

www.stmarytheboltons.org.uk



St Mary The Boltons

rooted in faith - open in thought - reaching out in service



Friends,

This week we are keeping the Eleventh Sunday after Trinity.

The services this Sunday will be at 8am – Holy Communion (BCP), and 10.30am Holy Eucharist, with music and sermon.

If you come along on Sunday morning, we ask that you please help us to protect each other in church by

- sanitising your hands on entry
- placing your offering in the plate at the back of church or use the contactless point
- consider filling in the Test and Trace form with your name and phone number
- wear your face covering while in church (removing it to take communion, of course) unless you are exempt for medical reasons or by virtue of age. Those who wear theirs will be protecting those who cannot.

Children and babies are very welcome to sit with their families, and also to bring along something quiet in case they need other occupation during the service – we don't mind if they play or read books, but NO electronic devices, please! Rest assured that we hope that we'll be able to make Covid-safe provision for children in church in the autumn.

The Government's regulations look as if they will allow small choirs or soloists to sing during services – with proper attention to distancing, hygiene and so on. John Ward and I are looking hard at how this might work in St Mary's, while keeping the church 'Covid-secure'. The congregation is not permitted to sing in church yet, but we hope that we may yet have some singers from time to time enhancing our music and our worship once again.

If you are staying home or are on holiday, you can still access the podcast as usual. **This week's podcast can be heard [here](#) and the order of service, with words to the hymns and prayers can be downloaded [here](#) and a large print version [here](#).** I hope that you'll listen on Sunday morning at 10.30am when the church service is going on, and rejoice that unlike those in church, you are able sing along with the hymns with gusto! Once again, we are grateful to John Ward who has been putting these together week by week. If you would like to help by recording a reading or intercessions for the podcast do please contact me for full instructions.

Electoral Roll – The Church Electoral Roll is open for revision from today. Please check your entry on the current roll to ensure your details are still correct. If there are any minor errors please contact the Electoral Roll Officer, Fiona Parsons, er@stmarytheboltons.org.uk If there is a major change (ie name, address etc) a new form will need to be completed. The roll can be viewed at the back of the church today or in the Parish Office during the week. If you are unable to come to the church, then please either email Fiona on the above email address or ring Jane in the Parish Office to check your entry.

If you are not on the roll, but would like to join, a person must be over 16 years of age and baptised. They should also either live in the parish or have worshipped at the church regularly for at least six months and should be a member of the Church of England, or a church in communion with it, or a member of good standing of a Church not in communion with the Church of England which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity where those members are also prepared to declare themselves to be members of the Church of England. (Blue) Application forms are available at the back of the church. Once completed please place them in the specially marked "Electoral Roll" box. Completed application

forms must be received by **Sunday 20 September**.

Morning and Evening Prayer are now being said in church during the week. All are welcome to join these short said services at the beginning and end of the day. Morning Prayer at 8.30am and Evening Prayer at 5.30pm (not Thursday) in the chancel beyond the altar.

Living through Coronavirus – collecting our stories

We have already had a few Coronavirus stories and reflections from members of our congregation and wider community. We will publish them in due course, in hope that what is shared might help us think about what sort of church we want to be. It would be good to hear your thoughts on these questions:

How have you spent the past 4 months of lockdown? Was it a time of endurance or discovery? Was it a time of frustration or liberation? Was it a time of happy solitude or longing for time alone? What about your spiritual experience during this time? Have you prayed differently? Lived differently? Has your faith been questioned?

What has 'being Church' meant for you during this time? Has St Mary's meant something different, new to you? What might we do differently that would help you? And what would you like to do differently at St Mary's? Send them to the Office (office@stmarytheboltons.org.uk) or to me.

The Clarion The deadline for copy for the September issue is this coming Monday 24 August, and the theme is Reconciliation – the 7th and final sacrament.

Food banks The financial situation is dire for families and those whose jobs have been lost. We are glad to receive donations of food etc for Dad's House Food Bank which has opened at 22 Lillie Road in Fulham. They are open 7 days a week between 10am and 3pm and anyone is able to access their help without a voucher.

Eat out to Help Out If you've benefited from the discount for eating out to help out local restaurants and pubs, perhaps you might consider paying that benefit forward by donating what you saved to one of the local charities that we support at St Mary's: Glass Door, Dad's House or St Cuthbert's Centre. Your £10 will go a long way to provide food for those who cannot afford to eat at all.

Finance and giving

As with all of us, the financial situation at St Mary's is serious. Our church still needs to meet its costs of paying our Common Fund to the diocese and the salaries of our lay staff who are continuing to work or be furloughed. Our Sunday collections had stopped during the closure, as has the important income from hall lettings. Thank you to all those who have continued to support St Mary's through regular giving and one off donations. Can I please encourage you, if you are one of those would normally put your donation into the

plate on Sundays, to consider giving by bank transfer, whether each week or by standing order? It is easy; we can still benefit from your GiftAid, and it will help us to maintain our ministry in this difficult period.

PCC of St Mary with St Peter and St Jude

Account Number: 80692190

Sort code: 20-80-14

Blessings,



The Revd Jenny Welsh
Vicar

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