

This Week at St Mary's

11th OCTOBER 2020

OUR URBAN HARVEST

My earliest memory of Harvest Thanksgiving is of a grey tractor parked in the transept of the church just up the street from where we lived. Amazingly, part of an heritage collection of photos includes this very tractor, passing the church door, and driven, unmistakably, by Mick Sinclair, a local farmer.

For an urban dweller, as I have been for over 40 years, harvest in the local church can seem distant from its rural equivalent, with cans and packets rather than sheaves of corn, fresh vegs and fruit. Rather than city dwellers trying to look at things from an unfamiliar rural perspective, we've used the opportunity to discuss the ecological timebomb we are sitting on.

2020 is a year we will never forget. One reason is that we have seen the vital contribution of people easily taken for granted, 'key workers'. Right in that category are those who get the food on which we depend to our kitchens and tables. The 'food chain' which starts at a farm, an orchard, out at sea or in the wild will take in handlers and processors on the way, and often many food miles travelled. The people involved are often low paid and easily taken for granted. Means of production can easily put profit before welfare, be that of the worker, the land or a living being.

Harvest this year seems right on cue to take stock of the 'journey' by which the food in the can or packet has got to us. Gratitude will be our response - to include the gracious hand of God in it all. Further and inspired by the Spirit of God, against the backcloth of a vision of God's New Creation, let us, as part of the church, take time to decide what our part is to see change - and then to act.

EMMANUEL HOUSE HARVEST APPEAL- GILL BARKER

Our 2020 Harvest Appeal is looking a little different to previous years. But despite our current services running in different ways, we still need help to provide food for some of Nottingham's most vulnerable people.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic and the government's 'Everyone In' policy, the Nottingham Night Shelter moved into a hotel on 27th March 2020. We've been providing much-needed support during a period of crisis and have enabled rough sleepers to self-isolate in individual rooms throughout the pandemic. As well as private rooms with en-suite facilities, hot showers, housing advice and health support, we are also providing our guests with food, drinks and snacks with the help of other voluntary sector organisations. **We are currently serving 72 meals a day - that's over 500 meals every week and over 2,000 every month.**

For people that arrive at our night shelter, hot food and a warm welcome is the beginning of their journey with us. It's important for those who arrive at the hotel to have a healthy, well-balanced meal that is full of nutrients.

You can help provide food for homeless, vulnerable and isolated adults in Nottingham:

Food donations: We will be batch cooking food at Emmanuel House's kitchen and making daily deliveries to the hotel for lunch and dinner. We need ingredients so that we can cook these fresh, tasty meals.

Financial donations: If you'd like to contribute to the cost of ingredients, you can donate money to the shelter. **It costs us £2.50 to provide one guest's meals for one day.** Please download the donation form from St Mary's website, so we can keep track of where the money is coming from. You can directly

WHAT EMMANUEL HOUSE NEEDS

Fresh fruit - Fruit pots - Stock cubes - Sachets of condiments and sauces - Jars of cooking sauces - Cooking oil - Individual porridge pots - Tins of Tomatoes - Rice - Vegetables - Puddings - Fruit - Fish - Meat - Beans - Pulses - Biscuits - Tea - Sugar - Instant coffee - Long-life milk - Flour

BABY LOSS AWARENESS WEEK 9th - 15th October This is a global date, now in its 18th year, to allow parents, families and friends of still birth and early infant loss to remember their babies, to commemorate their lives and to raise awareness about pregnancy and baby loss to drive for the improvements that are needed for parents and families. To mark this, **St Mary's Tower will again be lit in pink and blue. Wave of light at 7pm on the 15th** when everyone is encouraged to light a candle for all of the

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 T:0115 9582105.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING postponed because of Covid, now on **Sunday October 25th** immed after the 11.00 Service. Elections of Church Wardens, and of Deanery Synod and PCC members. There will be NO paper copies of any documents on the day. Please request any, which will be sent not later than Monday 19th (see supplement)

PLANS FOR RE-ORDERING ST MARY'S. We are hoping to move forward plans for new glazed porch, servery in NW corner, shared use of choir vestry and new lighting. Church Open Meeting planned on Sunday 1st November. More details to follow - Covid allowing!

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.

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
Barbara Davis
Harry Palmer
Mike Ridley

Email admin@stmarynotts.org Web stmarysnottingham.org

Facebook Instagram Twitter @stmarysnotts

Office Mon-Fri 10-3pm 0115 958 2105

Rev'd Tom Gillum 07825 041 432 tom.gillum@stmarynotts.org