



St Mary's Shortlands

News Sheet for

September 2021

Please take a copy of this News Sheet home with you

Our Sunday services are streamed for those who are unable to attend in person. Morning prayer and compline are only available online.

Please go to www.facebook.com/stmarysshortlands or follow the link on our website www.stmarysshortlands.org.uk.

Sunday worship in church

Sunday 10.30am Holy Communion *with Junior Church*
followed by refreshments at the back of church

Sunday 19th September

10.30am Sermon Slot – Conrad Kader, Street Pastors

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Also

Sunday 12th September

4.00-5.30pm Tea Time Together *for families with children of all ages*

Weekday services

Services in the Millennium Chapel (not streamed)

Tuesday 5pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 10am Holy Communion

Services that are live-streamed only

Monday to Saturday, 9am Morning Prayer

Wednesday, 8.30pm Compline

The Church is open every day for private prayer and reflection.
10am-2pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday (Chapel),
Friday & Saturday; 10am-12noon on Tuesday.

Getting Back to Normal

Following the easing of the Government's COVID restrictions, St Mary's is cautiously moving back to more normal arrangements for services. We still encourage everyone to wear a face covering when coming into the church, but coverings can be removed when seated. All the pews are now available for use and there are additional seats laid out at the back of church and in the side aisles. We ask that you allow some distance from other people when seated and are considerate of other people's wishes to retain spacing.

From the start of September we will be providing refreshments after the 10.30 service, served from the kitchen area at the back of church. Bear with us as we experiment with rearranging the chairs, as we try to create a reasonable space for people to meet and greet others after services.

Junior Church

The Junior Church will be meeting during services as from Sunday 5th September. All ages will be up in the hall together for games at the beginning and end of the session, but will split into two groups - primary school and secondary school age – for the main activities, still in the hall. During the first few sessions we will be looking together at parts of Genesis.

Tea Time Together

On Sunday 12th September we will be holding our first Tea Time Together, from 4 -5.30pm, for children of all ages. The theme will be Kindness and there will be a story and an interactive song on this theme. We will also have arts and crafts and games. The community cafe will be open for the adults whilst the children have fun! We look forward to seeing you there and please do spread the word to anyone you know who might like to join us.

We have a good team of people but are always looking for more helpers, especially any older children (13+) who would like to help us lead the session. If you would like to help please contact myself at rachel.tillotson@ntlworld.com or speak to Gary as soon as possible.

Choir News

The choir recently had a very successful weekend singing at Bath Abbey and have been invited back in the future. We will be singing at Peterborough Cathedral next July and are hoping to sing Evensong at Canterbury Cathedral in the very near future.

The junior choir are now back and gaining in numbers. I would like to welcome Stas, Anna and Tommy to our ranks and wish Elliott Maurel all the best as he leaves the juniors as Deputy Head Chorister to become a tenor in the adult choir. Thank you too to Lloyd Maurel who has also left the junior choir and for being such a great Head Chorister. Well done to Annabelle Leonard who takes over as Head Chorister and Keira Best who becomes Deputy Head Chorister.

I would also like to thank Rebecca Aldred for everything she has done for the choir since joining at the age of 7. We all wish her the very best of luck as she starts at Nottingham University in a few weeks time. We look forward to seeing her back when she is home for the holidays.

And thank you to all of the Congregation for your support to the choir over this difficult time we have all been having. *Claire Tillotson*

Discussion Group

A Spirituality Discussion Group will be meeting in the chapel on Wednesday evenings starting 15th September. We will be discussing "Falling Forward, a Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life" by Richard Rohr. The group is very informal, but with structure from the leaders and the book, as we discuss how the first half of life's 'successes' and 'failures' prepare us for the second half. All are very welcome. For further information, contact Glo Sherman: 07500 751 265.

Memorial Services

During 2020 and the difficult months of the Covid restrictions, St Mary's sadly lost several members of our church community. We are now able to gather together to remember them and there are a number of memorial services in the coming weeks:

Saturday 11 th September, 2.30pm	Colin Walklin
Saturday 18 th September, 2.30pm	Jacqueline Lewis
Saturday 16 th October, 2.30pm	Jane Green
Friday 29 th October, 2.30pm	Marian Parr

Future Generations Project

Everyone is invited to join us for the Future Generations Open Day, here at St Mary's on Saturday 9th October, 10am – 2pm. The aim of the day is to share our plans to refurbish the church and create space for community events and activities in the church building. There will be various stalls with information about church groups, hall users and other activities around St Mary's, and the community café will be open and serving refreshments during the day. Please join us, and bring others too.

During September the proposals for refurbishing the church building will be displayed in church so that everyone has the chance to consider the plans for heating, flooring and seating at St Mary's. The proposals will then be taken to the PCC to decide on the way forward.

Future Dates

Sun. 12th September 12.30 onwards Fun in the Park – Churches
Together event at Croydon Road Recreation Ground
(Bring a picnic)

Fri. 17th September Rock Choir concert in aid of Welcare at
St Mary's, College Road

Sat. 9th October 10am to 2pm Future Generations Open Day

Sat. 16th October Quiz night for Welcare here at St Mary's

Regular activities at St Mary's

Tuesday, 10am-12noon Craft and Chatter in Church House

Tuesday, from 2pm Mobility Group
(exercise followed by tea and cake)

Wednesday, 11am to 1pm Community Café in the church

Thursdays (term time) Baby and Toddler Group in the Church
9.30 - 11.30am and 12.30 - 2.00pm

For more information on any activities, please contact Nicola in the Parish Office

Please send any items for the next news sheet to Kate Buchanan
kateinww@btinternet.com by Sunday 26th September. Thank you