

of St. Mary Bromley

Jesus said to a Canaanite Woman

'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.'

She said

'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.'

Matthew 15.26,27



Jesus could have sparky exchanges with the people he encountered. The above is very rude, a dog in Jesus society was a despised creature. But the woman is truly feisty, she answers with the same metaphor and demands to be heard. There are times to have robust conversations. When the real issues are addressed life flourishes.

This passage informs one of the Church of England's classic prayers. The Prayer of Humble access contains:

We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.

But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.

Yes, it is about how broken we can be, but it is about the unmeasurable grace of God to welcome us.

Church Wardens

Please will you join us for a Special Parochial Church Meeting after the morning service on the 17th September. This is to elect Church Wardens. This is now very important as a church without Church Wardens does not look viable. Alan Keeler has written to all of the members of the Electoral Roll. The letter explains a way to make the job of Church Warden less onerous with a team of six people. Our Archdeacon Allie Kerr will be present to provide a wider point of view. A copy of the letter can be found here <https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/5f1a79d215fe0/content/pages/documents/church-warden-letter.pdf>

Together magazine



The latest edition of the Diocesan magazine is now available with copies in the church or online at <https://www.rochester.anglican.org/for-parishes/communication/together-magazine/>

In this edition, several of the stories shine a spotlight on the activity taking place across the Diocese to value and nurture the young people in our communities, schools and churches.

Sunday Club



We're on Summer holiday until September.

Please make use of the toys, books, story bags and activity sheets.

September Family Service and Picnic – Sunday 3rd September at 10.30 a.m.



The Family Service led by the Sunday Club Committee. This will be followed by a Teddy Bears' and Friends' Picnic in the church garden if dry or in Church House if wet. Please bring your own picnic and drinks, blankets or chairs. There will be games and a parade of teddy bears and other cuddly toys - biggest, smallest, best dressed, oldest, most colourful. And it's for EVERYONE 0 to 100!

The Mothers' Union Coffee Morning



The event last week raised £110 for the 'Summer of Hope' appeal. Thanks go to all who contributed, by providing cake or coming to enjoy what appeared to be a happy morning. A lot of enjoyable conversations in the very pleasant summer weather. Thank you.

160 in September – Celebrations 6th to 17th September

Celebrating
160
Years

We will be opening the church building between 10am and noon for visitors on most days during this period. Please think about being a steward. There is a plan and sign up sheet in the church for people to do this. We have bundles of leaflets available leafletting the parish. Please think about taking a bundle and telling our parish about St. Mary's.

For the website go to <https://www.stmarys-bromley.org.uk/happening-now/celebrating-160-years/>

Summer Art



Bromley Art Society have an exhibition in the Glades from Tuesday 11th July - Sunday 20th August. Located on the first floor next to the NHS Hub. All works for sale.

Further information www.bromleyartsociety.org.uk or see flyer at back of church.

Ride and Stride



Sponsorship forms are now available for Ride and Stride on Saturday 9th September. If you plan to join in by visiting churches or by sponsoring a 'Ride and Strider' please take a form or speak to Chris Soper for more information. We also need volunteers to welcome visitors to St Mary's and offer refreshments on the day.

Please consider giving some time that Saturday and perhaps even find sponsorship to support your welcoming role. All monies raised will go to St Mary's and Kent Churches on a 50/50 basis. Thank you.

JusB – Project Manager required for a leadership position



The role involves project management, line management and strategic development. Location: Bromley. Hours: 16 – 20 per week. Pension contribution and opportunity to access training and development. If you are interested and would like to know more please contact David, chair of trustees, david@jusb.co.uk for an application pack or visit our website www.jusb.co.uk

Closing date: Monday 11th September 2023. Post subject to enhanced DBS and references.

Swim for JusB

Update from Emily Yolland 'Thank you once again to everyone who so generously supported me on my 1 mile Great North Swim back in June. I'm thrilled to say that I raised £1,037.23 for JusB. I've already signed up to swim again next year and am continuing my training'.

Murals Fundraising Update – Good news continues.

Members of the congregation continue to donate generously. We hope to raise as much as possible before the end of December to benefit from a match funding offer.

Contact Alan Keeler or John Beale if you want to know more.

Live Streaming church services

Our Live Streamed services continue to be viewed by many people. Live Streaming is now a significant way for people to connect with St. Mary's. Alan is looking for volunteers to operate the Live Streaming equipment and will be interested to know if you are interested in joining a team to take this on.

160 Cream Tea – 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm Saturday 16th September in church



Join us on for a delicious Cream Tea as part of the 160 year celebrations. There will be the option of savoury scones for those who prefer something less sweet. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of church to confirm numbers attending and to notify of any food allergies.

Or to reserve a place, please contact Anne Yolland on 0208 466 1939 anne.yolland@outlook.com

Donations are invited for the St Mary's murals restoration fund.

Table Top Sale



Looking ahead to November 4th, plans are afoot to raise funds towards the Church Mural restoration. If you are interested or know of anyone that would like to hire a table for the afternoon please save the date. Enquiries to Carole Beale at carole.beale@yahoo.com

Jigsaw Sale – 10.00am to noon on Saturday 18th November, in the church porch



With refreshments in the back of church and paperback books outside of the porch All proceeds to the mural fund. Mary already has many jigsaws; more will be welcomed.

Thanks for your interest. Mary Fall (020 8464 1239) mary@fallfamily.co.uk

Grace Café



We have broken up for August and will recommence on the 6 September. You will be most welcome to join the volunteers who host the Grace Cafe on Wednesdays. There is a sign up sheet in the church if you would like to help run the café.

Al-Emaan Centre Open Day – 11am to 4pm Saturday 23rd September



The Mosque at Keston is a beautiful building with a very welcoming community. It will be part of the national 'Visit My Mosque' initiative at Al-Emaan Centre, Croydon Road, BR2 8HF. There will be plenty in store throughout the day for all members of the family, and not least refreshments & delicacies for all! For more information see <https://al-emaan.org.uk/>

Memorial Book

There is a memorial book at St. Mary's in which may be inscribed names of people associated with this place. If you would like to know more details please contact Alan or Jean Read on 020 8402 0886.

Prayer

We have been sorry to hear of the unexpected death of Mark Knight who was Shelia Knight's son and Paul Knight's brother. Please pray for Sheila and Paul at this sad time for them.

A Prayer for the week

God of glory,
the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,
and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Requests for prayer

Weekly

Keith Boyden
David Collins
Eileen White's brother
Sheila and Paul Knight
Geoff Lloyd
Penny Smith
Trine Hevezi and Martin
Cardwell's friend

Monthly Week 3

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

Worship, Prayer and Fellowship

Our service on Sunday will be Live Streamed. See <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysbromley/>

At our 10.30am Family Communion this Sunday:

Reading Isaiah 56.1,6-8, Romans 11.1-2a,29-32, Matthew 15.21-28

Hymns Chosen by the congregation in August
395 Of the Father's love begotten
246 In heavenly love abiding
468 Thank you Lord
293 Lead us heavenly Father

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

Since Easter the practice of distributing Holy Communion has changed. For details see here: <https://www.stmarys-bromley.org.uk/worship/distribution-of-holy-communion/>

Please can contributions for the Newsletter be given to Alan Keeler by noon on Wednesdays.