



*St Mary's, Shalford*  
Benefice of Shalford and Peasmarsch  
**Weekly Newssheet Lent 3**  
Week of 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Today's Services: please see overleaf

**The Week Ahead @ St Mary's**

**Every Weekday: 8.30am Morning Prayer**

**Monday** 9.30-11am Parent & Toddler group

12 noon onwards: Lent Lunch in St Mary's

12.30-1.30 *Ruth in Lent*: Lent Group

8-9.30pm Bell ringing practice

**Tuesday** 6.30-8pm Shalford Guides in churchyard

**Wednesday**: 10.30-12 3Cs café in St Mary's

**Thursday**: 6-7pm St Mary's Choir practice (not 4<sup>th</sup>)

**Friday**: Funeral of Ken Wills at Gfd Crematorium

**Next Sunday**: 8am HC; 10am Mothering Sunday



**Notices**

**Coronavirus** - please see separate sheet for latest guidelines.

**'Parish Prayers for You'** - with some in our care homes, and individually at home, potentially feeling unable to be visited or to meet with others, I'd like to put together a little 'booklet' drawn from contributions of your favourite/most meaningful prayers or short passages of scripture which you think would support you or others if stuck at home or coming into church during the week. Please drop (short) prayers or scripture passages as note into Suggestions Box in St Mary's through this coming week, or email me (Sarah).

**Jigsaw Puzzles Plea....** - if you have a jigsaw puzzle, any shape or size tucked away at home, we would appreciate it if you donated it for St Mary's jigsaw puzzle day on 9<sup>th</sup> May. We have several enthusiastic people in the congregation using their spare time to complete a jigsaw. Please chat to Sheila or Naomi.

**Passiontide Pottery Exhibition:** one weekend only, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> April, come and see pieces by our very own St Mary's clay artists - Thierry (bell-ringer) and Sally (churchwarden, bells and more!). An exciting first arts exhibition in St Mary's - please spread the word. Free entry!

**Archbishop Justin's visit postponed** - the 3 day visit this coming week of the Archbishop of Canterbury has sadly been postponed.

**St Mary's Lent Course: *Ruth in Lent: Exploring faith in ordinary life through the book of Ruth*** - continues this Monday at 12.30pm.

**Holy Week & Easter at St Mary's:** Please see posters and take your flyer with details of services and opportunities for reflection planned at St Mary's and with our friends nearby through this season as we walk with Christ through passion, death and resurrection life. Please take additional flyers and posters and ask others in the village to display these, and give to friends, neighbours and strangers in invitation.

***Imaging the Story: our summer term discipleship course at St Mary's:*** It's exciting to be able to host in St Mary's this wonderful arts & faith 'course' - blending the arts, faith and the biblical story, and creative art-making. Do sign-up and invite others of all ages - no artistic prowess or biblical knowledge needed! *Imaging the Story*, will run on 8 Thursday evening sessions from late April, led by 2 visiting priests and authors of the course book (see sample book on church table) with Rev Sarah as little helper. See poster in church for details.

**Wall & History Displays & Churchyard Wall:** Do look at the displays before they come down later this week. The Parish Council's presentation morning in St Mary's on the wall works went very well. Works on the wall's restoration may still start to schedule late April. Tenders are in and PC approving soon - the works may cost less than half that expected, so it is very good news all round.

**Eco church:** We are starting our journey towards achieving 'Eco Church' bronze award, as we seek to care better for God's creation. This will include developing a wildlife area in the churchyard in collaboration with Shalford Guides who will be coming to survey the churchyard area this Tuesday evening.

**St Mary's PCC & other opportunities:** with our APCM approaching in April, there are opportunities for new members to join our PCC, and many other opportunities to serve the church in other roles too. If you are interested, please let Rev Sarah know.

***St Mary's & St Michael's Church Contacts:***

Vicar: Rev Sarah Lloyd – 01483 565012 vicar.shalford@icloud.com  
Churchwarden - Sally Schupke - sally\_schupke@stmary-shalford.org.uk  
Parish Administrator: Ellen Hallam Parish office: 571646 admin@stmary-shalford.org.uk

**New St Mary's Parish Website: [www.stmarysshalford.com](http://www.stmarysshalford.com)**

Follow us on Facebook: @StMarysShalford

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**Today's Services: Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020**  
**8am: Holy Communion    10am: Parish Communion**  
*A warm welcome to our worship together today.*

**Today's Collect:**

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us,  
and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**First Reading: Romans 5.1-11:** Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we<sup>\*</sup> have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,<sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access<sup>\*</sup> to this grace in which we stand; and we<sup>\*</sup> boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.<sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we<sup>\*</sup> also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,<sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,<sup>5</sup> and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. <sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.<sup>\*</sup> <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**Gospel Reading: John 4.5-42:** So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. <sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. <sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)<sup>\*</sup> <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' <sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?' <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' <sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,<sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' <sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

16 Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.'<sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband";<sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!'<sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet.'<sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you<sup>\*</sup> say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.'<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.'<sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.'<sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.'<sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.'<sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.'<sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, 'I am he,<sup>\*</sup> the one who is speaking to you.'

27 Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?'<sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,<sup>29</sup> 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah,<sup>\*</sup> can he?'<sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him.

31 Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.'<sup>32</sup> But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.'<sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?'<sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.'<sup>35</sup> Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.'<sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving<sup>\*</sup> wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.'<sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps."<sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

39 Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.'<sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days.<sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word.'<sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

### **Post Communion Prayer:**

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:  
keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls;  
that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body,  
and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.