

Welcome to St. Mary's Shortlands



12th July 2026 – 6th Sunday after Trinity

Today

10.30am Holy Communion with Junior Church

Celebrant: Rev. Dave Edmondson

Preaching: Ann-Marie Jefferys

Reading: Graham Smedley

Intercessions: Glo Sherman

Hymns

516 - Love divine, all love's excelling

515 - Lord thy word abideth

533 - O for a heart to praise my God

Comm: 321 - Rise and hear the Lord is speaking

Anthem: Thou visitest the earth - Greene

267 - Thou whose almighty word

Fair-trade stall after the service

4.00pm Tea Time Together for families with children up to Year 5

6.00pm Youth Club for Years 6 -13

This week

Tue 14 July 10.00am - 12 noon - Craft and Chatter

Wed 15 July 10.00am – Morning Prayer in the chapel

10.30am – 12.30pm – Community Café

Thur 16 July **10.00am – 3.00pm Baby and Toddler Group Summer Party – Toddler service at 11.00am, bring your own picnic**

7.00pm – Junior choir practice

7.30pm – Adult choir practice

Sun 19 July 10.30am - Holy Communion with Junior Church

Collect

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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.

First reading: Genesis 25:19-34

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it is to be this way, why do I live?' So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her, 'Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger.'

When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterwards his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore

them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skilful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, 'Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!' (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.' Esau said, 'I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?' Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Gospel reading: Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23

13.1-9

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell

among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!’

13.18-23

‘Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.’

Post Communion

God of our pilgrimage, you have led us to the living water: refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please remember in your prayers this week...

The Community...

For the care of our Church and hall. Cleaners, gardeners and flower arrangers. That all may be done to the glory of God.

The World ...

For all victims of conflict, oppression and climate change. For family life, those facing stress, unemployment and retirement. For single parents and the bereaved.

The Sick ...

For those who are recently unwell, including Jocelyn Homez, Ian Brentnall, Peggy Duffin, Janice Davis, Sheila Dowling, Christine Perzyna and Robert Barnes. We continue to pray for Eileen Abbam, Sally Aldred, 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: Ellen Glover, Peter Blyth, Margaret Nelms, Paul Baker, Joan Standley, Ruth Jones and Ivy Burton.

Our Mission of the Month (MOM) for July is Demelza

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

At St Mary's we take our safeguarding responsibilities very seriously: we are committed to ensuring our church and hall buildings are safe places for all. If you have any concerns about safeguarding you can contact our Parish Safeguarding Officer Pauline Lambourne on 020 8658 0470 or safeguarding@stmaryshortlands.church

Taketime meditation

10.15am-11am in the Chapel
12th Sept, 10th Oct,
14th Nov & 12th Dec

Fairtrade Dates

July - Sun 12th, Wed 22nd
August – Sun 9th, Wed 26th
Sept – Sun 13th, Wed 23rd

NOTICES

- **Embrace the Middle East**, that was our Mission of the Month in May, is partnering with UK churches in the “Time to Act” campaign, responding to the call of Palestinian Christians for courage, compassion, and action amid ongoing violence and injustice in Israel and Palestine. Church leaders, including the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, have urged Christians to support this campaign and pray and advocate for a just and lasting peace - find out more at Embrace’s Time to Act online or Pauline Lambourne.
- We are pleased to announce that The Ouseley Church Music Trust has awarded St Mary's a £2,500 grant to support our Junior Choir over the next two years. This funding will allow us to extend Claire's hours as Director of Music, helping us to develop and grow this important ministry among our young people.
- **Support Welcare a local charity:** The summer afternoon Piano Recital given by Pianist Geoff Mussard at Saint Francis Church, Ravenswood Avenue, West Wickham. BR4 0PW, which was due to be held on Sunday 12th July 2026, 3 pm to 5 pm has been postponed until September. (Price £10 p/p)

- **Safeguarding Training for All Volunteers**

Due to Church of England safeguarding requirements, that everyone involved in any church rota now has to complete the Church of England's Basic Safeguarding Training. The Basic Safeguarding Training is designed to give us all a shared understanding of what safeguarding is, why it matters, and how each of us contributes to creating a safe and healthy church environment. It helps us recognise potential concerns and respond appropriately. Even for those who have served faithfully for many years, it provides a helpful common foundation. How to complete the training:

- **Online:** A simple course which can be completed individually. Please create an account and complete the Basic Safeguarding Course using the Church of England training portal: safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org . Or
- **In person:** For those who prefer to do this training in person in groups we have some planned dates on 26th July – Midday, 12th September - 10am & 8th October - Midday

There is a sign up sheet at the back of Church or email Dave. Thank you for your help and support. Safeguarding is a vital part of our shared ministry, helping us ensure that St Mary's remains a safe and welcoming church for all.

Once you complete training please email safeguarding@stmaryshortlands.church

- **The choir is singing for a service for ABCD's 40th anniversary on Thur 16th July at 6.30pm at St. Botolph's in London (near Liverpool St. station). All are welcome – please see Claire if you wish to attend.**
- **The choir is singing on the 1st and 2 August at 5.15pm and Matins at 10.45 am 2 August at St. George's Windsor. All are welcome to attend the services.**



Staying in Touch at St Mary's

We are beginning to use our email list to share news and information about upcoming events at St Mary's. If you would like to receive emails from us, you can sign up by completing a short online form using the QR code provided, or by filling in one of the paper forms available at the back of church.

**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 fruit, cold meats & puddings, coffee, long life fruit juice, UHT milk, laundry detergent & ladies deodorant

Parish Office

Open 10am–12noon - office@stmaryshortlands.church

Tel: 020 8460 5682

Rev. Dave Edmondson - vicar@stmaryshortlands.church

Tel: 07592136421

Church Wardens

Gloria Sherman - glowarden@stmaryshortlands.church

Robin Hogg - robinwarden@stmaryshortlands.church

