

Welcome to St. Mary's Shortlands



26th July 2026 – 8th Sunday after Trinity

Today

8.00 am Holy Communion service in the Chapel

10.30am Holy Communion with Healing Prayers

Celebrant and preaching: Rev. Dave Edmondson

Reading: Adrian Lambourne

Intercessions: Caitlin Edmondson

Hymns

386 - Be thou my vision

248 - Tis good Lord to be here

494 - King of glory, king of peace

Comm: 277 All for Jesus

Anthem: Jesu joy of man's desiring - Bach

442 - God is love let heaven adore him

This week

Tue 28 July 10.00am - 12 noon - Craft and Chatter

Wed 29 July 10.00am – Holy Communion in the chapel

10.30am – 12.30pm – Community Café

1 & 2 August The choir is singing on the 1st and 2nd August at 5.15pm and Matins at 10.45 am
2nd August at St. George's Windsor

Sun 2 Aug 10.30am - Holy Communion

The memorial flowers in church this week
are in memory of
Rebecca Gowing



Collect

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern
both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your
laws and the works of your commandments; that
through your most mighty protection, both here
and ever, we may be preserved in body and
soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First reading: Genesis 29.15-28

Then Laban said to Jacob, 'Because you are my
kinsman, should you therefore serve me for
nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages
be?' Now Laban had two daughters; the name of
the elder was Leah, and the name of the
younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were
lovely, and Rachel was graceful and
beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, 'I will
serve you seven years for your younger
daughter Rachel.' Laban said, 'It is better that I
give her to you than that I should give her to any
other man; stay with me.' So Jacob served
seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him
but a few days because of the love he had for
her. Then Jacob said to Laban, 'Give me my
wife that I may go in to her, for my time is

completed.’ So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, ‘What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?’ Laban said, ‘This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me for another seven years.’ Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

**Gospel reading: Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52
13.31-33**

He put before them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.’ He told them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.’

13.44-52

‘The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ‘Have you understood all this?’ They answered, ‘Yes.’ And he said to them, ‘Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.’

Post Communion

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light

of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever.

Please remember in your prayers this week...

The Community...

For Sunday worship at St. Mary's. For the discernment of vocation in our church family.

For Guides and leaders from both St Mary's units on their Summer Camp this week.

The World ...

For all victims of conflict, oppression and climate change. For peace in the troubled areas of the world.

The Sick ...

For those who are recently unwell, including Jocelyne Hamez, Ian Brentnall, 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: John Saward, Margaret Lilley, Mo Bowen, Ethel Clarke, Laurie Bray, Joan Cobley, Eliza Desbois and Rebecca Gowing.

**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.

NOTICES

- **Basic Safeguarding Training for All Volunteers – Further information and sign-up sheets on the notice board.** Complete the course in person on Sun 26th July – Midday, Sat 12th Sept - 10am or Sun 18th October – Midday or on the Church of England training portal safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org. Once you complete training please email safeguarding@stmaryshortlands.church
- **On Tuesday evening**, Glo Sherman, Robin Hogg and Rev. Dave will be attending the Archdeacon's Visitation at Christ Church, Bexleyheath. This is the annual service at which churchwardens are formally admitted and commissioned for the year ahead. Please pray for God's blessing on their ministry and service.
- **Parish Safeguarding Officer:** We would like to thank Pauline Lambourne, who is stepping down as Parish Safeguarding Officer, for her faithful service in this important role. We are delighted to announce that Carlie Cooke will be taking on the role, with a handover taking place over the summer. Please pray for both Pauline and Carlie during this time of transition, giving thanks for Pauline's dedication and asking God's blessing, wisdom and guidance for Carlie as she prepares to take up this ministry.

- **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.
- **Bake & play at the Community Café on 12th, 19th, 26th August. Time: 10:30 am - 12:30pm.** Primary school children are invited to come and bake and play at the Community Café. We will bake & decorate some sweet treats for the children to take home. Please bring an adult with you.
- **Junior Church** takes place in the hall during the morning service. All children of all ages are very welcome. Resumes on the 6th September.
- **Tea Time Together** - at 4.00pm for families with children upto Year 5 and **Youth Club** – at 6.00pm for Years 6 -13, resumes on 13th Sept.
- **Save the date:** Pet & Teddy Bear Blessing Service, Sunday 27th September, Bring your beloved pet or favourite teddy bear for a short, family-friendly service of thanksgiving & blessing. All are welcome. Refreshments afterwards.

Choral Evensong - 20th Sept and 18th Oct

A traditional reflective service lead by our Choir where we reflect on God's word. The service is at 6.30pm. All are welcome.

Fairtrade Dates

August – Sun 9th, Wed 26th

Sept – Sun 13th, Wed 23rd

Oct – Sun 11th, Wed 21st

Taketime meditation

10.15am-11am (Chapel)

12th Sept, 10th Oct,

14th Nov & 12th Dec

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

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 Potatoes, Long Life Desserts,
Sweets/Chocolate, Jam, UHT Milk,
Cooking Sauces, Fruit Juice,
Washing Up Liquid, Men's
Deodorant & Conditioner

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

