

This Week at St Mary's

26th JULY 2020

CHORAL SCHOLARS' CONCERT Sunday 2 August 6pm - In lockdown our Choral Scholars and Organ Scholar have remained busy contributing to the weekly Sunday services. The Concert will be in a different format from previous years, but will nevertheless involve the usual wide range of solo and group pieces, all recorded from the comfort of the Scholars' own homes! In preparation, Greg Link, choir alumnus and member of internationally renowned group Apollo 5, has given them a masterclass on "remote" choral recordings. The concert will reflect the talents of our young musicians and the novel ways in which music-making has continued in the pandemic. Support our Scholars by listening-in via the website - same way as for services.

V J DAY COMMEMORATION SERVICE - Saturday 15th August. This is at St Mary's and will be broadcast live by Notts TV 1230. Programme to include wreath laying at Cenotaph and interviews with veterans. Definitely a must watch.

BRILLIANT NEWS, ALEX. We were delighted that last September local textile artist Alex Kingswell had an exhibition at St Mary's. Now, the International Quilt Museum in Lincoln, Nebraska have decided to buy two of her pieces for their Contemporary Textile Art Collection. Both formed part of her exhibition with us, so St Mary's was their last public viewing in England. What great news this is and totally deserved. See this video about it all <https://youtu.be/PRCPF9BjQXg>

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT ST MARY'S.

- **Numbers limited to 50, please let the office know if you are coming.** Names to be recorded and kept for 21 days.
- **Automatic hand sanitiser at door and/or wash hands.**
- **Wearing of masks** is strongly advised.
- **All music pre-recorded,** no communal singing.
- If you use a **paper service sheet,** please take it away with you.
- **No collection** - cash/yellow envelopes in chest by south door.
- **Communion, bread only.**

PRAYING TOGETHER 6.30pm every Thursday join via skype for Evening Prayer. Contact Tom to be included on group list.

THE MEADOWS FOODBANK - gratefully received: Shampoo, soap bars, toothpaste, pasta sauce, custard, rice pudding, tinned peas/potatoes, macaroni cheese, sugar. Contact Beth Mitchell 07775707855 0115 947 6736 tony.m1941@icloud.com

A POEM WHICH HAS PARTICULARLY SPOKEN TO ME...

Gerard Manley Hopkins, Untitled, no 34 chosen by Tom Gillum

I hope when I say that in my Study Leave in 2016 I decided to get to know the poems of Gerard Manley Hopkins, this does not make me sound too much of a poetry buff. I assure you I most certainly am not. It was a revelation to discover from the pen of this Victorian RC Priest flowed the most inventive and brilliant combinations of words. I love his exceptional sensitivity to the natural world and his insights into the wonder of Christ.

In this poem, (which MUST be read out loud) as you hear a stone falling down into a well, the unique place everything has in creation is brought before us. He answers the question a human is bound to ask - what's our unique part - which is to become one with Christ, His grace at work in and through each of us.

*As kingfishers catch fire, dragonflies draw flame;
As tumbled over rim in roundy wells
Stones ring; like each tucked string tells, each hung bell's
Bow swung finds tongue to fling out broad its name;
Each mortal thing does one thing and the same:
Deals out that being indoors each one dwells;
Selves – goes itself; myself it speaks and spells,
Crying What I do is me: for that I came.*

*I say more: the just man justices;
Keeps grace: that keeps all his goings graces;
Acts in God's eye what in God's eye he is –
Christ – for Christ plays in ten thousand places,
Lovely in limbs, and lovely in eyes not his
To the Father through the features of men's faces*

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**GIVING MONEY** - Best done online but cheque also welcome. Preferable from the church's viewpoint is a **Standing Order** (NatWest 560061 00834602) For **One-off donations**, use either the **QR code** or **Donate button** on the website. *Please continue (better still, increase) your financial support of St Mary's in this difficult economic climate.*

## WHO LOVES NOTTINGHAM

Many of you will be aware that discussions are going on about how best to help as Nottingham faces very real issues post Covid 19. Recently in the Nottingham Post was an article about the Nottingham Project, an initiative of the Nottingham Board for Culture and Creativity. Its aim is to place Nottingham as 'one of the world's most creative cities over the coming decade'. All of us will wish it success and support it (and all such initiatives) in any way we can.

Following discussions over the past few weeks, running alongside this would fit well a 'bottom up' approach. This would mean encouraging and helping facilitate initiatives, however small they may seem, by 'ordinary' people *who love Nottingham* and wanting to do something about it. These key emphases seem to have been emerging:

**Neighbourliness**, forced to stay at home, we have rediscovered the importance of place. People have been investing time, friendship, skills in their neighbourhoods. WhatsApp and other such groups have brought people together and allowed them to explore practical ways of being good neighbours. With this seems also to have come a desire to reclaim civic space for the common good.

**Who we value**. It's been people who have all too often been taken for granted who have kept the city going. Often low paid and unrecognised, rightly described as key workers, a recalibration of who Nottingham values is overdue - and best starts at a local level.

**Simplicity**. Having to do without many of the things which we are used to propping up our hedonistic over consumption, it's been easier to see through them. A correction of the assumptions of much of secular materialism some would say is long overdue.

**Sustainability**. Gardens have seldom had such care, walking in the country has not been so popular for years, which has led to new connection with, and appreciation of nature. Masses of scope to take this on in creative ways.

Anyone with an idea, however unformed, please share it and we'll do what we can to help make it happen.

Tom Gillman

**Wherever you are, we extend a very warm greeting to you, especially if you've recently discovered St Mary's**

**St Mary's is usually open for private prayer and reflection**  
**11-3pm each weekday - please call to confirm if visiting**

**11.00am SUNDAY SERVICE at St Mary's**  
**Live & Streamed**  
*(See our website and follow the link, including for Order of Service)*

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**Please continue to pray for**

Estelle Barks  
John Bowers  
Rosemary Clark  
John Conway  
Harry Palmer  
Mike Ridley

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