

# *This Week at St Mary's*

8 March 2020

## THE LIBRARY AT HMP NOTTINGHAM

The library at HMP Nottingham operates as a small City Council branch library within the prison Education Department and serves prisoners and staff.

In 2019, 6605 books were borrowed, there were nearly 8000 visits to the library and 2900 enquiries were received and responded to. Each wing has 2 x ½ hour visits to the library each week and library staff also visit every wing in the morning and afternoon on alternate Saturdays. As well as fiction and non-fiction books, library services include books in other languages, newspapers, reference and legal information, activity sheets, DVDs, CDs, newsletters and competitions, author visits and reading groups.

The library is currently recruiting mentors for the *Shannon Trust Turning Pages* initiative whereby inmates who can read teach those who find it difficult. 50% of prisoners in the UK have a reading age of eleven or below.

The library recognises the importance of keeping family ties and the role that this plays in reducing re-offending. *Storytime Dads* runs every fortnight and enables men to maintain and enrich their relationship with their children. Following an informal discussion about books and the value of reading for children's development, each prisoner chooses two new books for each child and records the stories onto a CD. The books and CD, together with cards with messages for the children are then sent out to the families.

In May 2019, the British Library visited the library during a *Storytime Dads* session and created a podcast entitled: "*The library is open - Anything but silent*". In this, men read stories to their children and they share their appreciation of *Storytime Dads* and what it means for their families.

The library aims to distract, entertain, educate, inform and promote family relationships. As one offender put it: "It helps you take your head out of jail".

**CLARE READ**

# A very warm welcome, especially to anyone new or visiting St Mary's

We are usually open between 10am and 3pm Mon-Sat and during services on Sunday

## LAST WEEK AT ST MARY'S...

**SATURDAY** - Craft and Flea Fair, buzzy atmosphere and well supported, especially by young people.

**SUNDAY** - During the **1045 Service**, to help the children imagine the desert scene of Jesus' temptations some (live) locusts and a particularly vicious looking cactus plant were displayed.

Tom retold that story as a contemporary author might record it, emphasising the extreme physical, emotional and psychological limits to which Jesus went in those 40 days. Discovering more what was most true about himself, loved beyond imagining, He also was taken to what is most true in our world, the pull on humans to take, take, take and to crave control with all the suffering so created. Love took the Son of God there, and His gift to each of us is that what is most true in Him becomes most true in us.

**At EVENSONG**, Tom spoke of the 2 stories of 'lostness' (sheep and coin) which emphasise how finding resulted in party time - the backcloth for Lent is the resurrection, the greatest cause for celebration. The spirit of Lent observance is intended to match the urgency of the searching.

**A CHALLENGE.** Let's do something together this Lent which leads to our hearts being meaningfully touched in some way, to enter more fully into Easter. Topic(s) for discussion? Practical project? PLEASE suggest to Tom something you think others might join with.

**WEDNESDAY** - wellbeing in the workplace on Seeing Humility as a strength. Ben Zander's (Conductor of Boston Philharmonic) TED talk on shining eyes led to animated discussion.

<p><b>CORONAVIRUS</b> Most people already, when they think they might have an infection, avoid receiving wine at communion, but in the context of the current coronavirus epidemic, please be particularly sensitive to this.</p>
---

## **NOW AND COMING UP SOON...**

**MOTHERING SUNDAY 22 March.** All Family Service (at 1045), this time with communion. PLEASE invite friends, especially those with children, to this widely accessible service with brilliant music.

**REVISION OF ELECTORAL ROLL** now due. Anyone not on it (Roll on board in South Porch) please fill in form on table by South Porch and put in box provided. Any questions to [lorna.richardson@live.co.uk](mailto:lorna.richardson@live.co.uk) Closing date for new applications and/or amendments is **5 April**.

**PCC SECRETARY** - we will need a new one after April, to work closely with Julie. Attend PCC meetings, take minutes, point of contact, etc. Discuss further with Tom, if interested.

**LUNCHTIME TALK March 12 St Peter's 1pm.** 'My work, my faith' Cllr Debbie Mason, Rushcliffe BC. Local people discuss the relationship between their Christian faith and work. (Coffee/Tea & Biscuits available from 12.30 pm) All welcome.

**CONCERT TO CELEBRATE THE COMMONWEALTH March 16 7.00pm** at Nottingham Playhouse. A spectacular night of dance and music by some of the greatest performers from Nottingham/shire. Featuring Kanneh-Masons, Freddie Kofi & Bridge Community Gospel Choir, Xzibit, CRS Omari & Nat, Jinda Biant, RavelleSadé Fairman, Manushi, Jerub, and others. Tickets: £5 [www.nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk](http://www.nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk) or 0115 9419419

**CHURCH IN ACTION //CELEBRATION & PRAYER March 18 7.30-9.30pm** at Trent Vineyard NG7 2PX. Organised by Nott'm City Prayer and Faith Action Nott'm an evening of information, celebration and prayer for the work our churches are doing to bless the city through social action. Free ticket at [churchinaction2020.eventbrite.co.uk](http://churchinaction2020.eventbrite.co.uk)

**CONCERT March 22 8pm** *Leçons de Ténèbres* François Couperin, performed by Thea Lawrence, Ruth Thurland soprano, Mark Hacking, John Keys continuo. All welcome

**CONCERT Wednesday March 25 7.30pm** our Choir with the English Cornett & Sackbut Ensemble perform glorious Marian music from the Renaissance, including splendours from Venice. Tickets £15, £10(conc), £5, at [trybooking.co.uk/PHS](http://trybooking.co.uk/PHS), Nottm Tourism Centre 08444 77 56 78, Windblowers 0115 941 0543.

## Prayer Meeting

Every Wednesday (Vestry) 5.30-6pm  
Praying for St Mary's & Nottingham

## Upcoming Services

**Wednesday Evensong 6.15pm**  
**Thursday 1.15pm Holy Communion**  
**Sunday 10.45am Sung Eucharist**  
**Sunday 6.30pm Choral Evensong**

~ ~ ~

**Please continue to pray for**

Estelle Barks  
John Bowers  
John Conway  
Harry Palmer  
Mike Ridley

~ ~ ~ ~ ~



Email [admin@stmarynotts.org](mailto:admin@stmarynotts.org)  
Web [stmarysnottingham.org](http://stmarysnottingham.org)  
Facebook Instagram Twitter [@stmarysnotts](https://www.instagram.com/stmarysnotts)  
Office Mon-Fri 10-3pm 0115 958 2105  
Rev'd Tom Gillum 07825 041 432  
[tom.gillum@stmarynotts.org](mailto:tom.gillum@stmarynotts.org)