

# *This Week at St Mary's*

15 March 2020

## MOST POWERFULLY AFFECTING PLACES

The Creative Quarter on Wednesday organised a vision expanding and networking breakfast in the Surface Gallery by Sneinton Market. The better for Stewart's coffee and pastries, the packed room listened to presentations about the Castle, the new Library, construction projects and skateboarding.

The Castle's re-opening date is set for 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021. To be a world class attraction, it is hoped 400,000 visitors a year will be attracted to Nottingham, with the consequent major economic boost to the city. Robin Hood, of course, will feature prominently - and we will be able to eat in the 'Friar Tuck Shop'. Exhibitions will rival those seen anywhere in the country.

Much was made of the construction projects - the new Nottingham College hub, library, bus station, Broadmarsh Centre, offices, 4,000 new homes, 1,000 of which will be social housing. A new vibrancy in the city centre will come. Key themes were transport, sustainability in the context of the 2028 carbon neutral declaration, with more going on, more people working.

The new library (opening Jan 2022) will include the best children's library in the UK - a hub for learning and creativity. Sandeep Mahal quoted Keith Richards, guitarist and singer song writer of Rolling Stones' fame: *"When you are growing up, there are two institutional places that affect you most powerfully, the Church, which belongs to God, and the public library which belongs to you."* I had not heard that before and find it thought-provoking.

Cities need these (free) public spaces - including parks, streets, playing fields, etc. Modern living squeezes them out, the home seems everything, so it's good to hear about the library. I feel the urgency of the challenge to re-imagine how the church can be the positive institution Keith Richards identifies (although I think it belongs to us as much as it does to God.) It's certainly central to my understanding of what we are trying to do at St Mary's. There's a lot of work to do though - during the speeches, there was no other mention of any religious institution.

Tom Gillman

# 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...

**SUNDAY (1<sup>st</sup>)** - Wonderful performance by our Choir and Restoration Baroque Orchestra of Allegri's Miserere and Bach's Actus Tragicus.

**SUNDAY - Legal Service**, organised by Jonathan Teare, High Sheriff and Jo Tatum his Chaplain, with distinguished guests incl the Lord Lieutenant and Lady Peace. One of Bishop Tony Porter's last services before retiring (apologies if you came expecting our ordinary service.)

At **EVENSONG**, the story of Nicodemus (John 3) was read. About new birth, but with, as Tom reflected, what may seem an awkward reference to death in the desert by snakes. John's point is that it's only because of WHO Jesus was and is and THROUGH HIS SUFFERING AND DEATH that the Spirit can bring new birth in us and new creation.

**TUESDAY** 150 of our Clergy for a Study Day on the theme of wellbeing.

**WEDNESDAY** Wellbeing in the Workplace, Becoming Better Connected with our Fellow Humans through **good speaking and good listening**.

**SPANISH SKATERS** taking part in the World Junior Synchronised Championship came to visit St Mary's. Lots of interest.

**NEXT BISHOP OF SHERWOOD** announced, Rev'd Dr Andy Emerton, currently Dean of St Mellitus Theological College, London. He will be ordained Bishop on 21<sup>st</sup> May but not take up post until the autumn.

**FRIDAY** - More NTU law students took their exams in the church

### **CORONAVIRUS**

The Archbishops have advised that until the epidemic has passed, use of the common cup at communion should be suspended.

Continuing sensitivity in shaking of hands and touch is also urged.

The collection plate will not be handed round, please place your offerings when you go forward for communion or at departure.

Refreshments will continue to be served, best hygiene followed.

## **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**.

**LUNCHTIME TALK March 19<sup>th</sup> St Peter's 1pm.**  
**LENT AND EVENING TALKS TO BE POSTPONED UFN**

**CONCERT TO CELEBRATE THE COMMONWEALTH March 16 7.00pm** at Nottingham Playhouse.  
**THIS HAS NOW BEEN POSTPONED**

**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.

**CONCERT March 29 8pm** *Lamentations* Robert White, *Motets* William Byrd, by the Nottingham Baroque Soloists.

**GREGORY JACKSON'S FUNERAL** Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2.00 at St Mary's, 3.30 cremation at Wilford Hill.

**WE RECOMMEND YOU CHECK WEBSITES OR BY PHONING BEFORE**  
**ATTENDING ANY EVENT**

## 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 Mothering Sunday**  
**All Family (with Communion)**  
**Sunday 6.30pm Sung Eucharist**

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Please continue to pray for

Estelle Barks  
John Bowers  
John Conway  
Harry Palmer  
Mike Ridley

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