

This Week at St Mary's

21st March 2021

A WELCOME RESUMPTION OF WORSHIP

It was very good - even better than I'd anticipated - to be back in St Mary's on Sunday. With the heating on and a congregation present, the church felt to have life in it again.

Mothering Sunday always has a special flavour. There were charming posies to be taken from a basket - and a number also were delivered later to people at home. Thanks to Beth Mitchell and Mandy Bradford for organising. The music was beautiful, even though it was 'only' recorded.

As had been advised several weeks ago, the Order of Service came from Common Worship Order One. For the first half or so, things were broadly as they have been for a number of months. The Creed coming after the Sermon, and not before it, will have been new, the same with the words of the Peace to precede Communion, an ancient practice revived. (When restrictions lift, it is not planned for this to include any human interaction.) The main difference was with the words of Communion, although it was also evident that for a number present it was not unfamiliar, as Common Worship has been used up and down the country for 20 years.

My goal, shared I know by many, is that we work together to have the very best possible such service. It's unlikely we hit upon that immediately. It's bound to take a bit of time to get used to the new wording. There are quite a number of options (especially to do with Communion) and whilst we won't be having something different each week, we will be trying out options. One immediate change from last week we are making is to ensure the Lord's Prayer is in the traditional wording we have been using. Do let us have your comments.

Tom Gillum

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

We need to appoint a Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) following Beth Mitchell standing down from this role. We are really grateful to her for all she has done.

The Model PSO Role Description states that the PSO is the key link between the diocese and the parish concerning safeguarding matters. She/he will have an overview of all church activities involving children, young people and vulnerable adults and will seek to ensure the implementation of safeguarding policy. At St Mary's, Julie Hilton in her capacity as Operations Director already does a part of the role meaning that the PSO in practice would work with her for them to agree 'who does what'.

The key tasks we anticipate the PSO would do are as follows:

- Be familiar with diocesan safeguarding guidance
- Liaise with Tom over safeguarding issues.
- Liaise as necessary with the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisers, including reporting all concerns or allegations against church officers (this is a broad term to include any active member of the church) to the DSA.
- Attend diocesan safeguarding training offered for PSOs.
- Assist with safeguarding training.
- Attend a PCC meeting at least annually to ensure safeguarding issues are discussed and that the church leadership adopt the annual Church Safeguarding Policy.
- Keep good records of any safeguarding concerns that may arise, and ensure that others do the same.
- Keep the church leadership informed of good safeguarding practice.
- Undertake a regular parish safeguarding self-assessment in the format offered by the Diocese.

Is this something you might be willing to consider doing? If so, do please let Tom or Julie know. No previous experience of safeguarding is necessary, although a familiarity with current practice working with children and vulnerable adults would certainly help. It probably goes without saying that high levels of confidentiality are essential.

EASTER PROGRAMME

Palm Sunday 28th March 11am Sung Eucharist *(Live/Streamed)*

Maundy Thursday 1st April 7.00pm Communion Service

(Prayer Book) *(Live/Streamed)*

Good Friday 2nd April

- **Service & Meditation 12-3pm** *(Live, & Streamed 12-1 & 2-3)*
- **7pm via YouTube (see website) Reinhard Keiser**
Markuspassion arr by JS Bach *(Streamed only)*

Easter Day 4th April

- **5.30am Vigil & Communion** *(Live)*
- **9.30am Sung Eucharist (Prayer Book)** *(Live/Streamed)*
- **11am Sung Eucharist (Common Worship)** *(Live/Streamed)*

Easter Monday 5th April Children's Easter Garden Service

(for the under 8s, contact holly.mills@live.co.uk for more info)

NATIONAL DAY OF REFLECTION Tuesday 23rd March, a C of E initiative. On the first anniversary of the first national lockdown cathedrals and churches (including St Mary's) will be open for silent reflection and prayers. Archbishop Justin asks us "to pause and remember all that's happened over the past year, to mourn those who have died but also to give thanks for those who have looked after us and our communities. It is a moment to pray together."

MEADOWS FOODBANK - demand inevitably continues -
Items needed: Sugar - white please and in 500g bags - Coffee
- Tinned meat - Toilet rolls - Shaving foam/gel - Shower gel
- Toothbrushes - Fruit Juice. Financial donations are also most welcome. If you are delivering, details of mitigation in place available through our office by email.

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

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

11.00am SUNDAY SERVICE in St Mary's Church
also Audio Broadcast live via our website
(follow the link, including for Order of Service)

6pm THURSDAY EVENING PRAYER (skype) Contact Grant
(gwalton@stmarynotts.org)

CHURCH OPEN for private prayer & reflection
11.30-2.30 Monday-Friday

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR
Estelle Barks, John Bowers, Harry Palmer, Mike Ridley

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