

# *This Week at St Mary's*

4<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2020

## REFLECTIONS ON ORDINATION

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September was the culmination of a two-year unexpected journey, which if you had asked me if I had previously anticipated it, I would have replied with a firm 'No'! Of course there have been several unexpected elements that led to this journey in the first place, not the least of which was our international relocation during the first part of 2018 that started as a dream many decades ago when we were only just embarking on married life together. Also unanticipated were relational connections in Nottingham which paved the way for me to consider pursuing ordination in a context somewhat different from my previous ministry experience. Ordination is not to be undertaken lightly, and I am grateful for the people along the way who have discerned with me God's call to this diocese and to be involved with what He is doing here.

Both times I have been ordained into ministry have been special occasions, but Sunday evening was a particular highlight. Constrained as we were by COVID regulations, it would have been easy for the service to have taken on a perfunctory air, especially as it was the last of nine such services over the course of the weekend. The relatively small group of participants consisting in clergy, three ordinands, and guests, made the whole affair much more intimate and personal. The proceedings unfolded naturally with a genuine sense of the presence and blessing of God. The gravity of taking on ordained ministry was certainly underlined by the liturgy, but more than that was the privilege and joy of responding to the Spirit's call, and doing so commissioned by Bishop Paul and Bishop Andy, and witnessed by all those present.

I am deeply grateful for the support of Tom in this journey, for the welcome we have received, and for the opportunity to serve St Mary's in the coming years. My prayer is that together we would all continue to grow deeper in the Lord's purposes, and to experience more of His kingdom life reaching out to our city through us.

**GRANT WALTON**

## **MESSAGE FROM MEADOWS FOODBANK - DAVE SHAW**

I want to re-emphasise my appreciation for the work of all the volunteers and donors at the Meadows Foodbank. We have seen a 40% increase in demand for food parcels during the pandemic and expect this to continue to increase through the autumn and winter. We have invested a significant amount of time in organising the new warehouse space, and we are currently being assisted by a local brewery in costing a temporary solution to make the space watertight and warm(ish) for the winter.

Donations of both food and money during the summer have enabled us to respond to this increased demand. A number of generous donations have been put towards new racking, safety steps and sealed crates. For these gifts and donations I express my heartfelt thanks on behalf of all at the foodbank.

In addition, we have been working on a bid to the National Lottery Community Fund to secure funding to make the cafe COVID secure, so we can look to reopen and offer better signposting support to our guests. Good signposting to other services should reduce the amount of applications we take on-site in the form of emergency vouchers.

We face a number of challenges this coming year; the possibility of a move from our current space continues to loom over us, continuing to provide a COVID-secure environment for our guests requires the volunteers to remain vigilant. We have vacant positions for foodbank secretary and Chair (which could be undertaken by a volunteer on furlough. Please get in touch if you could help with this vital role.

As far as I am aware, we were the only volunteer-led neighbourhood foodbank to remain open through the first wave of the pandemic, across the city, and I'm confident that we can continue to serve the Meadows neighbourhood, as well as the wider city going forward.

**THE MEADOWS FOODBANK** - this week they welcome toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, razors, shaving gel, peanut butter, choc spread and ketchup; & small bottles of hand sanitisers for children's bags would be useful. Contact Beth Mitchell 07775707855 0115 947 6736 tony.m1941@icloud.com

**HARVEST next Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Oct.** In support of Emmanuel House, either money or produce, cans, sauces, cooking oil, coffee, etc - see details on website. Please bring to the service as usual.

**RESILIENCE IN A WORLD OF CHANGE** with clinical psychologist Dr Debbie Hawker **Weds 14th October 12.30-2.30pm** at St Mary's, livestreamed as well. Physical, emotional, creative, spiritual and social aspects of resilience, with practical tips about steps we can take day by day to build resilience - even during a pandemic. To book a free place and for more information, contact [dillsley@stmarynotts.org](mailto:dillsley@stmarynotts.org) T:0115 9582105. Get the word around!

**ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING** postponed because of Covid, now on **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020 (see slip enclosed)**

12.05pm Election of Churchwardens

12.10pm APCM for election of Deanery Synod (3 reps) and PCC (5 reps). Nomination forms to be returned by 23 Oct. There will be NO paper copies of any documents on the day - any requests for forms (or download) will be sent not later than 19/10/20.

Also includes **Revision of Electoral Roll 2020**. If you would like to be included please complete a form (available in Church or download) & return to the office. Also let us have any changes to your personal details. Any queries to the Electoral Roll Officer, [lorna.richardson@live.co.uk](mailto:lorna.richardson@live.co.uk). **Closing date for new applications &/or amendments is 11 October**, and the new revised Electoral Roll will be on display immediately thereafter.

### **SUNDAY WORSHIP AT ST MARY'S.**

- Numbers limited to 50, please let the office know if you are coming. **Test and Trace** signing in or by App, please.
- Automatic hand **sanitiser** at door and/or **wash hands**.
- **Wearing of masks**, please.
- Communal singing is *discouraged*.
- **Communion**, bread only.
- Please take away **the paper service sheet** you use

**GIVING MONEY** - Best done **online** via either the **QR code** or **Donate button** on the website. Preferable from St Mary's viewpoint is a **Standing Order** (NatWest 560061 00834602) For **one-off donations**, cheque, cash yellow envelope, in chest by S Door.

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**

*(Livestreamed - see our website and follow the link, including Order of Service)*

**6.15 WEDNESDAY EVENSONG resumes 14 Oct**

**6.30 THURSDAY EVENING PRAYER (skype) Contact Tom**

**Please continue to pray for**

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



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