

NEWS LETTER

of St. Mary Bromley

22nd February 2024

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

Mark 8: 31

It must have been a shock when Jesus began to warn his disciples of the suffering and rejection to come. They must have wondered if he should carry on his mission and ministry. He provoked the authorities with his healings and preaching, but still it was hard to believe he would be killed for it, and impossible to believe he would rise from the dead. It is still hard to believe, many people still do not believe in the joy and the glory of the Resurrection. It becomes clearer as we follow Jesus through Lent and to the Cross, but still, it is shocking.

Sunday Club



All children and parents are welcome to join us for the Sunday Clubs session on Sunday 25th February. We start in church at 10.30 a.m.

Do you want to be confirmed?



There is still time to attend classes and be ready for the Deanery Confirmation with Bishop Jonathon Pentecost Sunday 19th May at St Mary's Hayes at 10.30am. Please sign up or let Alison know.

Electoral Roll

We would like to invite you to consider your support for St Mary's by joining the Electoral Roll.

An Electoral Roll is just that – it gives you the right to vote in the Annual Meetings and is open to anyone who is over the age of 16 who lives in the Parish or has been worshipping at St Mary's for more than 6 months. It is also our official membership list and gives an indication of the size of our congregation. It is good to recognise your presence with us. You can do so by completing the Electoral Roll Form at the back of church and returning it to admin@stmarys-bromley.org.uk. Alternatively, return it to the Parish Office marked for the attention of Atlanta Topham

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."

Living in Love and Faith Meeting - Sunday 25th February after Morning Service - All Welcome

(LLF) has been an 8 year process of learning and thinking together about identity, sexuality, relationships, and marriage within the Church of England. The Prayers of Love and Faith are one outcome of this process. They give churches permission to pray for God's blessing on gay and lesbian couples. Revd Joel Love is LLF chaplain for Rochester diocese. He will give a presentation on LLF and the Prayers of Love and Faith as we continue to think and pray about them as a congregation.

World Day of Prayer Friday 1st March, 10.30am



Everyone is welcome at the World Day of Prayer service here at St Mary's on Friday 1st March at 10.30 a.m. This year the service has been prepared by the Christian women of Palestine on the theme 'I beg you, bear one another in love'. As this was decided several years ago it is purely by coincidence that we are able to pray with them in their hour of need.

Concert in aid of Careplus – Saturday 9th March, 7.30pm

BOeS Choir (Bromley Oecumenical Singers) is holding a concert at St. Mary's on Saturday 9th March, 7.30pm, they will sing "Crucifixion" by Stainer, and some other pieces. The proceeds will go to Careplus, the local Charity which recruits volunteers to help older people stay in their own homes longer. Tickets are £10 and will be available soon. Please put this date in your diary - St. Mary's supports Careplus in its work, and this will be a very enjoyable evening.

Easter Flowers and Church Cleaning – Saturday 30th March.



The flower arranging team have booked Easter Saturday to decorate the Church, between 10-12 in the morning. But we can all help by turning up to clean the Church, ready for Easter Sunday and some of us might like to decorate a window sill ourselves or help by making tea and coffee. Speak to Anne Yolland and discuss the options with her.

JusB Youth Charity Closure



It is with heavy hearts that the Trustees of JusB announce the closure after 20+ years of dedicated service to children and young people in our community, effective March 1, 2024. The trustees extend their gratitude to everyone who has contributed to the success of JusB, including dedicated staff, volunteers, donors and partners. A copy of the full closure statement can be found on the JusB website or on the table at the back of church. Please hold the staff team, trustees, volunteers and young people in your prayers during this time of transition.

Meaningful Easter Eggs



The Egg that shares the Easter story will be available to order again this year. Fairtrade chocolate is available in milk £4.90 or dark chocolate £5.50. These eggs are not available to buy in supermarkets. Please use the sign-up sheet at the back of church. Easter is early this year, so please do order in good time.

Grace Café – Change of Venue



Please note that Grace Café will move to the Buchan Hall in Church House until the weather warms up. Please enter via the side doors. More volunteers are very welcome.

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.

Lent Group – Thursday 15th – 21st March, 10.00am – 11.30am and 8.00pm.

During Lent we will have a Lent Group Studying Holy Communion on Thursdays in the Buchan Hall, at 10am and again at 8pm each week. **Please leave your email address on the sign-up sheet at the back of Church so you can be sent the programme.**

Churches Together in Central Bromley Lent Course – 20th February – 26th March

Looking ahead slightly, I am happy to confirm that the **CTCB Lent Course for 2024** will run on Tuesdays at 8pm from 20th February to 26th March inclusive at St Peter & St Paul's Church. The course will consist of six sessions and will be based on **Paul's letter to the Romans**. Usually run by Rev'd Andrew McClellan from St John the Evangelist more information coming soon in Church.

Save the date – Sunday 24th March, 7.30pm

Lent lecture at St John's Church, Park Road BR1 3HY, details to follow.

Prayer

A Prayer for the week

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's
sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Requests for Prayer

Weekly

Lynda, Andrew, Jack and
Paul Zissell
Sylvia Passmore
Lynda Zissell's mother
Martin, Julian and Sarah
Peter Henwood's Children
Merle Jones
Carole Beale

Monthly Week 4

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

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.

Worship, Prayer and Fellowship

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

At our 10.30am Family Service on 25th February 2024 – 2nd Sunday of Lent

Readings Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16, Romans 4: 13-end, Mark 8: 31-end

Hymns

10	All for Jesus, all for Jesus
464	Take my life and let it be
120	Father hear the prayer we offer
128	Fight the good fight

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