

# NEWS LETTER

## of St. Mary Bromley

18<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?**

Indeed, it's such a good question. How do we respond to the needs of others without reducing ourselves to poverty, because the needs of the world are a black hole of never-ending need into which we could easily pour all that we have? The short answer is plan giving whenever we can, knowing that scripture recommends tithing up to 10% of our income. The practical answer is first tithe and second always have a small additional amount to give away to someone we may meet unexpectedly in need, and finally, engage in planning generous gifts and projects with others.

**1 John 3 :17**

### Sunday Club



All children and parents are welcome to join us for the Sunday Club session on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April. We start in church at 10.30 a.m.

### Evening Study Group – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 8pm



Evening Study Group meets via Zoom at 8pm on Tuesday 23 April to discuss the readings for Sunday 28 April: Acts 8, 26-end; Ephesians 1, 3-10; John 15, 1-8. All welcome, log in details from Peter Boyden.

### Betty Thompsons Funeral – Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April, 11am

Betty Thompsons funeral service will be on the 25<sup>th</sup> April in Church at 11.00am.

### APCM – in the church following a shortened morning service on 28th April

Please make a note of our Annual Parochial Church Council, it will be good to have your company. If you are not on our Electoral Roll, please think about joining. This is a list of people in St. Mary's who are entitled to vote at the meeting.

### Messy Cathedral – Rochester Cathedral - Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April, 1.30pm – 3.30pm

A free event, no need to book. Bring your own picnic and something to sit on. For more information contact - [sarah.cabella@rochester.anglican.org](mailto:sarah.cabella@rochester.anglican.org)

### Deanery Confirmation

Please pray for the people in our Deanery who are preparing for their confirmation on Sunday 19th May at St Mary's Hayes at 10.30am including Sheila Crimmin from St Mary's

### Ascension Day – Thursday 9th May, 8pm



Ascension Day is listed for an evening Eucharist at 8pm, no one else other Alison Tyler and our organist have been listed to participate in this service. So volunteers to read x 2/3 and someone to lead Intercessions are really needed please let Alison know if you can help out on 07973 457226 -thank you

### Christian Aid Week – 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May



The 12-18 May is Christian Aid Week, and as usual there will be opportunities for St Mary's congregation to donate to this worthwhile cause. The 2024 appeal is focussing on stories from Burundi, a land-locked country surrounded by Rwanda, Tanzania, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Many families there are working hard, with support from Christian Aid's partners, to transform their lives, and the story of one of them will appear in the May issue of the *Parish Magazine*. For further information please contact Peter Boyden.

## THE PLANT SALE is coming!



Organised by the Mothers' Union raising funds for the 'Away from it All' project. It is on May 18th 10.00 till 12.00 in the Buchan Hall and Outside, with refreshments in the Front Room. If you have started sowing seeds for your own gardens, please keep any extra 'not needed' plants for the sale. Also, anything suitable for a Raffle would be appreciated. Enquiries about the sale, contact Mary Fall [mary@fallfamily.co.uk](mailto:mary@fallfamily.co.uk) or 07801 271202.

## Churchyard Gardening



It's that time of year again and we need a couple of working groups so can you offer to help and suggest possible dates to Clem or Maria or Alison and then we can plan to have one or two working groups? Many thanks from us all.

## Parish Magazine

Many of you will be aware that we did not produce an April Issue of Parish Magazine. This was due to a combination of time restraints and lack of contributions. If the magazine is to continue we need articles / contributions ( photos are welcome)from you.

Please forward any articles for May magazine to Jo Clark - [joc1947@msn.com](mailto:joc1947@msn.com) - leave in Church or drop off to Atlanta in Church House. The dead line is 19th. April.

## Grace Café



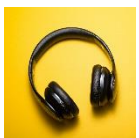
You are most welcome to join us between 10am to 12noon on Wednesdays. Please join the volunteers who host the Grace Cafe on Wednesdays. There is a sign up sheet in the church. In case you haven't done it before, you will be with someone who has, so please join them and try it out.

## Refreshments Rota



Many thanks to all who willingly and regularly serve refreshments on a Sunday morning after the service. If you would like to volunteer to help, please have a word with Anne Yolland.

## Live Streaming



"Worship at St Mary's is live streamed and can be watched via Facebook. This is much appreciated by those who cannot be at the services, and we would like to continue to offer this to our fellow members of our congregation. If you would like to help us with this, please contact Trine, Sally, Alison or Paddy."

## Prayer

### A Prayer for the week

Risen Christ,  
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:  
teach us to hear your voice  
and to follow your command,  
that all your people may be gathered into one  
flock,  
to the glory of God the Father. Amen

### Requests for Prayer

#### Weekly

Merle Jones  
Pat Coomber  
Family and friends of  
Betty Thompson

#### Monthly Week 3

Julian and Kerrie Henwood  
Gary Hughes  
Gemma Johnson  
relative of Anthia Page  
Geoff Lloyd

## Pray Daily for a New Vicar

Loving God,

we ask you to be present with the St Mary's family  
as we wait and pray for a new vicar.

You know those things that we need to encourage us in our faith; and you know too the person we need to  
teach us and lead us, before we can even form the thought to ask you.

Whilst we wait keep us patient, wise and united,  
working together for the good of our community.

Build us up into a flourishing and inclusive part of Christ's body of love and service, make us ready to  
welcome

and to work with the one you send.

We offer our prayer in the name of Jesus our friend and brother. **Amen.**

*We thought possibly we could undertake to pray in our own homes or offices, either early in the morning or  
sometime between 5-6 so we did not have to struggle to meet together but would instead be together in  
heart and mind.*



If you have a need for prayer for particular things, please contact the Pastoral Team via Anthia  
Page email [anthiapage@gmail.com](mailto:anthiapage@gmail.com).

## Worship, Prayer and Fellowship

Our service on Sundays are Live Streamed. See <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysbromley/>

**At our 10.30am Family Communion 21st April 2024 – 4th Sunday of Easter**

**Readings** Acts 4:5-12; 1John 3 :16-end; John 10:11-18

**Hymns**

121	Father, I place into your hands.
60	Bind us together Lord
62	Blessed assurance
226	I cannot tell

The Order of Service: <https://www.stmarys-bromley.org.uk/lockdown/st-marys-worship>

*Please can contributions for the Newsletter now be given to Atlanta Topham by noon on Wednesdays  
Atlanta's email is [admin@stmarys-bromley.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmarys-bromley.org.uk)*