

# *This Week at St Mary's*

15 May 2022

## EATING BECAUSE WE CAN

We don't seem to talk much about the resurrected body of Jesus. The Gospel accounts draw out how intrigued the eyewitnesses were with it. A ghost or spirit? No - it had real physicality, it could be touched and was recognisably the Jesus they had known. Some aspects were the same, others were different, ie not tied to time and space rules as we know them.

Traditional Christian understanding is that, when God renews everything, a resurrected body similar to Jesus' will be His gift to those 'in Christ'. Christians see 'having faith' to mean we live NOW as things will be in God's future. How might the prospect of a resurrected body affect how we live in the present?

I find inspiring Michael Simmonds Roberts' poem Food for Risen Bodies - II. It ends, '*he eats because he can, and wants to / taste the scales, the moist flakes of the sea, / to rub the salt into his wounds.*' He asks us to imagine Jesus after His resurrection eating a barbecued fish, the crisp skin and the tender, succulent fresh fish which melts deliciously in the mouth, but also salt being rubbed into Jesus' wounds.

Each will interpret this as it speaks to us. For me, the resurrected body will eat for reasons other than to keep body and soul together - *this is not* (as the poem says) *hunger, this is resurrection*. To eat is a social act, to be joined in the richest bonds of friendship. That's something to be lived out, today. Salt in the wounds of Christ opens how, even in a renewed world, Christ's suffering and death continues to be the key to unlock transformation. I pray to be left a little more willing to be vulnerable about my suffering and to draw close to the suffering of others.

*See Corpus published by Cape Poetry*

Tom Gillman



**ANNUAL MEETING** 22<sup>nd</sup> May following the 1045 service.

**INSIGHT MEETING AT ST MARY'S** - Wed 25 May 12-1.30pm. Nottm Workplace Chaplaincy welcomes all to 'On the Buses' with David Astill, MD at NCT, on pre & post pandemic & the future of moving reliably in ever cleaner, efficient & sustainable ways. Book now to include catering lensimmonds@gmail.com

**STREET PASTORS** 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration Wed 25 May 5-8pm at Malt Cross NG1 6FG with Tea & Cake - All are invited

**ASCENSION DAY** 26 May

7.30am tower service - please book via the office

7.30pm - Sung Eucharist.

**ST MARY'S BOOK GROUP** The next meeting has been brought forward to Thursday 26 May at 11 am in the church. The book is Kate and Emma by Monica Dickens. All welcome.

**QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE SERVICE** 5 June 11am. Come along to and get the word out about this special celebratory civic service.

**CHILDREN'S GROUP VOLUNTEERS.** To build up our children's work, our first need is to resource our Sunday Group. Is this something you might consider helping with, being part of a small, committed team, trained to help young children to learn Bible stories in creative ways? If you would like to discuss further, please speak with Tom.

**GIVING TO ST MARY'S** - we are not taking up collections at this time, but we still very much rely on your financial support. Either use online banking (NatWest 56-00-61, St Mary's PCC a/c 00834602), cash or cheque in the donations chest, the card reader, or via the Donate button on the website. Please use Gift Aid if you are a UK tax-payer. Standing order forms are by the south porch.

**FROM MEADOWS FOODBANK** Needed please - UHT milk; 500g bags sugar; coffee; jam; small bottles cooking oil; tinned meat, tuna, fruit, sweetcorn, tomatoes, potatoes; toiletries; laundry tabs; washing-up liquid; or cash donations. Tues 5.30-7.15, Fri 10-12, Sat 11-1pm NG2 2JD

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

**FORTHCOMING SERVICES**

**10.45am SUNG EUCHARIST**  
**also Audio Broadcast live via our website**  
**(follow the link, including for Order of Service)**

**6.30pm EVENSONG Live & Broadcast**

**6.15pm WEDNESDAY EVENSONG**

**12.45PM THURSDAY COMMUNION**

**6pm THURSDAY EVENING PRAYER (skype) Contact Grant**  
**([gwalton@stmarynotts.org](mailto:gwalton@stmarynotts.org))**

**ST MARY'S REMAINS COVID SENSITIVE,**  
especially to the most vulnerable,  
in respect of the use of masks, distancing and sanitising.

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR**

**Estelle Barks    Jenny Du May & her husband Peter**  
**Stephen Morris    Kirsten Solway**

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