

Welcome to St. Mary's Church of Shortlands



25th January 2026 – 4th Sunday of Epiphany

Today

8.00am Holy Communion in the Chapel
10.30am Holy Communion with healing prayers

Celebrant: Rev. Dave Edmondson

Preaching: Ann Marie Jefferys

Reading: Helen Bird

Intercessions: Glo Sherman

Hymns

604 - Through all the changing scenes of life

563 - Rejoice the Lord is King

165 - Christ is the King, O friends rejoice

Communion: 295 Deck thyself, my soul with gladness

Anthem – Beati Quorum - Stanford

418 - Father Lord of all creation

This week

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

Wed 28 Jan 10.00am – Holy Communion in the Chapel
10.30am - 12.30pm - Community Café

Thur 29 Jan 9.30am & 12.30pm - Baby and Toddler sessions
7.00pm - Junior choir practice
7.30pm - Adult choir practice

Junior Church

Takes place in the hall during the morning service. All children of all ages are very welcome.

January 25th

February 1st, 8th, 22nd

March 1st, 8th, 22nd

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

Youth Club from 6.00pm for Years 6 -13

February 8th, March 8th

Do join us.

Our Mission of the Month (MOM) for January is The Leprosy Mission

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

Collect

God our creator, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people, and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of 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: 1 Kings 17.8-16

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.' So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, 'Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.' As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, 'Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.' But she said, 'As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.' Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.' She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

Gospel reading: 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 Prayer

Generous Lord, in word and eucharist we have proclaimed the mystery of your love: help us so to live out our days that we may be signs of your wonders in the world; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

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 ...

For peace in the troubled areas of the world.

The Sick ...

For those who are recently unwell, including Peter Matheson, David Linstead, Patrice Cooper and Bob Norfolk-Thompson. 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, especially the family and friends of James Hope, Maria Eugenia, Geoff Lord, Maureen Muir and Hugh Ferguson. We remember those whose anniversaries we keep this week: Derek Smith, Dorothy Walker, Harry Mellon, Ivor Pattison, Charles and Mary Shaddick, Thomas Speller and Pamela Tindall.

NOTICES

- **Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF) reading notes:** Please order by February '26, the cost is £17.97 for three. If you are interested, please contact Val Mills (07833 291885).
- **Welcare fundraising event:** 3pm Sat 7th Feb 2026 at St Peter & St Paul Church, Bromley, BR2 0EG (behind Primark). There will be a talk on the Great Storm of 1987 by Bob Ogley who wrote a best-selling illustrated book on the subject, light refreshments & raffle afterwards. £10 admission on the door. Contact Sue Slaney.
- **Gospel Pairs** is a relaxed and meaningful way to read the Bible in depth during Lent, which begins on 18 February. Instead of a traditional Lent course, participants will meet in pairs (or occasionally threes) to read Mark's Gospel over six sessions at times that suit them. A booklet will be provided, dividing the Gospel into six sections with reflections and discussion questions. You may sign up alone and be paired with someone, or join as an existing pair or group of three. Everyone is invited to a simple soup supper on Easter Saturday, 4 April at 6pm, to share reflections together. Sign up in church or email Dave by 11 February.

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

safeguarding@stmaryshortlands.church or 020 8658 0470

**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 cold meats, cooking sauces, Long Life Dessert & Fruit Juice, instant coffee, bleach, washing up liquid, sanitary wear & kid's toothbrush.

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