

[www.stmarytheboltons.org.uk](http://www.stmarytheboltons.org.uk)



## St Mary The Boltons

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



Friends,

**London is now observing the HIGH COVID 19 Alert Level for COVID 19.** There is, thank goodness, no change in how we are able to do things in church during worship. We continue to observe all the guidance and regulations required to keep people safe when they come into church. We thank you, the people of St Mary's, for your help in this.

**The clocks change TONIGHT.** Do remember to put your clocks back one hour. Anyone

arriving an hour early for church will of course be welcomed wholeheartedly.

**Heating in church** Thank you for your patience with the low temperatures in church in the past weeks. We have had an engineer working on it this week, and at the time of writing the signs are good that we may have heat, but you may want to dress warmly just in case.

**All Souls Commemoration of the Faithful Departed Sunday 1 November 5pm Choral Evensong** This is the service where we remember by name those whom we have loved who have died. We invite families whose loved ones' funerals and memorials have taken place in the past year and we hope that members of our congregation will come along as well. There is a list for names you would like mentioned in the prayers at the back of church, or you can contact the parish office.

**Sunday Afternoon Zoom Tea begins today.** Now that we are once again prevented from meeting and mingling in person outside our households, we will be inviting people to meet via Zoom for afternoon tea. All are welcome to join in with this chance to see each other's faces, and chat over a cup of tea (bring your own). This will start this afternoon at 4pm, and the Zoom link is here:

Sunday Afternoon Tea St Mary's

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81290760005?pwd=N25DZkc0aEZna1haRDV5S3p3UERTdz09>

Meeting ID: 812 9076 0005

Passcode: 554149

If you don't want to use a computer, you can dial in on any telephone, using this number:

0131 460 1196 and following the instructions to enter the

Meeting ID: 812 9076 0005 and

Passcode: 554149

We look forward to seeing/hearing you.

**Clarion for November** The deadline for contributions for the next Clarion is Monday 26 October. The theme continues the Fruit of the Spirit – Peace and Patience.

**Bishop of Kensington's Teaching Evenings 2020** Our Bishop has been committed to offering Deanery Teaching Evenings for all lay people in the past years, on issues such as Prayer, the Problem of Evil and, most recently, Brexit. This year the theme is Freedom, and Bishop Graham will be speaking on the topic: 'What is True Freedom?' He says,

**“Freedom is one of the big ideas of our culture. We long for it, fight wars over it and guard our freedoms jealously. Some have even seen the imposition of restrictions during the pandemic as an infringement of civil liberties. Christian faith also speaks of freedom, yet in ways that can seem strange, with ideas such as obedience to the will of God, and the value of service. What, then, is a Christian understanding of freedom and how does it differ from secular ideas?”** During this evening, with

**opportunity for questions and interaction, Bishop Graham will explore how a Christian understanding of freedom can be truly liberating.**

This year's Teaching Evening is open to everyone, clergy and laity, and will be an excellent time to think together about how our Christian faith works out in practice through one of the most important ideas of our time. All are welcome to join these evenings.

If you would like to come, please register on Eventbrite here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/what-is-true-freedom-why-freedom-may-not-be-what-you-think-it-is-tickets-126125931055> and the Zoom link will be emailed to you. Or you can let the Vicar know, and she will reserve your spot. We assume a telephone link will also be possible.

**If you come along on to services 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 or using the new NHS QR code.
- 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! We will be looking at our provision for children during COVID in the next months.

**If you are staying home**, you can still access the podcast as usual and unlike us in church, you can sing the hymns with gusto. We hope you will listen at 10.30 on Sunday, and feel like we are all worshipping together, even if apart. **This week's podcast can be heard [here](#) and the order of service, with words to the hymns and prayers can be downloaded [here](#), with a large print version, [here](#).** Once again, we are grateful to John Ward who has been putting these together week by week.

### **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 Monday to Friday between 10am and 3pm and anyone is able to access their help without a voucher.

### **Finance and giving**

Thank you to all those who have continued to support St Mary's through regular giving and

one off donations. Our income suffered during the lockdown with the loss of Sunday collections as well as income from the Hall. We can now receive your offering on Sundays in church using cash or the contactless devices. We encourage regular members of the congregation 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. We now accept donations on line, via the CAF donate website, and the link is [here](#).

*PCC of St Mary with St Peter and St Jude*

*Barclays Account Number: 80692190*

*Sort code: 20-80-14*

Blessings,



**The Revd Jenny Welsh**  
**Vicar**

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