

## Dates for November

Sun. 1 November 4pm. Annual Memorial Service - to remember those we love but no longer see

Sun. 8 November Remembrance Sunday



## 2021

Have you got your 2021 calendar yet? This year we will be selling our own 'St Mary's calendars' to raise money for the Future Generations project. Coming soon!

## Friends of St Mary's

The Friends of St Mary's AGM was due to be held in May followed by the normal Choral Evensong and refreshments but, like all our 'face-to-face' events, it had to be cancelled. Instead we held an electronic AGM on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September. I am delighted to confirm that the Minutes and the Annual General Report & Accounts for 2019 were approved, the President and Vice-Presidents, Honorary Officers and the Committee elected, and the Independent Examiner appointed. My congratulations and thanks to all those who have agreed to stand for office for the forthcoming year. We are planning to hold a Committee meeting in the next couple of weeks and to arrange some virtual events which we hope you will feel able to support and enjoy – so please 'watch this space'!

Julie Fox: [foxsearch@btinternet.com](mailto:foxsearch@btinternet.com)

## Traidcraft

There will be no more sales in church for the foreseeable future. If you would like to place an order please look through a catalogue in the south porch (or at [www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/traidcraft-catalogue](http://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/traidcraft-catalogue)) and contact Cecilia Willatt on 020 8313 0246.

## Monthly News Sheet

We are again producing a monthly news sheet to complement and expand on the information in the weekly pew paper and in SPAN. Contributions and ideas are welcome at any time and items for the November news sheet are needed by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. Thank you. Kate Buchanan [kateinww@btinternet.com](mailto:kateinww@btinternet.com)

# St Mary's Shortlands

## News Sheet for October 2020

## Sunday services

8.00am Holy Communion – *live streamed only*

10.30am **Family Communion** *in Church but also live streamed* - with Junior Church in the Hall. Please note that you can also take part in the service from the marquee or from the Millennium Chapel.

## Special services this month

### Sunday 11th October



10.30am **Harvest Festival**

Donations of packaged food (not fresh) will be welcomed, and also gifts of supermarket vouchers. The offerings will be passed on to Bromley Foodbank.



### Sunday 18th October

6.30pm **Informal Worship - Hallelujah Anyhow!** – *in Church* - led by the Music Group. An evening of praise to celebrate worshipping together again while reflecting on the challenges we have faced over the last few months

## Services during the week

### Monday to Saturday

9.00am **Morning Prayer** – *live streamed*

### Wednesday (from 7<sup>th</sup> October)

10.30am **Holy Communion** in Church

The Church is open for **private prayer and reflection** from 10am to 3pm on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

## Welcome to Beverley

At our service on 27<sup>th</sup> September we were delighted to welcome the Revd Beverley Ejimofa who will serve as Curate at St Mary's for the next 3 to 4 years. Beverley was ordained as Deacon by Bishop James in Rochester Cathedral the previous day, then formally welcomed to St Mary's using an official Church of England rite. As part of this she was presented with symbols of the distinctive role that she has been called to within the Church, in teaching, pastoral and sacramental ministry.



Beverley was born in Cardiff and trained initially as a nurse before working as a consultant for training and leadership development. Most recently she has been involved in helping people into employment, particularly enabling vulnerable adults and young people who have never gained qualifications. Beverley is married to Chidi, a doctor in emergency medicine, and they have three daughters in their early 20s, Chantelle, Chioma and Tochi. The family live in Bromley and have been members of St Mark's Church.

We look forward to having Beverley in our midst and working with her as we seek to move forward in the mission to which God has called us all.

## Mission beyond the Parish 2021

Do you have a charity which is close to your heart that you would like our church to support? The congregation of St Mary's supports twelve charities each year – local, national and international. Most charities are nominated by members of the congregation, who commit to being the liaison person with the charity. Some charities are supported on an annual basis, others every few years, and some on a one-off basis.

Normally we have an open meeting in October to discuss and select the charities for the following year. We often receive too many nominations so some might be deferred to the next year. As we may not be able to hold an open meeting this year, Rev Gary and Susie Shelton (Chair of Mission beyond the Parish) have agreed to meet to decide the way forward. Please send details of your chosen charity to the Parish Office by Friday 30 October, with your contact details and a brief description of the work of the charity. If you have any queries, please contact Susie Shelton (020 8402 3299): [susannashelton@toysafe.co.uk](mailto:susannashelton@toysafe.co.uk)

## Future Generations Project

The Project team have continued their research to prepare detailed proposals on plans to upgrade the heating system and make the church a more flexible space. This has included work on options for flooring and for movable seating. Information gathered will be shared with the congregation, providing further opportunities for discussion once the restrictions on meetings allow.

In recent weeks the team have been looking into how St Mary's might make greater use of audio-visual facilities in church. Having two cameras in the nave would enable us to stream services more effectively so that they can be shared by people not able to be in church. The equipment being considered could be linked with the existing hearing loop and sound systems. Some outline details will be discussed at the APCM on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October.

We continue to hold the Future Generations Project in our prayers as we seek to understand what God is asking us to do here in Shortlands. If you have any feedback or questions on any of the proposals please email [futuregenerations@stmaryshortlands.church](mailto:futuregenerations@stmaryshortlands.church)

## Junior Church

It's good to see children from our Junior Church back in church again, with several singing in the choir. Each Sunday they are given a resource box with some activities relating to a Bible reading for the day. We are now experimenting with taking the children into the hall for part of the service, so that they can talk about the topic for the day and do some individual activities. For more information please contact Jo Eade, [joanna.eade@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:joanna.eade@hotmail.co.uk)

## Craft and Chatter



The Craft & Chatter production team is still up and running! Although we are unable to have another stall in church at the moment, our 'shop' is still open. We hope to be able to display some samples of our items, in church or on the website soon. For sales of existing stock or orders, especially for Christmas, please contact Jan Boam (020 8460 7101) [jan.boam@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jan.boam@hotmail.co.uk)