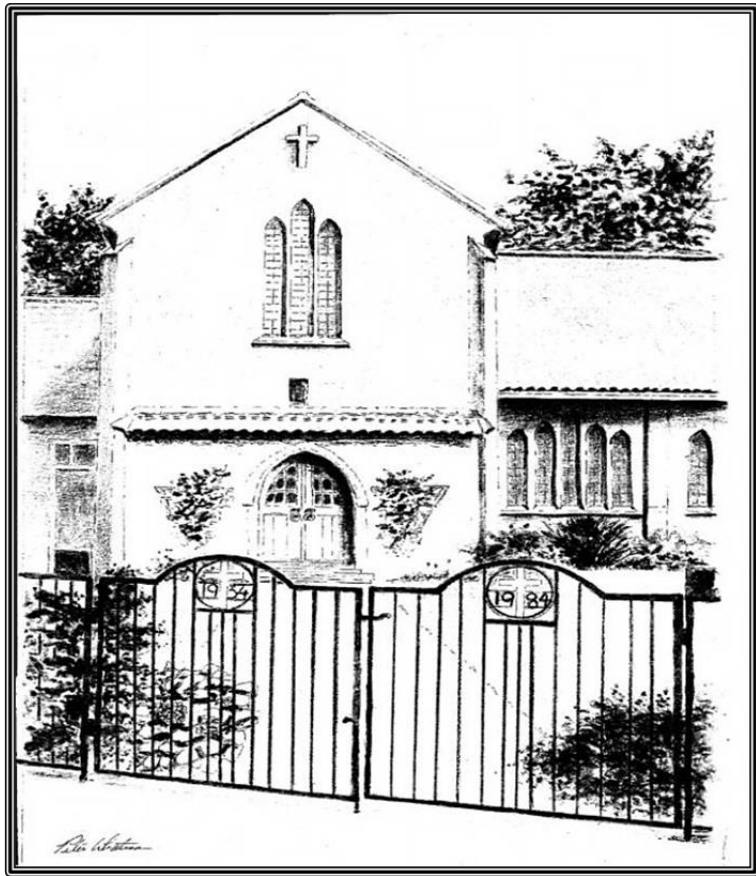


# CHURCH MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2025

## *ST MARY OF NAZARETH*

WEST WICKHAM



*A WELCOMING FAMILY WITH THE  
CHRISTIAN FAITH AT THE HEART  
OF ALL WE DO.*

**50P**

# Clergy and Officers

Vicar:	<i>Parish Vacancy</i>		
Assistant Priests:	Rev Richard Ford	7 Sylvan Way	8289 2432
	<a href="mailto:richard.ford73@gmail.com">richard.ford73@gmail.com</a>		
	Ven Carol Coslett	7 Woodland Way	7939 9456
	<a href="mailto:Carol.coslett@southwark.anglican.org">Carol.coslett@southwark.anglican.org</a>		
Readers:	Mr Ken Bryan	55 Goodhart Way	8777 1850
	<a href="mailto:KennethABryan@aol.com">KennethABryan@aol.com</a>		
	Mrs Debbie Adams	87 Goodhart Way	8777 7834
	<a href="mailto:debadams87@outlook.com">debadams87@outlook.com</a>		
Church Wardens:	Mr David Taylor	92 Wellbrook Road	01689 856512
	<a href="mailto:davey.taylor@talktalk.net">davey.taylor@talktalk.net</a>	Locksbottom	
	Mrs Gifty Nortey	<a href="mailto:gfnortey@gmail.com">gfnortey@gmail.com</a>	8776 1563
Assistant Wardens:	Mrs Natalie Outten	151 Goodhart Way	8777 0340
	Mr. J. Womack	2 Long Meadow Close	8777 8772
	Mrs. M. Womack	2 Long Meadow Close	8777 8772
Sacristans:	Mrs Deidre Fitzgerald		8777 0083
	Mrs Wendy Taylor	92 Wellbrook Road	01689 856512
		Locksbottom	
PCC Secretary:	Ms Julie Conway	<a href="mailto:julie.conway@ntlworld.com">julie.conway@ntlworld.com</a>	
Treasurer/Free-Will Offering Secretary:	Mr Bob West	163 Wickham Chase	8776 0210
	<a href="mailto:robwest46163@gmail.com">robwest46163@gmail.com</a>		
Organist/Choirmaster:	Mr Geoff Mussard	35 Oakfield Gardens	8650 8389
	<a href="mailto:geoff@mussard.org.uk">geoff@mussard.org.uk</a>	Beckenham	
Electoral Roll Officer:	Mr Chris Fitzgerald		8777 0083
Parish Safeguarding Officer:	Mrs Charlotte Wilson		07981 040067
	<a href="mailto:charlottewilson21@hotmail.com">charlottewilson21@hotmail.com</a>		

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## Normal Services

Sunday:	8:00 a.m.	Holy Communion (1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Sundays only)
	9:15 a.m.	Sung Communion & Crèche (joint service at 10am on the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, sometimes at St Francis)
Morning Praise:	9:15 a.m.	Normally on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month
Messy Church:	3:45 p.m.	Normally on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month
Holy Baptism:	By appointment	
Other Services:	Refer to the Calendar in this magazine. Weddings/Banns, etc.: By appointment	



# Letter from Richard

Dear Friends,

February sees the feast day of someone who is probably the most popular of all saints, certainly as far as the secular world is concerned: St Valentine. For such a popular saint, not a great deal is really known about him, although he is the subject of a number of legends. I say “he,” but there are at least two saints answering to the name: St Valentine of Rome and St Valentine of Terni.

Whilst Catholic and Protestant churches celebrate Valentine on February 14th, in the Eastern Orthodox Church his day is July 6th. And to complicate matters further, the Eastern Orthodox Church also celebrates the feast of the second Valentine, the Bishop of Interamna, now known as Terni, a town in Italy, on July 30th, although in his hometown and elsewhere it is February 14th.

The most common version of events that led to Valentine becoming the patron saint of lovers runs as follows. Valentine was a priest or bishop living in Rome. The emperor at the time, Claudius II, had outlawed weddings as young men were using marriage as an excuse for not joining the army and existing soldiers were getting married in order to get out, with disastrous results for recruitment numbers.

However, Valentine began to marry couples secretly, but when this was found out, Claudius had him thrown in jail. Valentine used his time in jail to reach out to people with the love that he found in Jesus. His jailer, Asterious, was so impressed with Valentine’s teaching and wisdom, that as well as having all his household baptised, he also asked him to teach his daughter, Julia, who was blind. At the same time, Emperor Claudius, having heard of his wisdom, offered Valentine his freedom if he would give up his faith and worship the Roman deities. Valentine not only refused but also tried to convert Claudius to Christianity.

This so enraged Claudius that he ordered Valentine's execution. On the night before he died tradition has it that Valentine sent Julia a note encouraging her to remain faithful to Jesus and signed it "From your Valentine." Some versions of the story also claim that God miraculously restored Julia's sight, so that she could read this note for herself.

It is generally agreed that Valentine was beaten, stoned, and beheaded on February 14, 269 AD.

So, what does this story have to say to us? Even if we strip away much of what might be regarded as legend, we are left with the story of a man whose faith was so important to him that he was prepared to die rather than give it up. We in this country are blessed that we can practise our Christianity without risking our lives or livelihoods, but that's not the case in countries like Iran, Iraq, North Korea, China, Pakistan, India and elsewhere. Let's keep these fellow Christians in our prayers.

Secondly, Valentine's story reinforces the importance of marriage in the eyes of the Church. Moreover, Asterius' desire to have his daughter educated stands out in contrast to those regimes today, such as Afghanistan, where girls are being denied an education beyond the primary stage. Again, a subject for prayer.

And finally, let's not forget Valentine's Day, with the humble Valentine card as one way, but not the only one, of showing those close to us just how much they mean to us.

God Bless

*Richard*

# Calendar for February

- Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>**      **CANDLEMAS Presentation of Christ in the Temple**  
8.00 a.m.      Holy Communion at St. Francis'  
*Richard Ford*  
10.00 a.m.      Joint Service at St. Mary's with livestream  
*Richard Ford*
- Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>**      **4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**  
8.00 a.m.      Holy Communion at St. Francis'  
*Richard Ford/Ken Bryan*  
9.15 a.m.      Morning Praise at St. Mary's with livestream  
*Ken Bryan/Debbie Adams*  
10.45 a.m.      Morning Worship at St. Francis'  
*Ken Bryan/Debbie Adams*  
3.00 p.m.      Healing Service at St. Francis'  
*Richard Ford/Debbie Adams*
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup>**      Messy Church at 3:45pm
- Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>**      **3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**  
8.00 a.m.      Holy Communion at St. Mary's  
*Carol Coslett*  
9.15 a.m.      Holy Communion at St. Mary's with livestream  
*Carol Coslett*  
10.45 a.m.      Holy Communion at St. Francis'  
*Carol Coslett*
- Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>**      **2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY BLEFORE LENT**  
8.00 a.m.      Holy Communion at St. Francis'  
*Carol Coslett/Debbie Adams*  
9.15 a.m.      Holy Communion at St. Mary's with livestream  
*Carol Coslett/Ken Bryan/Debbie Adams*  
10.45 a.m.      Holy Communion at St. Francis'  
*Carol Coslett/Ken Bryan/Debbie Adams*

# Calendar for March

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>

## SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

8.00 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's

*Carol Coslett/Richard Ford*

10.00 a.m.

Joint Service at St. Francis'

*Carol Coslett/Richard Ford*

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>

## ASH WEDNESDAY

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion with ashing at St. Francis'

*Carol Coslett/Richard Ford*

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>

## LENT 1

8.00 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'

*Richard Ford/Debbie Adams*

9.15 a.m.

Morning Praise at St. Mary's with livestream

*Ken Bryan/Debbie Adams*

10.45 a.m.

Morning Worship at St. Francis'

*Ken Bryan/Debbie Adams*

Friday 14<sup>th</sup>

Messy Church at 3:45pm

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>

## LENT 2

8.00 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's

*Richard Ford/Julia Cernoch*

9.15 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's with livestream

*Richard Ford/Julia Cernoch/Debbie Adams*

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'

*Richard Ford/Julia Cernoch/Debbie Adams*

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>

## LENT 3

8.00 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'

*Carol Coslett/Ken Bryan*

9.15 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's with livestream

*Carol Coslett/Ken Bryan*

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St., Francis'

*Carol Coslett/Ken Bryan*

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>**

**LENT 4 Mothering Sunday**

8.00 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Marys

*Richard Ford*

9.15 a.m.

Morning Praise at St. Mary's with livestream

*Richard Ford/Ken Bryan*

10.45 a.m.

Morning Worship at St. Francis

*Richard Ford/Ken Bryan*

## **Funeral**

**On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 12noon**

At St Marks Church, Bromley

**Joan Margaret Mountain**

19.03.1935 – 06.08.2024

Joan was a regular member of the 8.00 a.m. services at St. Mary's for many, many, years until more recently when she had received communion at home being unable to get to Church due to health issues. Joan's original church was St. Mark's Bromley where her children were christened, confirmed and married and where her late husband's funeral took place. However, because Joan didn't drive after his death, she already had friends at St. Marys from her days working at the Prudential and she accepted a lift from Michael Milne and started attending St. Mary's each week where she had remained for the last 30 years. We offer our sympathy to Joan's family at this sad time. Rest in peace Joan.



# Bible Readings

Date	Reading	Reader
<b>February</b>		
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Malachi 3: 1-5	
	Hebrews 2: 14-18	Malcolm Hubbard
	Luke 2: 22-40	Richard Ford
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	Special readings for Morning Praise	Charlotte Wilson
<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	Jeremiah 17: 5-10	
	1 Corinthians 15: 12-20	Jean Pogose
	Luke 6: 7-26	Carol Coslett
<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Genesis 2: 4b-9, 15 -25	
	Revelation 4: 1-11	Dennis Pogose
	Luke 8: 22-25	Debbie Adams
<b>March</b>		
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Exodus 34: 29-35	
	2 Corinthians 3: 12 – 4: 2	At St. Francis
	Luke 9: 28-36, 37-43a	Carol Coslett
<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	Ash Wednesday	Isaiah 58: 1-12
	At St. Francis	
	Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21	Carol Coslett
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	Special readings for Morning Praise	Stephen Howe
<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	Genesis 13: 1-12, 17-18	Natalie Outten
	Philippians 3: 17-4:	Julia Cernoch
<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Isaiah 55: 1-9	
	1 Corinthians 10: 1-13	Gifty Nortey
	Luke 13: 1-9	Ken Bryan
<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	Special readings for Morning Praise	Merri Womack

# Dates for your Diary

## February

### Parish Lunch

The Parish Lunch is on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February** at 1.00 p.m. in the hall. Please contact Beryl Bolton 0208 289 8097 or [berylbolton@hotmail.com](mailto:berylbolton@hotmail.com) if you are unable to attend.

### Valentine's Lunch

The Valentine's Lunch will take place in the hall at 12.30 p.m. on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February**. Please book your place through Beryl Bolton on 0208 289 8097 or [berylbolton@hotmail.com](mailto:berylbolton@hotmail.com). You can also sign the list in the vestibule at St. Mary's. When booking, you need to specify if you require cheese, ham or pate and whether you would like mushroom or tomato soup. Numbers will be limited to 40 so book early to avoid disappointment. The cost is £12 per person and there will be a raffle. All profits for church funds. Once again, this event will be organised by the men at St. Mary's.

### Community Lunch at St Francis

The next Community Lunch for Senior Citizens and those living on their own will be on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 12.30pm at St Francis of Assisi Church Hall, Ravenswood Avenue, West Wickham. Tickets £10.00 – 2 courses plus glass of wine and a raffle to raise funds for Zimbabwe. For tickets (in advance only) please contact Barbara Goodchild on 0208 777 8782.

### *Observations on Love...*

*When you routinely build little kindnesses into your marriage, they build the bond of trust and love between you. And your marriage partner is not a mind reader! So, whenever you think something nice about them, tell them.*  
*Anon.*

# March

## Parish Lunch

The Parish Lunch will be on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March** at 1.00 p.m. in the hall. If you are unable to attend, please let Beryl know on 0208 289 8097 or [berylbolton@hotmail.com](mailto:berylbolton@hotmail.com). Thank you. Please note one week later than usual.

## Lent 2025

This year we shall once again be running three Lent Groups:

- Mondays 8pm at 35 Oakfield Gardens from March 10<sup>th</sup>
- Wednesdays 8pm at St Francis' choir vestry from March 12<sup>th</sup>
- Wednesdays 10.30am at St Francis' choir vestry from March 17<sup>th</sup>

We shall be rerunning the course that we started in 2020, but were unable to complete because of Lockdown, looking at the events of Holy Week through the lens of the BBC serialisation "The Passion," first seen in Holy Week 2008, starring amongst others James Nesbitt, Joseph Mawle and Penelope Wilton. The course will run for five weeks. There are signing sheets available in both churches if you are interested in joining one of the groups.

## Advance Notices

Our annual **St. George's Supper** will take place on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April** at 7.00 p.m. in the hall. Keep the date free. Watch the pew sheets for more details nearer the time.

**Looking ahead** – Are you growing bedding plants, tomatoes or chillies from seed? If so, can you plant an extra tray for the plant stall at the Garden Party/BBQ on 14<sup>th</sup> June. Any other spare plants that can be donated would be greatly appreciated by Chris Fitzgerald. Thank you.

## *Observations on Love...*

*Our love for God is the root; our love for others is the fruit, expressed through patience, kindness, courtesy, humility, unselfishness, good temper, gentleness and sincerity. - UCB Word for Today*

# Parish Matters

## Christmas Market

The Christmas Market was once again a happy and enjoyable day with a continuous stream of people coming through our doors. Many thanks to everyone who helped to make the day a success, raising £4,900.70 for the Church.

## St Mary's Christmas Market Prize Winners 2024

<b>Grand Draw</b>	<b>Ticket No.</b>	<b>Name</b>
£200	1239	Annabel Stone
6 Bottles of wine	0281	Annette Cordery
Lindt Lindor Advent Calendar	0635	James Hubbard
Bottle Bearfoot Shiraz	0760	John Edgley
Ferrero Rocher Chocs	1319	Merri Womack
Box of Celebration Chocs	0637	James Hubbard
Two Bottles Wine	0556	Stephen Howe
Christmas Cake	198(yellow)	Katrina Walsh
Christmas Hamper	268(white)	Bill Howell

## Magazine subscriptions

Just a reminder that the annual cost of £3 for the magazine is due with this edition.

## St Francis of Assisi Christmas Tree Festival 2024

We want to say a big thank you to everyone who supported our second Christmas Tree Festival between 14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> December 2024, to all the local



businesses, organisations, community and church groups who contributed a tree and those who volunteered their time to welcome people and help with refreshments and to everyone who came along to see all the Christmas trees while the festival was on.

We had over 35 trees this year which was amazing and have been able to send £448.64 in donations to Welcare Bromley, a charity that provides practical and emotional support and advice to families in need. We also had support from West Wickham Rotary Club and their Business Partners who also raised £300 for Welcare Bromley on West Wickham High Street when the Christmas Tree Festival was on.



*Kate Dyer, Nicky Nightingale, Caroline Povlsen, Gill Kehoe*

## Christmas at St Francis

In the weeks before Christmas we hosted the Carol Services for the 7<sup>th</sup> West Wickham Scout Group and also for 2 local schools. All were well attended, and it was lovely to see so many young people in the church.

Our own Carol Service featured the traditional lessons and beautiful carols, and it was enhanced by the Squirrels Nativity, a musical premiere and Youth Club coffee and cakes.



The Lighting the Lamps service on Christmas Eve was packed and magical as usual and the church was looking its beautiful best.

Midnight Communion and our joint Christmas morning service provided regular church attenders, and those who rarely come, the opportunity to celebrate Christmas together.

## Christmas Services at St Mary's

Once again, our church was beautifully decorated for Christmas with flowers, the lights, the tree and the crib. Thanks to all who contributed to this.

The **Messy Christmas celebration** was attended by 11 children and their families and was a very happy occasion with the usual activities in the hall, followed by a short service in church then back to the hall for a meal.

The **Carol Service** was attended by 65 people, who enjoyed singing both new and traditional carols and listening to choir performances. The highlight of the service was a new carol composed by Martin Coslett, beautifully sung by Clara and Carol Coslett with Martin accompanying them

on guitar. The service was followed by tea in the hall, and the collection taken at the service was in aid of CRISIS.



The **Midnight service** was attended by 27 people and a further collection was taken for CRISIS. The amount sent to CRISIS from the two services was £239.

A lot of work and preparation went into the **Christingle Service** and the church was fairly full with 178 people attending. It was lovely to see all the excited children as the candles were lit and the lights switched off whilst *Away in a Manger* and *Light a little candle* was sung. Thanks to Katrina and Ken for taking the service, and due to the generosity of the church members who paid

all the expenses involved, we were able to send a cheque for £303.97 to The Children's Society.

A happy Christmas time of celebration at St. Mary's and thanks must go to Carol, Richard, Ken, Debbie, Geoff and the choir, our two Churchwardens and all who work so hard, particularly at these special times of the year.

*Beryl Bolton*

### **Answers to Crossword Puzzle**

#### **ACROSS:**

8, *Cross-examined*. 9, *Ash*. 10, *Apocrypha*. 11, *Sci-fi*. 13, *Typical*. 16, *Visited*. 19, *Offer*. 22, *No account*. 24, *RAC*. 25, *Sovereign Lord*.

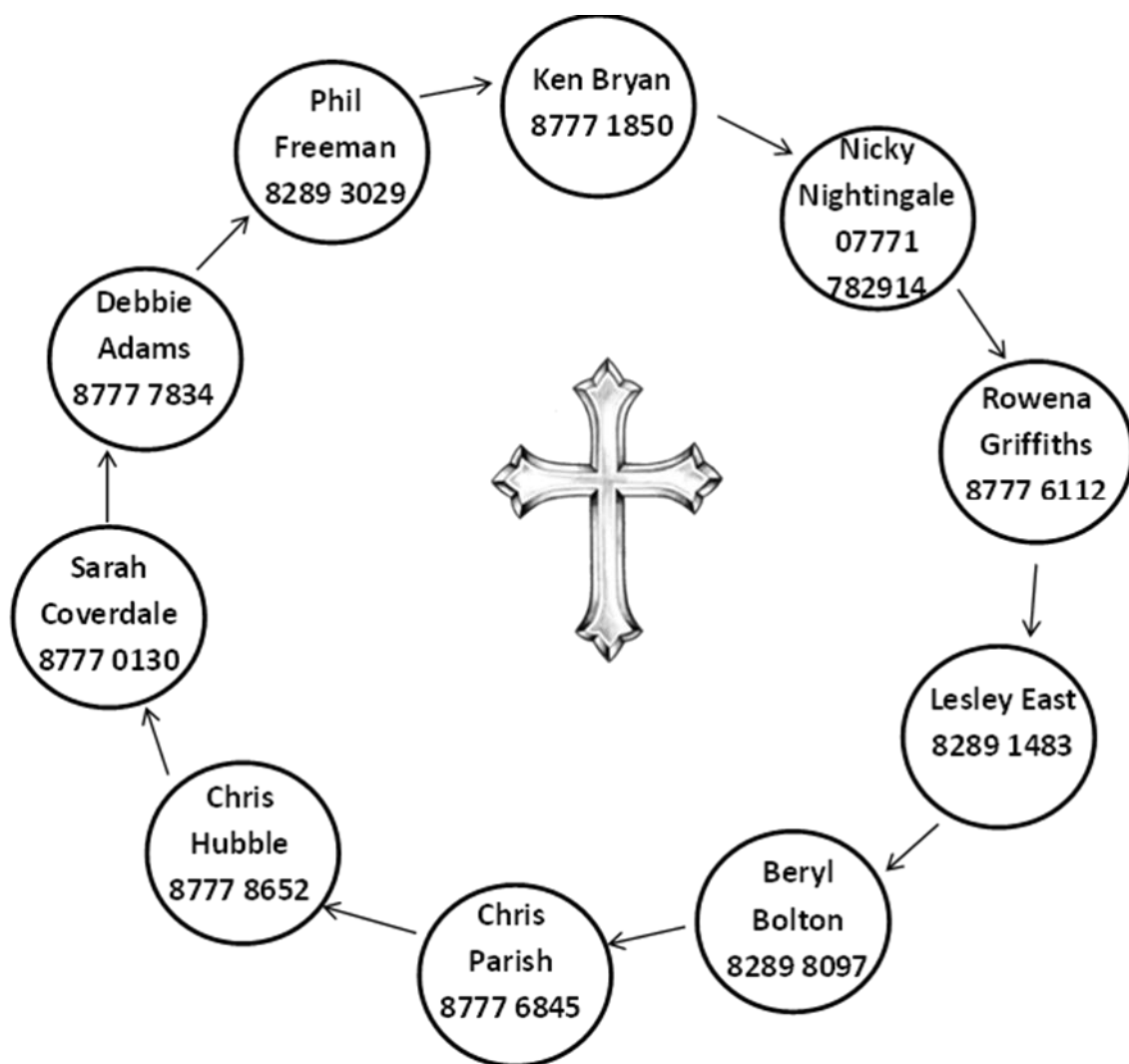
#### **DOWN:**

1, *Oceans*. 2, *Hophni*. 3, *Islamist*. 4, *Exhort*. 5, *Omar*. 6, *On spec*. 7, *Add all*. 12, *CBI*. 14, *Plotting*. 15, *Awe*. 16, *Vanish*. 17, *Starve*. 18, *Daub it*. 20, *Furrow*. 21, *Recede*. 23, *Cure*.

# St Francis and St Mary's Prayer Chain

Many people find they are given strength and peace of mind when they know that they, or their loved ones, are being prayed for. And the more people who are praying for someone, the better!

If you would like prayer for yourself, please call anyone on the chain below and they will pass a message on around the circle. If you like a name added to the intercessions list in our services, (which will be on-line as well as in-person) please state this when you make contact.





# Prayer Focus

## February

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Candlemas - Presentation of Christ in the Temple – Luke 2: 20-40**

We remember that, at Christmas time, God presented his only Son to the world.

At Candlemas we remember that Joseph and Mary presented Jesus to God in the Temple as was the custom for the first-born child. We remember that Simeon was present at that time. He took the child in his arms and praised God. The prophet Anna was also present. She never left the Temple so that she was always available to God.

Father, we pray about the people we meet in our lives. Help us to be aware when an apparent coincidence is truly God incidence with a purpose that you have ordained. Help us to be available to you and your spirit that we may use the opportunities that you present to us.

## March

1<sup>st</sup> St David's Day

17<sup>th</sup> St Patrick's Day

19<sup>th</sup> St Joseph of Nazareth

26<sup>th</sup> The Annunciation

30<sup>th</sup> Mothering Sunday

We pray for all mothers who are worried about their children; how to feed them; how to protect their health, and how to lead them in righteous ways.

### **The Anunciation Luke 1: 26-38**

The visit of the Angel Gabriel with a message for Mary. What a message! A bolt from the blue! Mary was told that she had found favour with God. The heavenly Father knew her well and he knew that he could trust her.

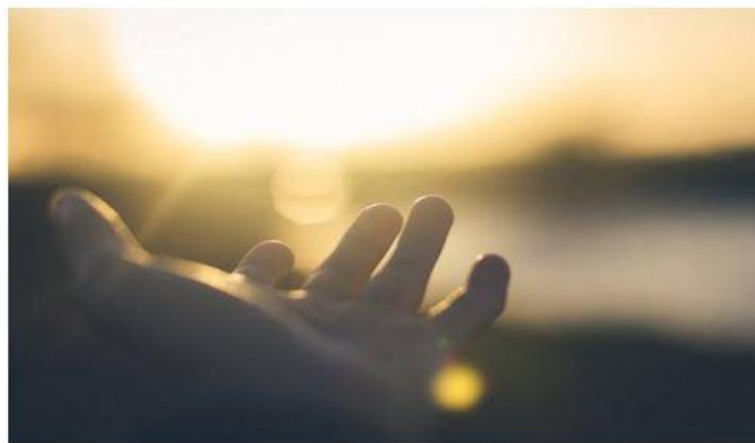
Father, we thank you that Mary was brave and obedient. Help us to recognise our calling and rejoice in it. Help us to be obedient to the Holy Spirit so that, we too, can say, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord.” We know that we are all servants of the Lord. Help us to fulfil whatever you have ordained for our lives. We may feel that we are not special but you Lord, have included each one of us in your plan for the Kingdom of God.

**A verse from a hymn by Charles Wesley: -**

To serve the present age, my calling to fulfil:

O may it all my powers engage, to do my master’s will.

**A service of  
Wholeness & healing**



**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

**at 3pm**

St Francis of Assisi Church,  
West Wickham  
BR4 0PW

A short service with prayer and anointing for illness,  
anxiety, relationship difficulties, loneliness  
or any other kind of healing.

# St Francis & St Mary's Joint, All-Age, Other Special Services and Events Calendar

## February

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint service at St Mary's Candlemas – 10am
- 5<sup>th</sup> St Mary's Community Lunch - 1pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> Healing Service at St Francis' – 3pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> Messy Church - 3.45pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> Valentine's lunch at St Mary's – 12.30pm
- 23<sup>rd</sup> St Francis Community Lunch

## March

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint service at St Francis' – 10am
- 5<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday at St Francis' – 10.45am
- 5<sup>th</sup> St Mary's Community Lunch – 1pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> World Day of Prayer at Emmanuel URC 10:30am?
- 9<sup>th</sup> Non-Eucharistic – Lent season as theme?
- 14<sup>th</sup> Messy Church – 3.45pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> Women's Event
- 16<sup>th</sup> St Mary's APCM
- 30<sup>th</sup> All-age: Mothering Sunday services – Scouts at St Marys

## April

- 2<sup>nd</sup> St Mary's Community Lunch – 1pm
- 6<sup>th</sup> Passion Sunday Joint service at St Mary's – 10am
- **TBC High Street Foodbank collection – 10am -1pm**
- 11<sup>th</sup> Messy Church at 3:45pm
- **13<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday**
- 17<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday – Holy Communion – 7.30pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> Good Friday: CTWW service at St Francis' – 11am
- Hour at the Cross at St Mary's – 2pm

- **20<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday**
- 26<sup>th</sup> St George's supper at St Mary's – 7:30pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> St George's service - Scouts at St Mary's
- 27<sup>th</sup> St Francis' APCM

## May

- 4<sup>th</sup> Joint service at St Francis' – 10am
- 7<sup>th</sup> St Mary's Community Lunch – 1pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> Messy Church – 3.45pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> St Francis VE Day afternoon tea and music
- 11<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> Christian Aid Week
- 13<sup>th</sup> Women's Event - venue TBC
- **22<sup>nd</sup> Lunch time concert TBC**
- 29<sup>th</sup> Ascension Day – **Deanery wide Holy Communion at TBC – 7:30pm**

## June

- 1<sup>st</sup> Joint service at St Mary's – 10am
- 4<sup>th</sup> St Mary's Community Lunch - 1pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> – Matchbox performances
- 8<sup>th</sup> Pentecost Sunday CTWW Pentecost service & AGM **TBC – 6pm**
- 13<sup>th</sup> Messy Church – 3.45pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> St Mary's Garden Party
- 15<sup>th</sup> Trinity Sunday
- **19<sup>th</sup> Lunch time concert TBC**
- 29<sup>th</sup> St Francis' Community Lunch – 12.30pm

## July

- 2<sup>nd</sup> St Mary's Community Lunch – 1pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> Allegri Singers – St Francis Church – 7.30pm

- 6<sup>th</sup> Joint service at St Francis' - 10am
- 6<sup>th</sup> Healing service at St Francis' – 3pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> Joint PCC meeting at St Francis
- 11<sup>th</sup> Messy Church
- 15<sup>th</sup> Women's Event
- 17<sup>th</sup> Lunch time concert TBC

## August

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Thank you to Volunteers Coffee Morning at St Francis' – 10:30am
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Joint service at St Mary's – 10am
- 6<sup>th</sup> St Mary's Community Lunch – 1pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> Messy Church – 3pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> Baptism at St Francis'
- 14<sup>th</sup> Lunch time concert TBC

## September

- 3<sup>rd</sup> St Mary's Community Lunch – 1pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> Joint service at St Francis' – 10am
- 12<sup>th</sup> Messy Church – 3:45pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> Family Day at St Mary's
- 14<sup>th</sup> Non-eucharistic: Education or Creation Sunday
- 16<sup>th</sup> Women's event
- 18<sup>th</sup> Lunch time concert TBC
- 28<sup>th</sup> St Michael & All Angels

## October

- 1<sup>st</sup> St Mary's Community Lunch – 1pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> Joint Service at St Francis': St Francis' Patronal Service (Gift Day) – 10am
- 5<sup>th</sup> St Francis' Community Lunch – 12:30pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> Pet service at St Francis' – 3pm

- 10<sup>th</sup> Messy Church – 3:45pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> Harvest Supper at St Mary's – 7pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> Harvest Festival All Age – Scouts at St Francis'
- 26<sup>th</sup> Bible Study

## **November**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint service at St Mary's (All Saints) – 10am
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Memorial Service at St Mary's – 3pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> St Mary's Community Lunch – 1pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> Non-eucharistic: Remembrance Sunday Scouts at St Francis'
- 11<sup>th</sup> Women's event at St Mary's – 8pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> Messy Church – 3:45pm
- 21<sup>st</sup> High Street Christmas Lights event at St Francis'
- 22<sup>nd</sup> St Mary's Christmas Market – 10:30am to 2:30pm
- 30<sup>th</sup> Advent Sunday

## **December**

- 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Matchbox performances
- 6<sup>th</sup> The Big Christmas Sing at St Francis' – 4pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> Joint service St Mary's Patronal Sunday – 10am
- 10<sup>th</sup> St Mary's Christmas Community Lunch – 12:30pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> Messy Church – 3:45pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> Scouts' Carol service at St Mary's – 6:30pm
- 13<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> Christmas Tree Festival at St Francis'
- 14<sup>th</sup> St Francis' Christmas Community Lunch – 12:30pm
- 21<sup>st</sup> Carol services: 10:45am at St Francis' and 4pm at St Mary's
- 24<sup>th</sup> Christingle at St Mary's – 4:30pm and Lighting the Lamps at St Francis' – 6pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> Midnight Communion Services at both churches – 11:15pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> Joint service at St Francis' – 10am

# THE BISHOP OF SOUTHWARK'S LENT CALL 2025



*Jesus said; Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.*

*Matthew 19:14*

The Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call for 2025 asks you to pray for and raise money to support projects that help children and young people recover from trauma and which encourage their mental wellbeing. We are supporting this type of work in the Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East, in our Link Dioceses in Zimbabwe and here in our own diocese. Visit our website to find out how you can become involved and help:

**[southwark.anglican.org/lentcall](https://southwark.anglican.org/lentcall)**



HOW TO  
DONATE

# What do Lay Ministers do?

There are three types of lay ministry in the Diocese of Southwark:

**Licensed:** People recommended by the parish, selected and trained by the diocese. Their ministry is nationally recognised and transferable to another diocese should they move.

**Commissioned:** People recommended by the parish and selected and trained by the diocese. Their ministries are recognised across the whole diocese should they move parishes, and increasingly in other dioceses too.

**Affirmed:** People selected and trained within the local context, which is usually the parish. Affirmation is about publicly acknowledging and blessing the ministries people undertake within the parish – for example as communion assistants, welcomers, Sunday School leaders, or as part of a pastoral team. The diocese has also produced a resource, *Affirmed Ministry Training*, which provides details on affirmed ministry and suggestions for training.

There are so many different expressions of lay ministry. Some people serve in more traditional roles, such as Reader – someone who preaches and helps to lead worship at their church, as well as undertaking some pastoral work.

Then there are Commissioned Pastoral Lay Ministers (CPLMs) – formerly known as Southwark Pastoral Auxiliaries (SPAs). CPLMs work together with others in their congregation to offer care and support for those around them. Some give their time to local care home for the elderly or to assist hospital chaplains. Others help to lead the pastoral team in their church. The opportunities are many.

We also have three Licensed Pastoral Lay Ministers (LPLMs) who offer pastoral support to as well as preaching and helping to lead services. Wendy Stephens, our Diocesan Lead for Pastoral Ministry, is a prison chaplain. We are really hoping to add to the number of LPLMs in the near future, so do be in contact with the team if you are interested in this. There is so much to be done.



There are also Commissioned and Licensed Pioneer Ministers who work in the community with those who are not traditional church-goers and with church communities where English is not their first language.

We very much want more people to join those who are working as affirmed, Commissioned and Licensed Lay Ministers in the diocese and to celebrate all those who are already working as lay ministers.

For further information on any of these ministries please contact Carol Coslett: [carol.coslett@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:carol.coslett@southwark.anglican.org)

*Information taken from The Bridge Newspaper Dec24/Jan25 edition.*



**ROOFING  
&  
Maintenance**

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**All types of work undertaken  
Also Flat pack assembly  
No job too small**

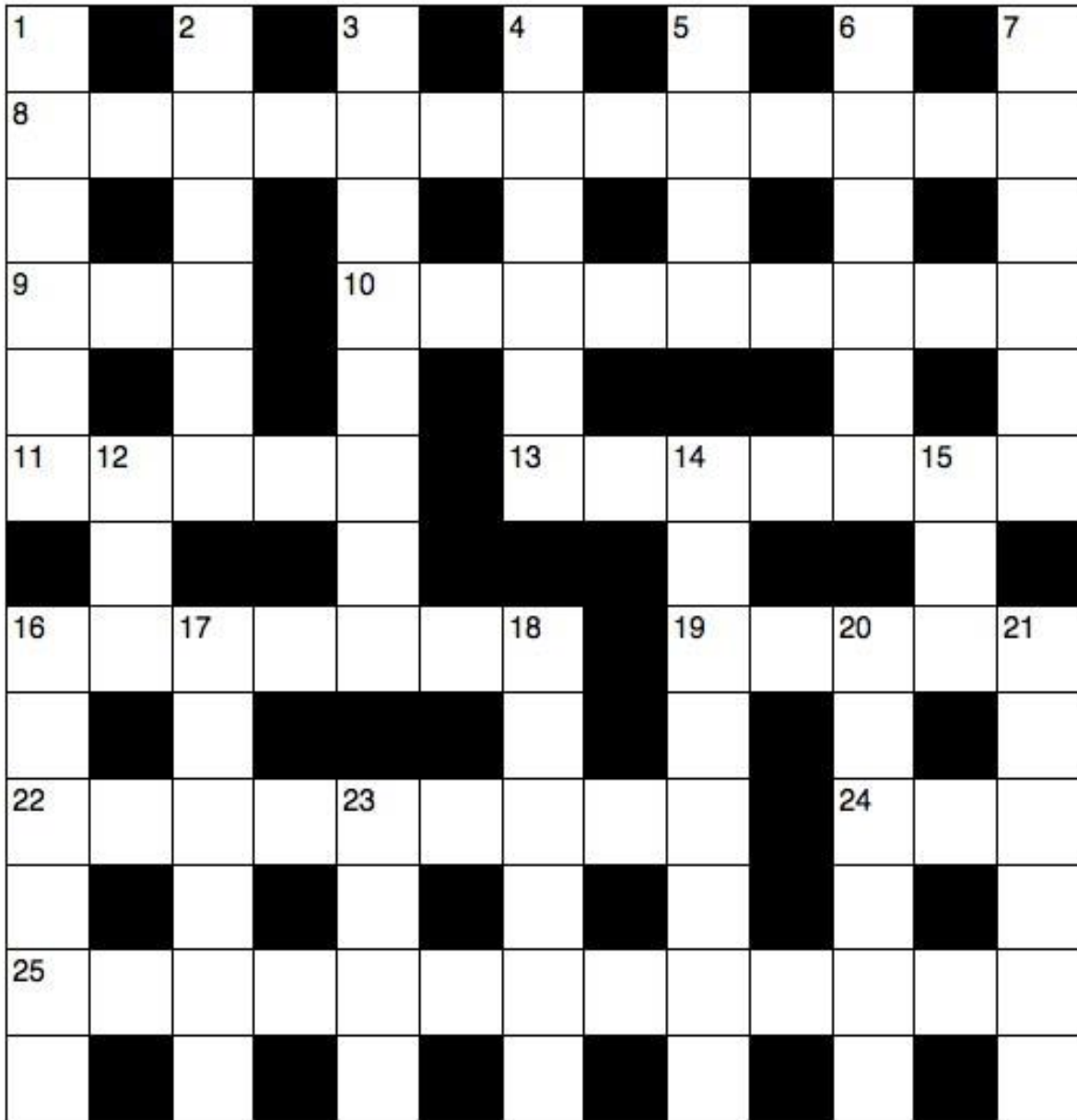
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**Harry Allen  
138 Queen Anne Avenue, Bromley BR2 OSF**

**07801 755199**



# Crossword Puzzle



**Across**

- 8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)
- 9 ‘Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap’ (Leviticus 4:12) (3)
- 10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)
- 11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)
- 13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)
- 16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)

- 19 ‘Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices’ (Romans 12:1) (5)
- 22 David’s plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: ‘On — — let them escape’ (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)
- 24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1) 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

### Down

- 1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)
- 2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)
- 3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)
- 4 ‘Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father’ (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)
- 5 One of Esau’s grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)
- 6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)
- 7 God’s instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ‘ — salt to — your offerings’ (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)
- 12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)
- 14 ‘All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me’ (Psalm 56:5) (8)
- 15 The crowd’s reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow’s son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)
- 16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)
- 17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn’t rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)
- 18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)
- 20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)
- 21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6)
- 23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)

*The Bible version used in our crosswords is the NIV.*

*Answers on page 12*

## **WE ARE ALL GUILTY**

Well, I am. At times! Of complacency of leaving it to others to sort out!

**BUT** we do have a duty when it comes to the safeguarding of children **OR** vulnerable adults in the church.

There is a manual in our church vestibule entitled, '*A Safe Church*', which is for reference by anyone and acts as a guide to safeguarding matters.

If you do have a genuine concern about such a matter, then you may wish to speak to Charlotte Wilson or Kim Teare, our Safeguarding Officers or to one of the churchwardens.

## **HAVE YOU OR WILL YOU BE MAKING A WILL?**

If so, please consider leaving a legacy to St. Mary's.

Legacies we have had in the past have been a great blessing and encouragement and enabled us to carry out important work. It is helpful if the bequest is given without conditions so the PCC can use the money as they feel appropriate.

Please give this prayerful consideration.

To make a Will is one of the kindest things you can do so your wishes are known.

# Rotas

## February

### Welcoming in Church

#### 8.00 a.m. services

2 <sup>nd</sup>	St. Francis	Stephen Howe
9 <sup>th</sup>	St. Francis	Stephen Howe
16 <sup>th</sup>	St. Mary's	Stephen Howe
23 <sup>rd</sup>	St. Francis	Stephen Howe

#### 9:15a.m./10.00 a.m. services

2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00 a.m.	Joint	Pauline Christy/Linda West
9 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.		Merri and John Womack
16 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.		Natalie Outten/Phil Nortey
23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.15 a.m.		Malcolm Hubbard /Mike Messinger

#### Coffee

2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00 a.m.	Joint	Claire Bull/Jackie Greatorex
9 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.		Beryl Bolton/Gifty Nortey
16 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.		Merri and John Womack
23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.15 a.m.		Jean Mathers/Natalie Outten

#### Church Cleaning

14 <sup>th</sup>	Kay and Geoff Mussard
28 <sup>th</sup>	Claire and Peter Cordery

#### Church Flower Pedestals

16 <sup>th</sup>	Donor required
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# Rotas

## March

### Welcoming in Church

#### **8.00 a.m. services**

2 <sup>nd</sup>	St. Mary's	Stephen Howe
9 <sup>th</sup>	St. Francis	Stephen Howe
16 <sup>th</sup>	St. Mary's	Stephen Howe
23 <sup>rd</sup>	St. Francis	Stephen Howe
30 <sup>th</sup>	St. Mary's	Stephen Howe

#### **9:15a.m./10.00 a.m. services**

2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00 a.m.	Joint at St. Francis
9 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Claire Bull/Dot Smythe
16 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Julie Conway/Jackie Greatorex
23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Pauline Christy/Linda West
30 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a. m.	Merri and John Womack

### Coffee

2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00 a.m.	Joint at St. Francis
9 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Cheryl Davies/Linda West
16 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Margaret Bond/Mike Messinger
23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Claire Bull/Jackie Greatorex
30 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Deidre and Chris Fitzgerald

### Church Cleaning

14 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret Bond/Cheryl Davies
28 <sup>th</sup>	Claire and Peter Cordery

### Church Flower Pedestals

No flowers during Lent

# Contacts

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<b>Messy Church:</b>	Mrs K Mussard	35 Oakfield Gardens	8650 8389
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**[www.stmarywestwickham.co.uk](http://www.stmarywestwickham.co.uk)**

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