

ST MARY THE VIRGIN & ALL SOULS PARISH CHURCH
BULWELL

THE HILL

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St Mary's Parish Church, Bulwell

ONE LIFE START PRAYING



2019 started with the excitement of the Archbishop of York's "One LIFE" 3-day mission to the diocese from September 12th - 15th, accompanied by 21 northern bishops and their teams, seeking to fulfil the Great Commission of the Risen Christ "Go and make disciples". It has been a privilege to take teams from the diocese on all the missions, to Sheffield, Durham, Blackburn, Carlisle and Newcastle. I've seen the impact and the potential - now it's our turn!

Wrote Bishop Tony.

The first response is prayer. "Devote yourselves to prayer". (Colossians 4:2)

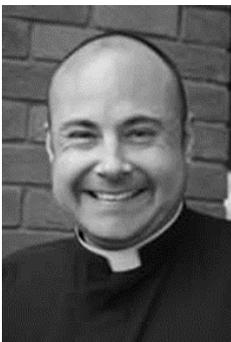
Let's make prayer for "One LIFE" a regular part of Sunday intercessions, a regular time of prayer at PCC, Deanery meetings, personal quiet time, perhaps creating prayer triplets. Archbishop Sentamu emphasised the centrality of prayer as we approached the Cross Roads mission to Blackburn in 2016

The visiting Bishops will work across all the deaneries of our diocese.

We hope that all churches in the diocese will get involved and use this chance to connect with their communities, scatter seeds and share the Gospel.

YOUR VICAR WRITES

Bamboo is a very fast growing member of the grass family. A scientist observed one plant grow nearly four feet in twenty four hours. Some species grow more than 100 feet tall. When a particular species blooms – once every 20 or 120 years – every plant of that species throughout the world flowers at the same time.



In Asian countries bamboo is used for a great variety of things. A suspension bridge with bamboo cables, built across a Chinese River, has been in use for over a thousand years. It is also used for construction scaffolding. Bamboo is used in Japanese houses for virtually every part not made of paper.

In the United States of America it is used for fishing rods because of its lightness and flexibility; as well as its unusual strength. In the UK it is used as an ornamental plant; Louise and I have some in the Rectory garden.

Bamboo has played an important role in various civilisations because of its particular strengths and properties. That's like you and me. God has given us certain qualities, to fit us for a special role in the world that no one else can fill.

March 6th is Ash Wednesday, when we start the special church season of Lent. Lent is a time for drawing closer to God in prayer, Bible study and worship. It is also a time when Christians give

something up (fasting/abstinence) and give alms (gifts of money to charitable causes). This Lent, make time to contemplate how much God loves you and all the blessings that God has given you, and share yourself and your blessings with all those around you.

'God created humanity in His image; in the image of God He created them; male and female he created them.' Genesis 1:27.

Peace be with you

Fr. Andrew

A MEDITATION FOLLOWING THE SUNDAY SERMON

Today I will listen for the Lord's word to me

Today I open my heart afresh to him

Today I will seek God's mercy

Today He forgives all my sin

Today there is grace abundant

Flowing through God's Holy spirit

Today I seek His love for me

And my loved ones near and far

Today He welcomes me with open arms

Today He blesses me with healing and wholeness

In every area of my life and being

Today my lips will bless his Holy Name.

Amen

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

BIBLE STUDY GROUP We come together once a week to look at different aspects of our Faith. In discussion we share insights and experiences and in doing so, we draw closer together in understanding and friendship. We are a small regular group with others coming as and when they are able. The topics vary, so feel free to drop in any time, we now meet in the church at 9.45 am on

Tuesdays



Bless us God,
With Saints to tell us stories,
With angels to surprise us,
With friends along the way.

HEALTH & WELL BEING GROUP meets alternate Mondays in the West Room 10.00am – 12.30pm at St Mary's Church. This month the dates are 11 & 25 March, for ages 18 upwards. You can bring your Carer, friend or family relative to the group for support (but we cannot allow anyone under the age of eighteen years of age).

BIG 'E' DAY AT SOUTHWELL is on Saturday 30th March 2019 9.30-2.45pm at Southwell Minster School, NG25 0LG. This is the largest regional day for children and youth ministry training and includes a huge range of over 30 workshops covering work with under 5's and faith development through to schools work and youth ministry. There is also a special session for young leaders new to working with children and teenagers, and a drop-in for experienced workers to chat over their thoughts and plans.

The day includes a time of worship and keynote talk from the Bishop of Sherwood, a marketplace of resource providers and organisations keen to support your work.

AN INTERPRETATION OF THE AARONIC BLESSING

THE LORD BLESS YOU

May YHWH (He who exists) kneel before you, making himself available to you as your Heavenly Father, so he can bestow upon you His promises and gifts.

AND KEEP YOU

And guard you with a hedge of thorny protection that will prevent satan and all your enemies from harming you. May he protect your body, soul, mind and spirit, your loved ones and all your possessions.

THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE TO SHINE UPON YOU

May YHWH (He who exists) illuminate the wholeness of His being toward you, continually bringing you to order, so that you will fulfil your god given calling.

AND BE GRACIOUS UNTO YOU

May YHWH (He who exists) provide you with perfect love and fellowship, never leaving you and give you sustenance and friendship.

THE LORD LIFT UP HIS COUNTENANCE UPON YOU

May YHWH (He who exists) lift up and carry His fullness of being toward you; bringing everything he has to you and supporting you with His divine embrace and His entire being.

AND GIVE YOU HIS PEACE May YHWH (He who exists) set in place all you need to be whole and complete, so that you can walk in victory; moment by moment, by the power of the Holy spirit. May he give you supernatural health, peace, welfare, safety, soundness, tranquillity, prosperity, perfection, fullness, rest, as well as the absence of agitation and discord. AMEN – so let it be!

WE WELCOME OUR NEW READER-IN-WAITING!



READERS

Many of you will have met a new regular to St Mary's - Anne Elphick. Anne is a Third Order Franciscan, and also a Reader in the Church of England. Over the last six months or so, Fr Andrew, Anne and others have been discerning whether it would be right for Anne to exercise her Reader Ministry at St Mary's and we think it would be! In February, the Parochial Church Council voted unanimously for Anne to minister as a Reader at St Mary's, and we now look forward to her Reader license being transferred to St Mary's (pending the necessary legal and ecclesiastical procedures). Readers are lay people in the Church of England, from all walks of life, who are called by God, theologically trained and licensed by the Church to preach, teach, lead worship and assist in pastoral, evangelistic and liturgical work. Readers can be men or women of almost any age, and come from a wide diversity of occupations and backgrounds and serve God in a variety of situations; in parishes, schools, prisons, hospitals, hospices, factories and shops, among seafarers and in the Armed Forces, with children, and young people, the elderly, housebound and bereaved, and with those preparing for baptism, confirmation and marriage. In church, when robed, Readers can be distinguished from clergy by the distinctive blue scarf which licensed Readers wear. Please pray for Anne and St Mary's at this exciting time – and watch out for a special service and bun-fight as we properly welcome Anne amongst us as our Reader!

A PRAYER TAKEN FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND WEBSITE

Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

MESSY CHURCH

Fr A and Vicky Paling (Salvation Army Community Development Officer) are looking to run a **Messy Church at Crabtree Farm School after Easter** on the first Monday of each month, for a couple of hours after school. If you can help supervise families with fun, simple arts and crafts (provided), and would like to help, please have a word with Fr A.



Messy Church at St Mary's is on the second Sunday of each month, it's free and there is arts & crafts and food for the whole family. Everyone welcome

THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL



Church Membership

Establishing Roots in a faith community!

THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL is due to be completely revised this year. All current members on the Roll will need to re-apply and anyone wishing to become a new member will also need to submit an application form. **This revision will end on Sunday 31st March.** To be eligible for inclusion on the Electoral Roll a person must be 16 years of

age or more, reside in St. Mary's Parish or be regular worshippers in church. There will be two boxes placed at the back of church - one containing blank application forms to collect and fill in, and one to place completed forms inside. If you prefer, you can give the completed forms directly to St Mary's Electoral Roll Officer, Sam Reynolds. Please note: any completed application forms received after the 31st March will NOT be eligible for inclusion on the Electoral Roll until AFTER the APCM.



THANK YOU



Thank you to the folk who donated a large-screen TV to church, helping us teach the children and young people who come to Whiz Kidz, Messy Church and our NYC Youth Group. It can also be used for our Bible Studies, Alpha Course and much more, bringing our mission and ministry into the 21st Century, wherein lots of people use digital and visual media, and another way of making our church more attractive to children, young people and families.



Thank you to Janet and Ken, Robert and Jillian for making the wonderful flags to help brighten up our All Age Service on March 3rd.

Thank you to the people who have donated monies to the Vicar's discretionary fund recently.

CINEMA AT ST JOHN'S CHURCH

The next cinema screening is on Friday 8th March at 7pm, doors open at 6.30. The film we are showing is "The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, please see link to trailer below.

The tuck shop will also be open selling hot and cold drinks, popcorn and chocolate. If you require a hot drink please remember to bring a mug.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HTDNGv61-Dk>

LENT 2019

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 6th March and is a time for drawing closer to God in prayer, Bible study, and worship. It is also a time when Christians give something up (fasting/abstinence) and give alms (gifts of money to charitable causes).

This year the PCC would like the focus of our **Lenten giving to be for pew bibles in church**, so that people can follow the Bible readings during our services. A modern hardback, New Revised Standard Version Bible costs just under £12. Thank you to the family who have already donated 10 Bibles. *It would be fantastic if we could purchase 20 more Bibles to go on our pews.*

A Lent Course will begin in church 9.45-10.45am Tues March 5th (and Tuesday mornings in Lent thereafter). *Everyone is welcome!*

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE 2019



St John's Carrington & St Mary the Virgin & All Souls Bulwell WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE 2019

Friday 27th to Sunday 29th September.

Full Board cost: Adult £138.00, Children £82.80, Under 5's free.

Plus the cost of transport to & from Walsingham

£30 deposit secures your booking. Please see Maureen Pates or Fr Andrew for more info.

THE SPEED OF CHANGE

Reflecting on the first two decades of this century, it's amazing when you think about the speed of change. What is normal now, certainly wasn't normal in the year 2000! No-one had heard of a selfie. Google was in its very early stages, but whoever thought it would come to be used as a verb? There was no Wikipedia, no Snapchat, no YouTube and no WhatsApp. Neither was there any Spotify, Skype or Facebook. And the list goes on - no Twitter, no Netflix, and no iPads. There was hardly a satnav to be found and no emojis to bring a smile or two. And what about photographs – we used to fill albums, but now a mobile phone can take super photos at the push of a button - and good quality! Talking about the cloud a few years ago and you knew it was threatening rain.

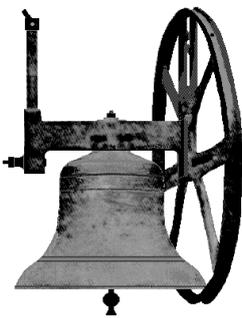
If this kind of change is what a few years can bring, what on earth will it be like in, say, 2050? Many of the people who have resisted technological change will have passed on and every new generation will be tech-savvy.

But let's remember there are some things that never change. Surely you don't need reminding what they are!

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF LETTUCES

- 1 Lettuce be faithful
- 2 Lettuce be kind
- 3 Lettuce be patient
- 4 Lettuce really love one another

THE TOWER



As I announced in the last issue of The Hill, that bellringing would take place in the late morning of Saturday 2 February 2019, the quarter peal, which was to be attempted, was successfully completed after 47 minutes of accurate ringing. This was to be a chance for our youngest ringer to attempt a quarter peal in his home tower. It was later published on Bellboard and in the Ringing world, as follows.



Bulwell, Nottinghamshire

St Mary the Virgin and All Souls

Saturday, 2 February 2019 in 47m (15-3-16 in E)

1260 Stedman Triples

- 1 Corinna England
- 2 Michael A Varney(1st in method)
- 3 Denise Harden
- 4 Derek Butterworth
- 5 Emma Jones
- 6 Matthew Jones
- 7 Peter England (C)
- 8 Gary Harden

Michael started learning to ring about 2 years ago and I am indebted to Peter England, from St Mary's Tower in the Lace Market for the extra training and encouragement he has given to Michael. I listened to the quarter peal, which was a fine performance and I enjoyed it

very much. Well done Michael! That's your first in Bulwell Tower and I am sure it will not be your last.

Michael has since gone on to ring a quarter peal of Cambridge Surprise at Basford and is involving himself in 10 and 12 bell ringing at the city centre churches.

The next Nottingham District meeting will be on Saturday 9 March and will be the District Heat for the Crawford Cup, which is the Southwell and Nottingham Challenge Trophy which is held annually to select the winning tower team.

Bulwell Ringers' Society Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 17 April 2019 and the following week we shall (hopefully) be ringing on Tuesday 23 April to celebrate St George's day.

Robert Naylor – Tower Captain

LOGO INFORMATION



Church of England logo exists to provide a visual identity that all parts of the Church can relate to and 'own'. The Symbol and Namestyle are based on the Christian cross, being distinguished by an encompassing 'e', which implies universality.

The design itself combines the letters 'c' and 'e' (as in the Church of England) but more important is the central positioning of the cross, reflecting the centrality of the cross in the life of the Church. People will also draw other themes from the design. It is open to the world: a universal Church.

ST MARY'S PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISM recently at St Mary's. We remember the parents, god-parents and Shikayla in our prayers.

February 3 Shikayla Brown

FUNERALS We give thanks for the lives of

Enid Barker (Bramcote Crem)

Angela Branford (Northern Cemetery) Daphne Francis' daughter

Gemma Tutin

Elaine Smith (Bramcote Crem)

and remember their loved ones in their grief that they may know the peace of God.

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