

NEWS LETTER

of St. Mary Bromley

9th January 2025

First Sunday after Epiphany - Baptism of Christ

“a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’”

Jesus really surprised John by coming to him to be baptised, after all he was not a sinner, but he is God’s son, and ultimately our brother by adoption, so Jesus is the first of an infinitely large family of God’s beloved children. We who are baptised are all members of God’s family and like him are called to bring proclaim God’s Kingdom of love and service. The voice from heaven both affirms Jesus and confirms him in his mission and ministry. To those who heard God speak and saw the Spirit like a dove descending on him, this was a sign showing them, and now us just who Jesus is.

All Age Family Communion



It’s an All Age Family Communion service on Sunday 12th January at 10.30 a.m.
All families welcome.

Cleaning Party - Saturday 11th January, 10am -12pm.

Good news! The scaffolding in the church has been removed! This presents us with the task of dusting and cleaning the area where it stood ready for the choir stalls to be usable again. Any volunteers to do this between 10am and noon on Saturday would be most welcome.

Evening Study Group – Tuesday 14th January, 8pm – 9pm



Evening Study Group meets next on Tuesday 14 January from 8pm to 9pm via Zoom to continue discussing Paula Gooder's *Women of the Nativity*. All welcome, for further details and joining instructions please speak to Peter Boyden.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – 18th - 25th January.

Next week is Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. As we celebrate this year it is also 1,700 years since the Council of Nicaea, the worship materials we can download has as their focus, the Nicene Creed. Reflecting this, the scripture readings for this year focus on belief in particular John 11:17-27.

When Jesus and Martha were speaking “Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’ She said to him, ‘Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.’”

Churches Together in Central Bromley: United Service - Sunday 19th January, 6pm



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity United Service at The Salvation Army in Ethelbert Road BR1 1HU. All Welcome.

PCC Meeting – Monday 20th January, 7pm.

If you have items for the January PCC Agenda, please tell the Vicar or one of the Church wardens.

A Message From the Safeguarding Team

The resignation of the Archbishop Justin Welby comes as a response to failures in safeguarding during his time as Archbishop of Canterbury. It highlights our collective responsibility for the safety and safeguarding of us all.

At such a painful time, our thoughts and prayers are with survivors and all whose lives have been impacted by the abuse, inadequate responses to disclosures and institutional failings. During this time of uncertainty, we also pray for healing and grace for all those affected and hope that this moment will open opportunities for renewal and a safer Church.

Here at St Mary's, we recognise that no one individual is responsible for a safe culture in church, it is a shared responsibility and the responsibility of us all. We know we have a designated Safeguarding Officer and a Safeguarding Team, a PCC and a ministry team all working together to promote a safe environment in our church.

Lisa Morris is our Safeguarding Officer, and she, along with our Safeguarding and Health and Safety Team, is responsible for making sure that everyone involved in the mission and ministry of St Mary's has appropriate training. The team ensures that everyone recruited to any leadership position of trust has proper references and checks.

We want to make it as easy as possible for people to access support and help. There are information posters in the toilets and on noticeboards, as well as information on our website. If you have a concern or query, you can speak to Lisa or any member of the team or, of course, to Eucharika and any one of those responsible for ministry at St Mary's.

For further information about Safeguarding at St Mary's please visit the website <https://www.stmarys-bromley.org.uk/> where you will find our Safeguarding Policy and contact details for our Parish Safeguarding Officer. If you have any questions about any of this, please do contact Lisa or any one of our team. Thank you.

Thank you

Thank You What a wonderful card you all have signed with heart felt thoughts and wishes we have found this extremely touching, what a wonderful Church family we are!!

Bless You All with love and thoughts to each one of you, see you soon. John and Doreen Xxx

Grace Café



We meet in the church building on Wednesdays between 10am to 12noon for coffee, cake and fellowship. You will be most welcome to join the volunteers who host the Grace Cafe. There is a sign up sheet in the church if you would like to help.

Parish Magazine

The deadline for articles to be sent to the editor is the 17th February 2025.

Food Bank



Please remember that Bromley Food Bank and the Starter Packs Project at Sts Peter and Paul (the Parish Church) are always in need of supplies.

Contact Details – Rev Eucharika Asiegbo

Rev Eucharika Asiegbo

Email: Vicarstmarysbromley@gmail.com

Mobile number: 07917 169972

Vicarage's new land line number: 020 3612 0110

Day off: Fridays

In case of emergency on Fridays, please contact Rev'd Alison or the Church Wardens Maria or Clem.

Prayer

A Prayer for the week

Heavenly Father,
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:
may we recognize him as our Lord
and know ourselves to be your beloved
children;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

Requests for Prayer Weekly

Olive Richard
(Barbara B cousin)
Andrew
Carolyn
(friend of Alison)
Patricia
Debi and her family
Bridget
(friend of Lynda)
Tony
John S
John E
Luci N
Stuart (Sylvia's family
member)
Tom (friend of Sylvia)

Monthly Week 2

John E
Shelagh F
Richard H



If you have a need for prayer for things, please contact the Pastoral Team via Anthia Page
email anthiapage@gmail.com.

Worship, Prayer and Fellowship

Our service on Sundays are Live Streamed. See <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysbromley/>

At our 10.30am - All Age Family Communion - 12th January 2025 - Epiphany 1, Baptism of Christ

Readings

Acts 8: 14-17, Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

Hymns

49 Awake, awake fling off the night
83 Christ's is the world
193 Hail to the Lord's anointed
296 Let all the world

Hymns and Readings Rota

Please give your availability to Atlanta for reading and leading Intercessions, so we can fill in the Rota with confidence.

Please can contributions for the Newsletter now be given to Atlanta Topham by 5pm on a Tuesdays