

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



24 January Third Sunday of Epiphany

Services Today

10.30am	Holy Communion - online only - Reverend Gary Best Address: Reverend Gary Best The New Testament reading will be: Revelation 19:6-10 read by Gill Dawson Intercessions: Revd Gary Best Gospel: Reverend Gary Best
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Services and Events this week

Mon 25 Jan	9.00am 11.45am	Morning Prayer - live streamed only Funeral of Barbara Skinner
Tue 26 Jan	9.00am	Morning Prayer - live streamed only
Wed 27 Jan	9.00am	Morning Prayer - live streamed only
Thu 28 Jan	9.00am	Morning Prayer - live streamed only
Fri 29 Jan	9.00am	Morning Prayer - live streamed only
Sat 30 Jan	9.00am	Morning Prayer - live streamed only

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Sunday 31 January	10.30am	Holy Communion - online only - Reverend Gary Best
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IMPORTANT NOTICE

With immediate effect, there is a temporary suspension of communal church services at St. Mary's. This decision has not been taken lightly, but with the serious increase of national and local covid cases, we believe it is the right decision in consideration of the health, safety and welfare of everyone who might attend church services.

This decision will be reviewed on a regular basis.

The church will remain open for private prayer on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, 10am-3pm.

All church services will be streamed online, with a Holy Communion Service on Sundays at 10.30am, available through our website or our Facebook page.

Third Sunday of Epiphany

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and
miracles
the wonder of your saving presence:
renew your people with your heavenly
grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your mighty power;
through Jesus Christ your Son our
Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

New Testament Reading

Revelation 19:6-10

Then I heard what seemed to be the
voice of a great multitude, like the sound
of many waters and like the sound of
mighty thunderpeals, crying out,

"Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God

the Almighty reigns.

Let us rejoice and exult

and give him the glory,

for the marriage of the Lamb has come,

and his bride has made herself ready;

to her it has been granted to be clothed
with fine linen, bright and pure"—

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds
of the saints.

And the angel said to me, "Write this:

Blessed are those who are invited to the
marriage supper of the Lamb." And he

said to me, "These are true words of
God." Then I fell down at his feet to

worship him, but he said to me, "You

must not do that! I am a fellow servant
with you and your comrades who hold

the testimony of Jesus. Worship God!
For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of
prophecy."

Gospel

John 2:1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in
Cana of Galilee, and the mother of
Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples
had also been invited to the wedding.
When the wine gave out, the mother of
Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."
And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what
concern is that to you and to me? My
hour has not yet come." His mother said
to the servants, "Do whatever he tells
you." Now standing there were six stone
water jars for the Jewish rites of
purification, each holding twenty or thirty
gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars
with water." And they filled them up to
the brim. He said to them, "Now draw
some out, and take it to the chief
steward." So they took it. When the
steward tasted the water that had
become wine, and did not know where it
came from (though the servants who
had drawn the water knew), the steward
called the bridegroom and said to him,
"Everyone serves the good wine first,
and then the inferior wine after the
guests have become drunk. But you
have kept the good wine until now."
Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in
Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory;
and his disciples believed in him.

Post Communion

Almighty Father,
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is
the light of the world:
may your people, illumined by your
word and sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory,
that he may be known, worshipped,
and obeyed
to the ends of the earth;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for
ever.

Morning Prayer

If you would like to participate in leading Morning Prayer on a one-off
or regular basis, please contact Revd Gary to discuss further.

Please remember in your prayers this week...

The Church ...

Strood deanery. The Rev Sharon Copestake, Area Dean; Mr Ken Reynolds, Lay Chair
Southborough, Christ Church. Rector: The Rev Nick Cornell
Southborough, St Thomas. Priest-in-Charge: The Rev Rachael Wilson
Speldhurst, St Mary the Virgin, with Groombridge, St John the Evangelist, and Ashurst, St Martin of Tours. Rector: The Rev Douglas Wren
Tunbridge Wells, Christ Church. Vicar: The Rev Tim Humphrey
Tunbridge Wells, St Barnabas. Vicar: The Rev John Caster
Tunbridge Wells, King Charles the Martyr. Vicar: The Rev Laurence Powell

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.

Our Mission of the Month for January is:

The Leprosy Mission

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.

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

The Community ...

For Welcare in Bromley
For the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides.
The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.
For Bromley Churches' Housing Association,
and for all homeless people and asylum seekers.
For family life, those facing stress, unemployment
and retirement. For single parents and the
bereaved.
For the Dean and Cathedral staff of Rochester.
For former members of St. Mary's now living
elsewhere.
For the SOS Children's Village in Bethlehem.

The Sick ...

For all who are unwell, including Jean Osbourne;
Sally Aldred; Melanie Jones; Joan Austen; Paul
Corben; Ann Gramlich; Gill Humar.
For all those who bring their prayers to our
Church.

The Departed ...

For those who have recently died including
Barbara Skinner; Mike Ring; and all who mourn.
We also remember those whose anniversaries we
keep this week at this time: Patricia Grey; Derek
Smith; Dorothy Walker; Harry Mellon; Pamela
Tindall; Ivor Pattison; Charles Shaddick.



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
www.facebook.com/stmarysshortlands

NOTICES

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

◆ **THE CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED FOR PRIVATE PRAYER ON MONDAY 25TH JANUARY.**

Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

◆ **Do you have a laptop you no longer need?** The Rotary Club of Beckenham is seeking to provide local primary schools with laptops for its disadvantaged children. Donated laptops have their memories wiped, defective parts replaced and surfaces cleaned before Windows 10 Education is loaded and they are delivered to schools. Anything with Windows 8 operating system would be welcome. Please contact Peter on 07757 058929 for more information

◆ **Traidcraft** - If you wish to make an order from Traidcraft please contact Cecilia on 0208 313 0246 or (07511) 885 941. She can deliver you a catalogue, or you can visit the Traidcraft website, and then give her your order. Traidcraft is carrying on its vital work supporting some of the most vulnerable producers around the world. Some catalogues shall also be left in church.

AMAZON SMILE—If you are shopping on Amazon you can now donate to St Mary's by using Amazon Smile. Go into Amazon on www.smile.amazon.co.uk and search for "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary Shortlands". The church will receive 0.5% on eligible purchases at no extra cost to you. The direct link is <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1130802-0>

Thank you to all of our donors for your amazing support, especially in this current situation.



The following items are in particular need at present:

TINNED VEGETABLES (particularly CARROTS); LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE (URGENT); UHT MILK (URGENT); DESSERTS; COLD MEAT; SHAVING GEL/RAZORS

A reminder that we cannot receive fresh or chilled goods - **ONLY LONG LIFE FOOD.**

For information please contact Vici Nightingale.



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers



Stay in touch!



To keep up with the latest news from St Mary's, you can 'like' our page on Facebook or follow us on Twitter - search for '**St Mary's Shortlands**'.

If you're not sure how to do it, ask in the office and they'll put you in touch with someone who can give you an introduction to 'social media'.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Website

www.stmarysshortlands.org.uk

Parish Office

CLOSED

office@stmarysshortlands.church

Tel: Please call the Vicarage office

Rev. Gary Best (day off MONDAY)

vicar@stmarysshortlands.church
Vicarage office tel: 020 8460 0262

Curate - Rev. Beverley Ejimofe (Working days Tue, Wed and Sun)

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Tel: 0772 621 7571