

NEWS LETTER

22 November 2023

of St. Mary Bromley

*And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you,
just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family,
you did it to me."*

Matthew 25.40



This Sunday our church year comes to an end with the feast of Christ the King. Jesus is a king who is humble, his crown is made of thorns, his throne is a cross, his subjects are the poor and meek. To the world this is upside down. But when we live with these things as our guide we find the abundant life that he promises.

Archdeacon Allie Kerr

Allie will be with us at our 10.30am service on Sunday to preside at the Family Communion and preach. Please do join us and give her a warm St. Mary's welcome.

Sunday Clubs



All children and parents are welcome to join us for the Sunday Clubs session on Sunday 26 November. We start in church at 10.30 a.m.

Service Assistants

There is a long tradition of people welcoming worshippers to services and dealing with practicalities in preparing for the service. The position has been called Sidesman. We are grateful for so many people who have done this role over the years. The Church Wardens are now looking to reestablish this position. We would now like them to be called Service Assistants, a term which is inclusive of male and female. We hope you will understand this and support the change. There will be a sheet on the back table for people to sign up and there will be preparation events to explain what is involved. Please do think about continuing what you have been doing or joining this important role.

Bromley Eccumenical singers – Saturday 25th November, 7.30pm



A performance of 'Stella Natalis' by Sir Karl Jenkins will be given in aid of Bromley Homeless.

Admission £10, under 16s free

December/January Magazine

The next edition of the parish magazine, a two month publication, will be available in church and on the website this weekend.

Newsletter Editor

Alan will be handing this task over to Atlanta Topham, St. Mary's Parish Administrator. Please can material for the editions from December onwards be given to her by noon on a Wednesday.

Jigsaw Sale



Another £409.50 was raised from the Jigsaw Sale last Saturday for the Mural Fund. thanks to people helping with organization, and people coming to buy puzzles and book and enjoying refreshments'.

Table Sale News



A huge thank you to everybody who played a part in the Table Sale, by hiring a table, donating cakes or helping and selling in the refreshment area and even donating their takings. There seemed to be good feedback and many happy customers. The total raised overall was £712 plus some extra gift aid recovery. This will go towards the Mural Restoration Fund

Clergy Vestry

For reasons of health we are asking people not to go into the clergy vestry for the time being. Water penetration of the outside wall has produced fungus on the wood panelling and spores in many places. The panelling will have to be removed along with the carpet. The affected areas will be treated and the wall and floor made good.

Evening Study Group



The Evening Study Group has recommenced meetings to discuss the following Sunday's Bible readings. The next will be on Tuesday 5 December at 8pm for an hour via Zoom. Further information next week, or in the interim please speak to Peter Boyden.

Sunday 17th December, Sunday Club Nativity



Calling all shepherds, star watchers/wise men/kings, angels, Marys and Josephs - you are all invited to the Sunday Club Nativity Service on Sunday 17th December at 10.30 a.m. Costumes available or bring your own.



Careplus aims to provide free local volunteer support for older people locally. Their needs are met for befriending, social support and practical assistance. This is undertaken by volunteers who give support in the form of befriending, shopping and transport. Please consider helping Careplus. It will also be wonderful if there could be a representative of St. Mary's Church to be on the organizing committee which meets three times a year. To know more please speak with Alan Keeler. Or visit <http://www.careplusbromley.org.uk>

Murals Fundraising update



**SOCIETY OF
ANTIQUARIES
OF LONDON**

We are delighted to learn that the William Morris fund under the auspices of the Society of Antiquaries has awarded St Mary's £4,500p payable straight away. This is a significant boost to our fund raising efforts and brings us closer to our target of approximately £64,000

Candlelit Compline – Saturdays in Advent, 6pm



Watching and waiting for the coming of the Lord at Christmas with a focus each week on one of the following: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. Please bring with you a sentence to add to the prayers on the topic for the week either of thanksgiving or of intercession. In church and online for half an hour in December 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd

Guild of Church Flower Arrangers – Monday 4th December, 2 pm



Siân Trine will be giving a demonstration of Christmas arrangements at West Wickham and Shirley Baptist Church, Wickham Road, Shirley CRO 8EH. All welcome, visitors £5.

Christingle Service preparation – Saturday 9th December, 9.30 am approx



As many of you will know members of our Mothers Union always make the "Christingles" which are handed out during the service to all the children and many of the congregation also. We make them up the day before on the Saturday morning in Church House at 9.30 am approx. Any offers of help would be much appreciated. Friendly company and refreshments are provided We look forward to seeing you.

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.

Prayer

A Prayer for the week

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory. Amen.

Requests for prayer

Weekly

Denis Dodds

Monthly Week 4

Toni Ruston
friend of Suzanne Spooner
Betty Thompson
Keith & Beryl Nye
Eileen White

Worship, Prayer and Fellowship

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

At our 10.30am Family Communion on 26th November:

Readings	Ezekiel 34.11-16,20-24, Ephesians 1.15-end, Matthew 25.31-end
Hymns	103 Crown him with many crowns
	466 Teach me my God and King
	293 Lead us heavenly Father lead us
	283 Joy to the world

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

From the edition for 6th December please send material to

Atlanta Topham at admin@stmarys-bromley.org.uk