

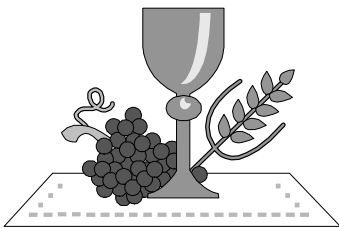


Weekly Newsletter

29th March 2020

Passiontide (Lent 5)

WELCOME TO OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER. Whilst all churches are presently closed due to the unprecedented circumstances we are continuing to produce our news sheet for upload to our website. If you are a newcomer to the area we hope that we have an opportunity to meet you soon and that you might enjoy worshipping with us when services resume.



These introductory paragraphs will give an idea of the kind of church we are. For instance, communicant members of any Christian church are welcome to make their communion with us. St Mary's seeks to be an inclusive church and welcoming to people of all ages and backgrounds.

We have a carpeted area available for the youngest members of our congregation, if they wish to use it. They may like to take an adult with them! If you are a wheelchair user, please speak to one of our sidespeople and they will happily move chairs to open up a space for you in the Nave.



Further information about St Mary's, our life and ministry can be found on the website www.stmaryswarwick.org.uk, on Twitter and Facebook.

Please note that for legal and copyright reasons the taking of videos, photographs and recordings is not permitted during services.

NOTICES

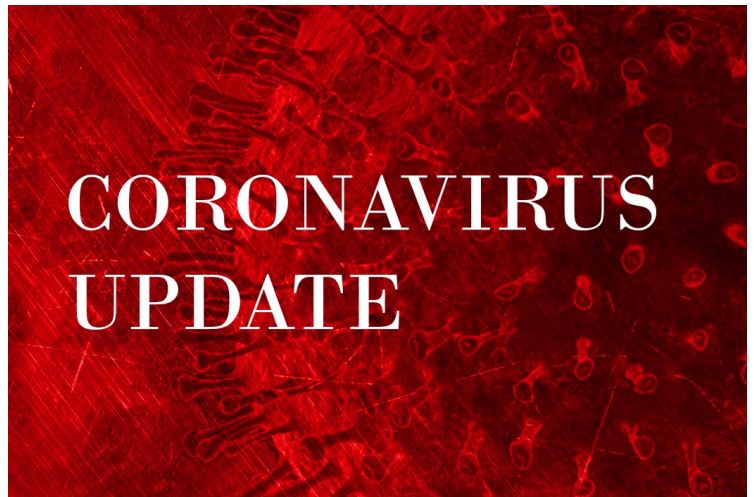
CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

St Mary's continues to follow the recommendations of the Church of England and the UK Government regarding places of worship.

During the past week these have changed on an almost daily basis, so please bear with us as we seek to apply them and follow best practice. To this end, our church building is now closed, along with the Parish Office. Officeholders are seeking to work from home and that's a 'work in progress'. If

you wish to contact our Operations Manager (Mary Adams), Church Secretary (Glynis Nixon) or Acting Development Officer (Felicity Bostock) then the best way is via email. Our Vicar (Vaughan Roberts) continues to be accessible by email and phone. The Church's updated advice on the Coronavirus (Covid-19) can be found here:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches> Further information can be found on the NHS website: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>



KEEPING CONNECTED (1)

The church website remains a good way to stay connected with St Mary's. We're planning to continue with our weekly newsletter, monthly Prayer Diary and the Parish Magazine every two months. Kirsteen Robson and Tony King are both working on the next editions respectively. These will be available to read and download as they are uploaded to the website. And there are various other ways to connect with the St Mary's community. We are already on Twitter (@StMarysWarwick and @Choirsofwarwick) and Facebook (@stmaryswarwick and @WarwicksChurchofTreasures).



KEEPING CONNECTED (2)

We have extended our connections recently with two exciting new developments. First, a “St Mary’s Warwick Community” Facebook group. Mary Adams writes, “I’ve created this group so that, although forcibly separated, the whole community of St Mary’s can keep in touch. Please use it for news about what’s going on (or not) at church, to offer help or support, to ask for help or support, and to share anything relevant to our ‘normal’ ministry and worship.” To ask to join, press ‘Join Group’. Second, Alan Faulkner has set up a St Mary’s YouTube channel, which can be found here:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbzEoVgLkoaqKM7OW_5rb0Q

This is in its very early days but we hope that messages, services and more will be uploaded in the coming weeks.



KEEPING CONNECTED (3)

Speaking of services we have pre-recorded some services for the near future, which we hope people will find helpful especially as public acts of worship are suspended for the time being. Last week we broadcast a service of Evensong from the Beauchamp Chapel on Wednesday to celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation, which should still be available on social media.

KEEPING CONNECTED (4)

As people will have seen we are not permitted to keep St Mary’s open during part of the day, even for prayer. But thanks to everyone who offered to help with that. St Mary’s is continuing to explore how best to maintain our pastoral care of our congregation at this time. Frances Humpreys has kindly offered to co-ordinate that and is speaking with Doreen Mills and Mary Adams on how to take that forward.

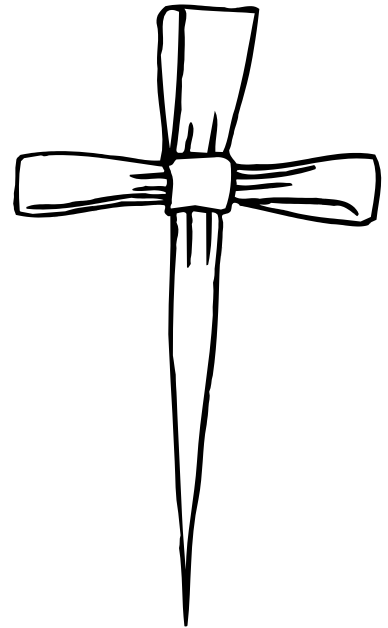


FINANCIAL HELP PLEASE!

With the closure of the church, most of our income streams have ceased to flow. If you normally give cash either by envelope (numbered or not) or straight onto the collection plate please, please consider switching to regular giving direct from your bank account. If you already have access to internet banking it is a simple matter to set up a standing order, weekly or (preferably) monthly. For more information please email our Operations Manager, Mary Adams, on om@stmaryswarwick.org.uk

CANS & CROSSES

Foodbanks are under great pressure at this time so we have moved our collection basket from inside St Mary's to outside The Rectory (on The Butts). Feel free to drop donations into the basket on your daily walk. In addition, the vicar has brought some palm crosses over from church too (washing his hands first) and blessed them. They are outside the side door by the garage as well, so people are welcome to collect them ahead of Palm Sunday if they'd like to.



LENT ADDRESSES

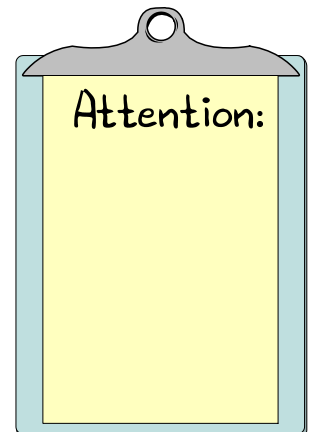
It's with great sadness we have had to cancel the remainder of our 2020 Lent Addresses on *Culture & Christianity*. Our third speaker, Canon Rachel Mann was unable to come as she was in self-isolation with flu-like symptoms and Vaughan stood in for her. Printed copies and audio files of the three addresses by Elli Wort, Fergus Butler-Gallie and Vaughan Roberts are available online here:



http://www.stmaryswarwick.org.uk/index.php?/stmarys/Lent_recent

We have asked whether our final two speakers had written their addresses for us to post online but they hadn't.

THE REVISION OF THE ELECTORAL ROLL ... has been completed and will be available in due course. Our Annual Meeting was due to have taken place on Sunday 5th April but is being postponed until a later date. The Church of England has extended the time that this needs to take place into October.



THE VE75 DINNER COMMITTEE WRITE:

You will not be surprised to learn that we have decided to postpone the dinner on 6th May until later in the year. We will be in touch as soon as the new arrangements have been agreed. Please be assured that those who bought tickets will be given priority in booking tickets for the dinner when the revised date is known. Keep safe, warm, look after your relatives, friends and neighbours, and we pray that this national emergency may be resolved as quickly as possible. God bless and thank you again for your support.

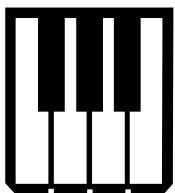
Carol Warren, Richard Warren, Helen Fitzpatrick, Tony Fitzpatrick

ST MARY'S SHOP

For the safety of staff and customers St Mary's Little Shop of Treasures will not be open until we are given the all-clear regarding the coronavirus situation. We look forward to seeing you when we re-open.

ST MARY'S HOME GROUP

Sadly and somewhat inevitably, in the light of recent advice from the government and the Church of England, we will need to suspend our Study Group meetings for the foreseeable future, to protect ourselves and others.



LUNCHTIME RECITALS

It is with great disappointment that we have to announce that our lunchtime recital series has also been suspended for the time being.

WANTED - BELLRINGERS

Warwick Bellringers (ringing at both St Mary's and St Nicholas') are keen to supplement our numbers by training new recruits. We have also had to suspend bellringing for the time being but if you think you would like to pursue a new hobby when it restarts, please contact Simon Rogers (07498363304 or simon.rogers17@ntlworld.com).



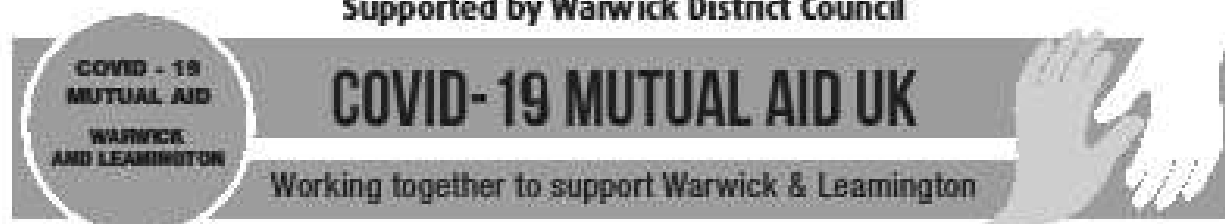
Are you unable to leave your home because of Coronavirus (COVID-19)?

We are a group of local residents and we want to support the community to make sure nobody is left isolated or without support. We don't ask for anything in return, we just believe in helping each other in a time of difficulty.

We can help with the things you can't get out to do, like shopping and collecting medication, or be a friendly voice at the end of the phone.

We are your local neighbours and not a professional body.
We can only offer help within reason, and in ways we can all also stay safe.

Supported by Warwick District Council



NEED SUPPORT?

If you can get online, fill in a help request here

<https://warwickleamingtoncovidhelp.wordpress.com/request-help>

Email us at: warwickleamingtoncovidhelp@yahoo.com

Call 01926 674065 and leave a message and you will get a call back.

If you need medical advice, use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service at 111.nhs.uk/covid-19

or, if you have no internet access, call NHS 111 from your phone.

In a medical emergency, dial 999

If you want to volunteer to help the Warwick & Leamington Covid-19 Support Group, sign up using the volunteer form at: warwickleamingtoncovidhelp.co.uk

If you want to verify this leaflet is genuine call Citizens Advice Consumer Service on **0808 2231133**

ROCKING FOR POLAND

Despite his cherubic choirboy appearance, Ben Adams leads another life as a rock drummer, singer, guitarist and songwriter. Last summer he was lucky enough to spend a day at the famous Coach House Studio in Bristol, where he recorded three tracks which have just been released on an EP called Naturally, under the artist name BNADMS. You can hear them by searching on Spotify, YouTube or Apple Music. Ben wrote all of the music and lyrics of 'Mind Games' and 'In The Dark', and co-wrote 'Naturally' with our head chorister Tommy Perry. All vocals and instruments you hear are Ben, apart from the producer/engineer's lead guitar on 'Mind Games' and 'Naturally'. Instead of making and selling CDs, Ben is asking that if you enjoy listening to his tracks, or even if you don't, then you make a donation towards the choir's trip to Poland this summer. He has a fundraising page at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/bnadms-naturally>

THANKS FROM STIG GRAHAM

Stig is stepping down as Lead Chaplain to the Myton Hospice at the end of March and we had a farewell on behalf of St Mary's earlier this month. Stig has written asking us to "pass on my gratitude and appreciation for the generosity of everyone at St Mary's for the whiskey and the tokens - both will be greatly enjoyed." We were due to have a Warwick Team farewell in St Mary's on Sunday 5th April but that has been postponed until a later date.



CHOIR TOUR

Witamy w Polsce! (Welcome to Poland!) The boys, girls, and back row of our Choir are going to Poland in August 2020, but they need your help. Tours are a hugely important part of our Choir life: a tour enables us to act as ambassadors for Warwick and further afield; it improves the singing of the choir as a unit - one 'tour' day is equal to almost two weeks of our normal singing routine; it is an invaluable, positive, team-bonding experience; it enhances the cultural education of the choristers. We hope every chorister has the opportunity to participate in at least one international tour during his/her time in the Choir. Please donate whatever you can to support our musical ministry, via our JustGiving fundraising page: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/warwickpolandtours. Please speak to our Director of Music, Oliver Hancock, for more details.

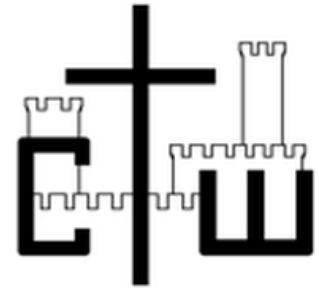
MARATHON FOR ST MARY'S

Our Organ Scholar, Lucy Morrell, is very grateful for the support and sponsorship towards her London Marathon attempt. You may have heard or seen that the Marathon has been postponed until later in the year. All donations are secure and will be held by JustGiving, and further information will be issued when possible.

ST MICHAEL'S BUDROOKE seeks a Church Centre Assistant (Booking and Hospitality). 12 hours a week worked flexibly; Salary £19,500 (Pro Rata) - £10* per hour. Closing date for applications: Mon 30th Mar. Interviews on Fri Apr 3rd More details on our noticeboard or <http://www.stmichaels-budbrooke.org.uk>

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN WARWICK

All CTW activities are suspended for the time being This will include HOTS, Prayer Breakfasts and the Good Friday Walk of Witness and Service in the Market Square.



SUPPORTING THE MUSIC OF ST MARY'S



We are very proud of the musical tradition at St Mary's. If you would like to support the music-making here we would love to hear from you. It might be sponsoring a service of Choral Evensong in memory of a loved one, or offering a contribution towards the cost of a set of music for the Choir, or sponsoring a concert/recital, or something else! Please contact the Director of Music if you can help:

dofm@stmaryswarwick.org.uk

EXTENDED UNTIL 31ST DECEMBER 2020

Ecclesiastical Insurance Trust 130 promotion. If you take a new home insurance policy out with Ecclesiastical before 31st December 2020, they will donate £130 to the church. Find our more at www.ecclesiastical.com/trust130 or call 08007830130 and quote Trust130.

REST IN PEACE

We are very sorry to hear the news in recent weeks about the deaths of Dot Ransome and Mollie Carless. Dot was a steadfast member of our Wednesday Holy Communion congregation until she moved to be closer to family and Mollie was a stalwart at Sunday Evensong until she was no longer able to get out. Please remember their friends and loved ones in your prayers.



PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Helen Black, Ellie Booth, Christopher Browne, Clifford Browne, Sheila Freeman, Paul Haynes, John Hosiene, Mandeep Madar, Donald McCall, Gwen & Paul Shilton, Joanne Tubb.

PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED

Keith Collins, Dot Ransome, Mollie Carless

NO PUBLIC SERVICES THIS WEEK: Beginning 29th March

Wednesday 1 st April	10.00am	NO Holy Communion
	5.30pm	NO Choral Evensong
Friday 3 rd April	5.30pm	NO Choral Evensong

FORTHCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

—This will be updated when public worship resumes—



Parish Office: (01926) 403940

Mary Adams - om@stmaryswarwick.org.uk

Felicity Bostock - parishadministrator@stmaryswarwick.org.uk

Glynis Nixon - admin@stmaryswarwick.org.uk