

of St. Mary Bromley

Jesus said 'the last will be first, and the first will be last?'

Matthew 20.16

Jesus frequently said things that were upside down. The world in which we live can have the opposite values from the ones he taught. I like a pithy summery of encountering Jesus that 'he came to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable.'

If we find him a puzzle we may be listening to the wrong voices.

Introducing our Church Warden Team



We had a very good Special Parochial Church Meeting last Sunday. The meeting took up the challenge of appointing a Church Warden Team which has Clem Sutton and Maria Staines as this year's Church Wardens along with John Beale, Sylvia Chance, Paul Knight and Anthia Page on the team. Archdeacon Allie Kerr was present and licenced Clem and Maria so all is now official.

St. Mary's 160th Anniversary



It was good to welcome many people to our church and the events that were put on. There were people who visited for the first time some from the London Open House scheme. There was a service of celebration, a wonderful lunch, music events, a scrummy cream tea and artworks to see. Many thanks to all who worked so hard to show the life we have in St. Mary's Church.

160 Cream Tea



Grateful thanks to all those who supported this event on Saturday 16th September. Also, special thanks must go to the support team who worked so hard on the day looking after all the guests so well. The church and porch were set-up as a 'pop-up' Vintage Tea Room. It was a very pleasant afternoon, the sun shone, there were delicious scones to eat, plentiful pots of tea to drink and lively conversations. The Murals Renovation Fund will benefit from £315 plus Gift Aid, thanks to the generous donations. Many thanks to all. Anne Yolland.

Harvest Festival – 10.30am 8 October



You are warmly invited to our Harvest Festival where we will receive gifts which will be given to Bromley Borough Foodbank. There are particular requests for the following:
UHT Milk, Coffee, Squash, Fruit Juice, Jam, Desserts, Sweets, Savoury Extras, Jam, Rice Pudding, Custard, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Veg, Tinned Soup, Tinned Tomatoes, Hot Meat/ Cold Meat, Tinned Potatoes, Rice Packet, Cooking Sauces, Toilet rolls, Multi-Surface Wipes, Multi-Surface Sprays, Shampoo, Conditioner, Shower Gel, Shaving Gel, Razors.

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 and is a significant way for people to connect with us especially if they are housebound. This is currently done by Alan and Gill. Alan would like to know if you are interested in joining a team to take this on as it will be important to continue streaming services after January. There will be full training, a manual describing the operation and support as you learn what is involved.

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.

Grace Café



We meet in the church building on Wednesdays between 10am to 12noon for coffee, cake and fellowship. You will be most welcome to join the volunteers who host the Grace Cafe. There is a sign up sheet in the church if you would like to help.

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/>

Welcare in Bromley Quiz Night – Saturday 30 September 2023, 7.00 for 7.30 p.m.



This will be held at St Georges Bickley Church Hall BR1 2BE

More details are on leaflets on the tables at the back of church.

Guild of Church Flower Arrangers – 7.30 pm Monday 3rd October

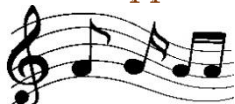


AGM and demonstration by Graham Harmer.

To be held at All Saint's Church, Bark Hart Road, Orpington. BR6 0QD.

The Guild came to St Mary's Church in June. Visitors £5.

Concert supporting Alzheimer's Society – Saturday 14th October at 7.30 p.m.



This will be held in St Mary's Church by Bromley Symphony Players (leader Bernard Brook) Concert includes music by Boyce, Haydn, Mozart and Grieg.

Admission £8, with interval refreshments.

Table Top Sale – 2pm to 4pm Saturday 4th November,.



This will be in Church House. If you would like to book a Table space at £10 or have a query, please contact Carole on 0208 460 9330 or email carole.beale@yahoo.com. The booking fee will be towards the church mural restoration fund. Offers of help in other ways, especially on the day will be gratefully accepted.

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

Memorial Book

There is a memorial book at St. Mary's Church 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.

Save the date – Alan's last service as Vicar of St. Mary's Church

Come and join us at 10.30am on 21st January 2024

Prayer

A Prayer for the week

Lord of creation,
whose glory is around and within us:
open our eyes to your wonders,
that we may serve you with reverence
and know your peace at our lives' end,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Requests for prayer

Weekly

Daisy Batt
Friend of Alison Tyler
David Collins
Eileen White's brother
Sheila and Paul Knight
Geoff Lloyd

Monthly Week 3

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

Worship, Prayer and Fellowship

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

At our 10.30am Service of Family Communion on 24th September:

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| Reading | Jonah 3.10-4.11, Philippians 1.21-end, Matthew 20.1-16 |
| Hymns | 449 Soldiers of Christ arise |
| | 328 Make me a channel of your peace |
| | 545 When God almighty came to earth |
| | 148 From heaven you came |

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

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