



Welcome to

St. Mary's Shortlands

Second Sunday before Advent

16th November 2025

Today

10.30am Holy Communion
Celebrant: Rev. Jane Peters
Preaching: Rev. Dave Edmondson
Reading: Liam Conlon MP
Intercessions: Craig Myers

This week

Tue 18 Nov 10.00am - 12 noon - Craft and Chatter
Wed 19 Nov **10.00am - Holy Communion in the Chapel**
10.30am - 12.30pm - Community Café
Thur 20 Nov 9.30am & 12.30pm - Baby and Toddler sessions
7.00pm - Junior choir practice
7.30pm - Adult choir practice

Junior Church

Takes place in the hall during the morning service. All children of all ages are very welcome.

Nov: 16th, 23rd, 30th

Dec: 7th, 14th, 21st

Today we are celebrating 70 years of St Mary's

We will be thanking God for all he has done and also raising a glass and sharing some cake after the service. All are welcome.

Christmas Fair: Saturday 22nd Nov 2-4pm in church and grounds.

Donations are requested of bottles, soft toys, gifts, bric-a-brac, books & puzzles. Please also donate items for the raffle.

Items may be brought to the Parish Office Mon – Fri 10am-12 noon
Plants and home-made cakes would also be very welcome, but please bring these on the morning of the Fair. Do mark the date on your calendar and come and join in the fun!

Sidespeople Christmas: please speak to or email Rev. Dave or Glo Sherman if you would like to be part of the sides people team over Christmas and help the fantastic team of sidespeople.

Readings

Collect

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Gospel reading: Luke 21:5-19

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, 'As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.'

They asked him, 'Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?' And he said, 'Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and, "The time is near!" Do not go after them. 'When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. 'But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or

contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

Post-Communion Prayer

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Hymns

571	Soldiers of Christ arise
423	Fight the good fight
467	How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
Comm: 284	Bread of heaven
Anthem:	Lord I trust thee -Handel
556	Praise the Lord ye heavens adore him

Please remember in your prayers this week...

The Community...

For the daily reading of God's word. All Bible Societies, Homegroups and their Leaders.

The World ...

Pray for those affected by and for all suffering from the effects of climate change and natural disasters.

The Sick ...

For those who are recently unwell, including Bob Norfolk-Thompson, Kathleen Duncan, Bob Friday and Eileen Abbam. We continue to pray for Matthew Swatton, Sally Aldred, Graham Smedley, Angela Ash, and for those who seek our support by bringing these prayers to our church.

The Departed ...

We pray for everyone grieving the loss of loved ones. We remember those whose anniversaries we keep this week: Reg Webber, Jean Luckhurst, Robert Smith, Leslie Ellis and Mike Sherman.

Our Mission of the Month (MOM) for November is The Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI)

There is a display at the back of the church. Each MOM receives equal donations from the church and donations from individuals.

BIG advent clean up 29 Nov 10am-2pm in the church: Free soup lunch (with perhaps a cake or two.). Bring your favourite dusting cloth.

NOTICES

- **Christmas Toys for Children in Penge:** The Salvation Army in Penge are appealing for unwrapped new or very good quality second hand toys. Ages required, 0-16yrs and particularly for boys aged 10-14yrs. Please leave toys in the labelled collection box at the back of the church until 28th Nov.
- **Confirmation:** Laura Van Tankeren and Freya Myers (from St Mary's) are being confirmed today at St Pauls Beckenham at 4pm. Please pray for them, all are invited to the service.
- **Order professionally printed Christmas Cards** designed by the winners of our Christmas Card design contest. £5 for a pack of 5 with A6 size envelopes. Please return the slip on the notice board to the church house post box or email Rev. Dave by today.
- **Advent** four-week course meets in the chapel on Tuesday 25th November (8–9.30pm) and Wednesday 26th November (11.30am–12.30pm), and online via Zoom from Monday 24th November (7.30pm). Sign up in church for in-person sessions, or for zoom email Ann-Marie at annmarie.jefferys@btinternet.com.
- **8am service:** We are discerning if there is a need for restarting regular 8am said Holy Communion service on Sundays. If you or someone you know would like to come to this service please take a letter from the back or a form on the noticeboard and return in before the 23rd November

**Please use this QR code to
make a donation to St Mary's.
Thank you.**



**Donations for Bromley Foodbank
can be left in the church porch.**

Items most needed are: Tinned ham,
chocolates/selection boxes, mince
pies, Christmas pudding, biscuits,
savoury items (e.g. crisps) Christmas
cake, yule log and crackers.

Parish Office

Open 10am–12noon
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