



St Mary's Honley & St George's Brockholes

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Services for the week beginning 19th March

Mothering Sunday

9.30 am Holy Communion at St Mary's.

11.00 am Holy Communion at St George's.

Wednesday

9.30am in St Mary's. Mid-week Holy Communion

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Diocese of Leeds

Mothering Sunday

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Diocese of Leeds

Today we are welcoming two new members joining us at St Mary's MU, Janet Lubinska and Lorraine Knutton. Also several of our members will be awarded 'Long Service Certificates' some have been members for 50 years!

Thursday Coffee Morning

Everyone is invited to join us

A warm welcome can be found on

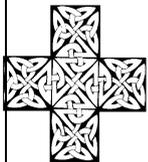
In St Mary's 10.00-11.30am.

Sung Evensong

At St Mary's Sunday 26th March

3pm with the Part Singers

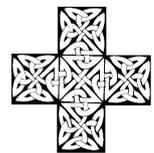
[Donations to church funds are welcome.]



Pause, pray and remember people we have lost.

Donald Allen North, Lucy Millicent France, Harry Thorpe Dronfield

Michael Fletcher, Philip James Taylor, Barbara Shaw



The family and friends of the recently departed

Joyce Ellen Thornton,

Edwin Dean (Ted) and Malcom Firth.

Malcom Firth's funeral will take place at Huddersfield crem 29th March at 2.45pm

For Baptisms and Weddings please Contact:

Vicar: Revd. Martin Short 01484 661751

martin.short@Leeds.anglican.org

Services for the week beginning 26th March 2023

9.30 am Holy Communion at St Mary's.

11.00 am Holy Communion at St George's.

3.00pm Choral Evensong with the Part Singers at St Mary's

Wednesday

9.30am in St Mary's. Mid-week Holy Communion

GIVING

All our funding comes from the giving of the people who attend or those who feel that they want to support us.



Give confidently knowing that online giving is secure.

You can now make donations online just follow this link or use the QR code.

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/a459163d-1461-4ce0-bc1c-4c98dca169c8>

Here is early warning of a date you may like to put in your diaries. Many of you will know Bev Playle. Despite suffering gruelling treatment, she is bravely supporting the womb cancer charity's challenge by trying to raise "Ten thousand pounds in ten months". To contribute to this, Laurence and I are hosting a Cocktail Evening on Friday, July 7th. The family will be preparing and serving cocktails and I will be playing live jazz and cocktail music. We will not be charging but will have a big donations box. There will be more details nearer the time but it would be wonderful if you could consider supporting this.
Elizabeth Jones



Our next meeting is April 5th, 10am for a cuppa and a 10.30 start. Our speaker is Julia Tum who is going to tell us

about her adventures going up Kilimanjaro. All are welcome as always, non-members and not just ladies or mothers!

Exodus 2.1-10

¹A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ²The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. ³When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. ⁵The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. ⁷Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' ⁸Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because,' she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

Luke 2.33-35

³³The child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about Jesus. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed - and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

Is God calling you to consider being a Church warden?

This year we need to select new church wardens, preferably two for each church.

Laurence has completed 6 years and Paul has completed his time as warden. Both have done a fantastic job and are willing to support new holders of the office. Could that be you?

What is a churchwarden?

Churchwardens are elected by the laity (non-ordained) members of the parish electoral roll to represent and lead the laity in the parish. Wardens are elected for a one-year term of office, and they may serve for up to six consecutive terms of office.

They are the 'Bishop's officers' in the parish, which means their first responsibility is to the bishop, usually via the Archdeacon. They work with the parish priest, to be jointly responsible for the day-to-day functioning of the parish.

Churchwardens play a vital part in parish life, caring not just for the church building and the churchyard, but also for the well-being of the church's ministers and members and for the wider community.

Great. What does that actually mean?

In real terms, Churchwardens should:

- be for and support the parish priest and be people to whom the incumbent can turn for advice and support.
- try to ensure that the incumbent is relieved of superfluous administrative, and other, tasks.
- provide feedback, as a 'critical friend', for the parish priest
- be concerned for the pastoral care and welfare of the congregation and encourage people in their Christian faith.
- help to resolve disputes or disagreements amongst the congregation or with the parish priest, or with the local community.
- When any concerns arise, they should consult the Area Dean and/or Archdeacon.
- Meet regularly with incumbent for planning.
- Be responsible for the day to day running of the parish (in conjunction with the incumbent)
- Have overall responsibility for safeguarding policy, procedure, and practice in the church – although most of the work in this area is done by the church's nominated Safeguarding Officer, churchwardens are responsible for ensuring correct practice is in place and followed.
- Be responsible for keeping order in Sunday services (which includes escorting people off the premises!)
- Ensure that all necessary official reporting is done.
- Ensure that the church's property and buildings are maintained, and a proper inventory is kept of all the church's movable goods.

How can Four volunteers be expected to manage all that?!

The key is delegation and shared responsibility! Like all good leaders, the churchwardens are **not expected to do all the things necessary to make that list of responsibilities happen**. Their job is to work with the vicar to make sure that all those things are happening – but the more the load can be shared and done by others, the better!

In reality, much of the churchwardens' role can be delegated and St Mary's and St George's has long operated many informal arrangements for sharing out these roles. In future, it would be great to see more people who could take the opportunity to help in so many areas.

I don't know anything about church procedure....

It doesn't matter – that's (partly!) what ordained clergy are for! Churchwardens work in co-operation with the vicar, part of whose job is to be aware of the relevant church formalities – even if s/he doesn't carry them all out themselves.

Other church representatives on bodies like the Deanery and Diocesan Synods and the Parochial Church Council Secretary will also be aware of most of what you need to know and can help. The Area Dean (a member of the clergy in the local Deanery which the parish is part of) and the local Archdeacon – or, if desperate, a Bishop (!) – are all also there to provide advice and answers on any formal procedural questions.

What about time – surely someone with a job and/or a family couldn't take all that on as well?

The role of churchwarden can sound completely overwhelming but can be made to fit into whatever time the right person has available.

The only regular commitments are to attend Parochial Church Council meetings. The PCC meets approximately 7 times a year [not in August and December]. Again, it is an evening meeting which rotates around different days of the week.

There is no official rule as to how often a churchwarden must attend church and, again, this is flexible. The responsibilities for ensuring that services can run smoothly are a key part of the role, as are being present to get to know the congregation and so be able to care for and support them. However, while there does need to be someone at every service who is responsible for the warden's role, St Mary's and St George's have a team of Assistants to whom this responsibility can be delegated and so the load is shared, and the elected wardens do not have to be present at every service.

I'm not an up-front person – I don't see myself as a leader.

Lots of the best leaders don't see themselves that way. God also has a regular habit of choosing the least likely people with apparently the greatest lack of the obvious skills and abilities for the greatest leadership roles – look at Joseph, Moses, David, Peter, Paul – and that's just for starters! The churchwarden's job is not a particularly up-front one – that's why their seats are at the back of the church, where they can keep a careful eye on everyone and everything. The only real qualifications are a sense that God is calling you, a commitment to love and serve the people of the parish and support and work with the vicar and a desire to worship and seek God. The rest will follow when you need it.

Who can be a Churchwarden?

To be eligible for election, a person must be baptised, aged 21 or over, on the church electoral roll, and a regular communicant.

Want to know more speak to Laurence or Paul or speak to Martin.

Or if you feel that someone might be right for the post why not encourage them to have a word?

Martin