

## of St. Mary Bromley

*Jesus said to his disciples 'But who do you say that I am?'  
Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.'*

*Matthew 16.15&16*



The Bible is about God. You could argue that this is not obvious and the Bible spends its time trying to work out what 'God' means. Peter calls Jesus the 'Son of the living God', a reply that pleased Jesus. But Peter was only on the threshold of knowing who Jesus is. The early church spent several centuries working on this question. They came to exciting if complicated answers.

But these do bring strength to our faith and love to our lives.

### 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://d3hgriq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/5f1a79d215fe0/content/pages/documents/church-warden-letter.pdf>

### September Magazine



The latest edition of our magazine will be available this weekend with copies in church and an electronic version on the website.

<https://www.stmarys-bromley.org.uk/parish-magazine/>

### 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!

### 160 in September – Celebrations 6th to 17th September



Please do come and join us for our celebratory events.

Many thanks to everyone who took a bundle of leaflets since last Sunday to distribute to the parish. There are some remaining, please do help out if you can. There is a sign up sheet in church to enable us to have at least two stewards each day for the church to be open between 10am and noon. Please think about being a steward and adding your name.

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

### Ride and Stride



On Saturday 9th September Peter & Frances Boyden and Chris Soper will be out Riding & Striding for Kent Churches. Your sponsorship will help raise funds for St Mary's and other churches in much need of repairs and improvements. This is the annual main fundraising event for the Friends of Kent Churches. As a member we have benefitted from a generous grant. Please support our team and gift aid if you can. Thanks also to the Welcomers opening the church with refreshments on Saturday 9th. Queries to Chris Soper 020 8464 3544 or [cmsoper10@gmail.com](mailto:cmsoper10@gmail.com)

## 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](mailto:anne.yolland@outlook.com)

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

## Small Jam Jars Wanted



Mary Fall is making seedless blackberry jam to sell in aid of our Church Murals.

She needs more small jars, the size that you get sauces in.

Mary will be grateful for what you can supply.

## 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](mailto:david@jusb.co.uk) for an application pack or visit our website [www.jusb.co.uk](http://www.jusb.co.uk)

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

## 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](mailto:mary@fallfamily.co.uk)

## 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.

## 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/>

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

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

## Prayer

We have been praying for Keith Boyden, the brother of Peter for some time. We have been sad to hear that Keith died last Sunday. Please pray for Peter and his family at this sad time.

### A Prayer for the week

God of constant mercy,  
who sent your Son to save us:  
remind us of your goodness,  
increase your grace within us,  
that our thankfulness may grow,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Requests for prayer

#### Weekly

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

#### Monthly Week 4

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

## 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 51.1-6, Romans 12.1-8, Matthew 16.13-20

Hymns	90	Come down O love divine
	392	O thou who camest from above
	311	Lord Jesus Christ
	380	How great thou art

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.*