

# Welcome to St. Mary's, the Parish Church of Shortlands

St. Mary's, Shortlands endeavours to bring the love of God into the everyday lives of the people of Shortlands.



We have a hearing loop system in the Church: members of the congregation with hearing aids should switch to 'T' for better reception.

## 2 May Fifth Sunday of Easter

### Services Today

<b>10.30am</b>	<p><b>Holy Communion</b> - Reverend Gary Best  <b>Sermon Series</b> - Five Marks of Mission  <b>Address:</b> David Jefferys LLM  <b>The Old Testament reading will be:</b>          1 Chronicles 16: 23-29 read by David Jefferys LLM  <b>The Epistle reading will be:</b>          Romans 10:14-21 read by Gill Dawson  <b>Intercessions:</b> Peter Stotesbury  <b>Gospel:</b> Reverend Gary Best</p>
<b>11.45am</b>	<p><b>APCM</b> - Copies of the Annual Report are available through the St. Mary's website, with copies available in church.</p>

### Services and Events this week

<b>Mon 3 May</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b> - live streamed only
<b>Tue 4 May</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b> - live streamed only
<b>Wed 5 May</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b> - live streamed only
	<b>8.30pm</b>	<b>Compline</b> - live streamed only
<b>Thu 6 May</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b> - live streamed only
<b>Fri 7 May</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b> - live streamed only
<b>Sat 8 May</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b> - live streamed only

### Sixth Sunday of Easter

<b>Sunday 9 May</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> - Reverend Gary Best
	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Informal Service</b> with the Music Group

**Wednesday Holy Communion resumes on 19<sup>th</sup> May, at 10am.**  
**The service will be held in the Millennium Chapel.**

# Fifth Sunday of Easter

## Collect

Almighty God,  
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus  
Christ  
have overcome death and opened to us the gate  
of everlasting life:  
grant that, as by your grace going before us  
you put into our minds good desires,  
so by your continual help  
we may bring them to good effect;  
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## The Five Marks of Mission

1. To Proclaim the Good News of The Kingdom

## Old Testament reading

### 1 Chronicles 16: 23-29

Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Tell of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvellous works among all the peoples.  
For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;  
he is to be revered above all gods.

For all the gods of the peoples are idols,  
but the Lord made the heavens.

Honor and majesty are before him;  
strength and joy are in his place.

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;  
bring an offering, and come before him.

Worship the Lord in holy splendour.

## Epistle

### Romans 10:14-21

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" But not all have obeyed the good news; for Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard

comes through the word of Christ. But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have; for "Their voice has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world." Again I ask, did Israel not understand? First Moses says, "I will make you jealous of those who are not a nation; with a foolish nation I will make you angry." Then Isaiah is so bold as to say, "I have been found by those who did not seek me; I have shown myself to those who did not ask for me." But of Israel he says, "All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and contrary people."

## Gospel

### Matthew 28: 16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

## Post Communion

Eternal God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth,  
and the life:  
grant us to walk in his way,  
to rejoice in his truth,  
and to share his risen life;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Our Mission of the Month for May is:

## Christian Aid

There is a display at the back of the Church.  
Five per cent of our giving will support the work of  
this mission, and additional gifts may be given  
through the plate by the display.



**Please remember in your prayers this week...**

#### The Church ...

##### **Rochester Archdeaconry .**

The Venerable Andy Wooding Jones,  
Archdeacon

##### **Stone, St Mary Rector:**

The Rev Kenneth Clark

##### **Swanley, St Mary the Virgin**

Vicar: The Rev Dane Batley-Gladden

##### **Swanley, St Paul, and Hextable, St Peter**

Vicar: The Rev Johnny Douglas

##### **Wilmington, St Michael and All Angels**

Vicar: The Rev Carl Chambers

##### **Gillingham, Holy Trinity**

Vicar: The Rev Mike Nelson

##### **Gillingham, St Augustine**

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev Amanda Maskell

#### The World ...

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy.  
Sustain and support the anxious,  
be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may find comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from  
your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### **Christian Aid Week Sponsored Walk**

A group from St Mary's will be joining others in a sponsored walk around the Beckenham churches on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May to raise funds for Christian Aid. Like other charities, Christian Aid is under increasing pressure to fund its life-changing work especially when house to house collections are more difficult. Please donate if you are able, either using the sponsorship form at the back of church or via the Just Giving page. If you would like to join the walkers please speak to Ann-Marie Jefferys or Rachel Tillotson.

#### The Community ...

**For** the Area Dean, Reverend Jeremy Blunden Lay Chair of Synod, Sarah Poole, and the Beckenham Deanery Clergy.

**For** our Member of Parliament, Bob Stewart, our Local Councillors, Mary Cooke and Aisha Cuthbert, and the Shortlands Residents' Association.

**For** the Reverend Gary Best and his family. For the Parochial Church Council.

**For** the witness of St. Mary's in the community, the outreach through SPAN, the editors and production team.

**For** the work of Mothers' Union Worldwide & St. Mary's Fellowship group. The Toddler Group, Julie Runicles, and all who assist.

**For** the many youth organisations, and our engagement with young people in the community. For our Junior Church Co-ordinator, Jo Eade.

**For** residents and staff of Durham House, Franklin House and Merlin Court.

#### The Sick ...

**For** all who are unwell, including **Margaret McCann; Sally Aldred; Melanie Jones; Joan Austen; Paul Corben; Ann Gramlich; Gill Humar; Ron Nowell; Gwilym Davies.**

**For** all those who bring their prayers to our Church.

#### The Departed ...

**For** those who have recently died, including Richard Wood and all who mourn.

**We** also remember those whose anniversaries we keep this week at this time: Joan Dutton; Peter Duncan; Olive Brant; Andrew Ballentyne; Nancie Dalton; John Greenwood; Ronald Rankin; Irma Shivanathan.

**If you would like to have flowers in church at any time, in memory of a loved-one, please contact Cecilia on 020 8313 0246 .**



# NOTICES

## Church will be open for private prayer on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 10am - 3pm.

- ◆ **Parish Picnic** is now happening on 11 July! Get ready for fun in the sunshine.
- ◆ **Cake Sale.** We are organising a Cake Sale in aid of Christian Aid at the Plant Swap/ Sale here at St Mary's on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May (10am to 12noon) and then after the service on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Any donations of large or small cakes or biscuits will be gratefully received. Please speak to Elizabeth Barnes if you are able to help.
- ◆ **3 Marathons in 3 Weeks** is what the ambitious Tim Dawson (Treasurer) will be undertaking for charity to celebrate his 70th birthday. Tim is running for three charitable causes, including the Organ Fund as well as raising funds for the community café, which will be starting at St. Mary's in May. Sponsor forms are available at the back of the church.
- ◆ **If you have the time** to help with the launch of the Community Café from 19th May, please let Jay Sharma know your contact details - jay@joelkibazo.com, or phone 07900 971 867.
- ◆ **A new home group** is starting up from 12 May @ 8pm, co-led by Hazel, Glo and Sue Slaney. We will initially meet on Zoom and hope to gather together in our homes (or in the Chapel) on a fortnightly basis for fellowship and study as soon as we are permitted to do so. For the first few weeks we will be looking at: "Where is God in a Coronavirus World?" If you would like to join us, please send an email to the Church office and we will send you the link.

### "Hearts on Fire"

The Music Group will be leading a live informal service at 6.30pm on Sunday 9 May.

Thank you to all of our donors for your amazing support,  
The following items are in need at present:

**Tinned Tomatoes; Cold Meat; Desserts; Tinned Soup; Tinned Fish; Tinned Rice Pudding; Biscuits; Washing Up Liquid; Washing Detergent Capsules; Toilet Rolls.**

**All donations of long life and in date food gratefully received.** Financial donations by cheque or direct debit only please.

A reminder that we **CANNOT** receive fresh goods; chilled or frozen goods or baby milk.

For information please contact Vici Nightingale.



### Pastoral, Practical and Spiritual Support

At this time of heightened anxiety over the local and national covid situation, St. Mary's Church is here to help in whatever way we can, offering pastoral, practical or spiritual support to anyone who might be in need.

We can arrange for regular telephone calls to be made to individuals, along with assistance with essential shopping. It may be that you would like the church to be praying for you or for friends and family, please let us know.

Whatever support can be provided, the team at St. Mary's will do our very best to help during these challenging times.

Please contact Revd Gary Best -  
07493 072 695 - or visit:

[www.stmarysshortlands.org.uk](http://www.stmarysshortlands.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/stmarysshortlands](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysshortlands)

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### Parish Office

Open 9.30am-12.30pm

[office@stmarysshortlands.church](mailto:office@stmarysshortlands.church)

Tel: 020 8460 5682

**Revd. Gary Best** (*day off FRIDAY*)

[vicar@stmarysshortlands.church](mailto:vicar@stmarysshortlands.church)

Vicarage office tel: 020 8460 0262

#### Website

[www.stmarysshortlands.org.uk](http://www.stmarysshortlands.org.uk)