



Welcome to St. Mary's Shortlands

25th October 2026

Bible Sunday

Today

8.00am Morning Prayer

10.30am Holy Communion

Celebrant: Rev. Jane Peters

Preaching: Catherine Bingham

Reading: Nick Thorne

Intercessions: Rev. Jane Peters

Hymns

377 - Angel voices ever singing

321 - Rise and hear the Lord is speaking

467 - How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

Comm: 286 - Come my way , my truth, my life

Anthem: Teach me o Lord

626 - Ye holy angels bright

This week

Tue 27 Oct 10.00am - 12 noon - Craft and Chatter

Wed 28 Oct 10.00am - Holy Communion in the chapel

10.30am - 12.30pm - Community Café.

Sun 1 Nov 10.30am – Holy Communion with Junior Church

6.30pm - Service for Departed Loved

Service for Departed Loved Ones Sun 1st Nov at 6.30pm

There is a notebook at the back of the church from 4th – 30th October to put the names of those you would like read out in church. Or email the names you would like to be read out to the office. Donations can be posted to us or made in the office towards flowers in the church.

Collect

Merciful God, teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty, that trusting in your word and obeying your will we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First reading: Nehemiah 8:1-4

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hash-baddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand.

Gospel reading: Matthew 24:30-35

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see “the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven” with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Post Communion

God of all grace, your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Please remember in your prayers this week...

The Community...

For local hospitals and St. Christopher's Hospice, Sloane Hospital, Medical and Social Services in the Borough.

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 or recovering from operations including Elizabeth and Robert Barnes, Jill Glynne, Eileen Abbam, Janice Davis and Andy Speller. We continue to pray for Ian Brentnall, Christine Perzyna, Betty Rider, Sally Aldred, Angela Ash and Sheila Dowling.

The Departed ...

We pray for everyone grieving the loss of loved ones. We remember those whose anniversaries we keep this week; Gaby Whittaker, Pom Gainsborough, Ann Tarrant, Percy Shelly, Douglas Smith, Daphne Sartin, William Parks, Freda Leitch, Valerie Redman, Tom Pinder, Betty Hales and Rex Nicholls.

SAVE THE DATE

Mission of the Month Annual Meeting Straight
after 10.30am service Sunday 15th November.
Nominations for Missions to be received by today.

NOTICES

- **On 31st October (5.00 - 7.00pm)** we'll be setting up a small gazebo in the churchyard to offer a simple place of welcome and light. We'll be giving out free hot drinks, a sweet treat, a glow stick and an invitation to Church activities. If you'd be willing to help for part of the evening, please let Dave know.
- **Christmas card design competition:** The entries to the Christmas card competition are at the back of Church. Please do take a look and fill out a voting slip. Voting closes after Wednesday 28th October. You will be able to pre-order the winning designs from Sunday 1st November.
- **We are delighted that Vanessa Marton** will be baptised at St Mary's on Sunday 1 November. She will then be confirmed at St John's, Eden Park, at 4.00pm the same day. Please keep Vanessa in your prayers as she takes these important steps in her Christian faith.
- **Here I am Send me - Informal Music Group Holy Communion** Service, Sunday 15th November 6.30pm, Readings, reflections, songs, prayers and Holy Communion. Everyone welcome!

- **Thursday Club** - A new family group, from 5th November - 3.30pm - 4.45pm in church. For primary-aged children and their families, with games, crafts, activities, a Bible story and a snack. We'd also love a few people to help, either as part of the team or by providing refreshments. Please speak to Dave.
- **SAVE THE DATE:** Christmas Fair - Saturday 21st November 2 - 4pm. If you would like to be involved with this event, please contact Gill Dawson: 07767-365318/
gill@gill.dawson.name. Time to start sorting out unwanted gifts, jewellery, books, puzzles, bottles etc!
- **Advent Retreat Day – 5 December, 9.30am - 3.00pm** (Lunch provided), Take time to pause and reflect this Advent with a day of prayer, silence and fellowship. The retreat includes guided sessions on prayer and space for quiet reflection with God. Sign up at the back of church or contact Jane Peter's or Cathy Myers. All are welcome. Free. Donations towards the cost of lunch welcome.

Our Mission of the Month (MOM) for October is Bromley Borough Foodbank

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 Carlie Cooke on 07810866896 or safeguarding@stmaryshortlands.church



Staying in Touch at St Mary's

If you would like to receive emails from us about news and upcoming events at St Mary's - 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
Vegetarian Meals (e.g 3 bean stew,
veggie chili, mac n cheese) & Cold
Meats (e.g ham, corned beef, spam),
Long Life Desserts (e.g sponge
pudding, angel delight), UHT Milk

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