Saturday 9am – 5pm Church open to welcome visitors on Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust Bike 'n Hike

Next Sunday is the **Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**

8.00am Said Eucharist
10.00am **SUNG EUCHARIST**
5.00pm Evensong (BCP)

Next Sunday's readings will be: Genesis 50 vv 15-21;
Romans 14 vv 1-12 & Matthew 18 vv 21-35.

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Parish Notices

Welcome to the celebrations today for our **PATRONAL FESTIVAL**, as we honour the Blessed Virgin Mary. Please do stay after the Festival Eucharist for tea and coffee at the back of the church. A Bring and Share Lunch with wine will follow in the church hall.

Many thanks for the generous response last Sunday to the Christian Aid appeal for the relief effort in Nepal following the devastating floods. We are able to send **£1,000** to the appeal. If you wish to add to this sum, please place your donation in a yellow envelope, mark it "Nepal" and place it in the donations box at the back of the church. You can also donate online to our bank account - please mark your donation "Nepal".

Annual Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust Bike 'n Hike - **Next Saturday**, 9.00am to 5.00pm. Many thanks to those who have signed up to help as welcomers on this day.

Geoff Foster is taking part in the bike ride and would be grateful for sponsors. The money he raises will be shared between the Trust and St Mary's.

The St Mary's Friendship Group will meet on **Monday 21st September** at 10.30am at the Oakmere Tea Room.

Other dates to note in your diaries:

- **Sunday 4th October** – **Pets Blessing Service** at 4.00pm
- **Sunday 11th October** – **Harvest Festival** with a lunch following the 10.00am Family Eucharist
- **Saturday 21st November** – **Quiz Night** in the hall at 7.00pm.

For your prayers

The sick Joan Golden, Elizabeth Liney, Anna Downes, Carole Waller, Elizabeth Wiseman, Janice Neal, Valerie Taylor, Francoise Groves-de-Milleret, Judy & Bob Keefe, Robert Peters, Maureen Alderman, Ben Jones, Richard Peart, Alison Stevens, Kirsty Edmunds, Marilyn Gibbs, Kathy, Joyce Bowry, Judy Makin

We also pray for Margaret Terry, Keith Downes, Jayne Hutton, Janet Daniels, Susan North, Pauline Phillips, Ron Golden, Sasha Burt, Tessa, Nicola Stiff, Ricky Mella, David Evans, Richard Barnes, Dave Gough, Prussia Blake, Mary Healey

The recently departed

Those whose anniversary of death falls this week
baby Finley Reid, Tom Rowbotham, Helena New

Those preparing for Holy Matrimony Ross Hancock and Nina Francis

Our parish We remember those who live in Heath Drive, Hermitage Court and Highfield Way

**THIS SHEET IS FOR YOU TO KEEP
PLEASE TAKE IT HOME WITH YOU**

COLLECT

Almighty God, who looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary and chose her to be the mother of your only Son: grant that we who are redeemed by his blood may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom; 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. **Amen.**

FIRST READING Isaiah 61: 10-11

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

MAGNIFICAT (sung by the choir)

R *My spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour*

My soul doth magnify the Lord and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden;

For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name. **R**

And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm;

He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. **R**

He hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things; And the rich he hath sent empty away. **R**

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever. **R**

SECOND READING Galatians 4: 4-7

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were

under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

GOSPEL Luke 1: 39-56

Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.' And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.' And Mary remained with her for about three months and then returned to her home.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

God most high, whose handmaid bore the Word made flesh: we thank you that in this sacrament of our redemption you visit us with your Holy Spirit and overshadow us by your power; strengthen us to walk with Mary the joyful path of obedience and so to bring forth the fruits of holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**