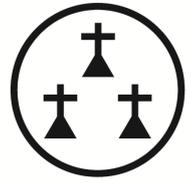


Mothering Sunday

22 March 2020

Services and Preachers in the Parish Today

**Parish of
Harpenden**



The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued advice that public worship is suspended until further notice.

The Churches will be open for personal prayer at the usual service times and for the usual morning and evening prayer.

As we are able, we will keep the church open for personal prayer.

Please see check parish website for online resources for personal prayer/ worship at home.

On this Sunday we give thanks for all Mothers, Carers, Parents who have nurtured us in our life and faith.

TEXT GIVING: No cash? You can still make a donation to the Church today. Text Giving is simple, quick and convenient. From your mobile phone, just type CHURCH followed by an amount of up to £20 and text to 70085, to donate to the Parish. For example, text CHURCH 10 to donate £10. For every text sent, you will be charged the amount you have chosen to give plus your standard network rate.

CONNECT, BELONG, SHARE, GROW

Our mission is to build connections, encourage belonging, and share an appealing faith that grows a vibrant Christian community at every stage of life.

We are an inclusive church, called to be caring, loving and welcoming to all.

Please contact the parish office on:

01582 765524, office@parishofharpenden.org, parishofharpenden.org



Collects, Readings, Gospel and Post-Communion Prayer set for this Sunday

COLLECT

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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.

Or ADDITIONAL COLLECT

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 1. 20-28

Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the Lord.' The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.' Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only - may the Lord establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord.' She left him there for the Lord.

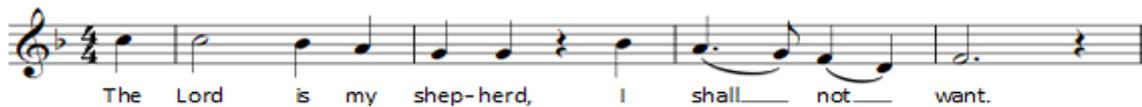
SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 1.3-7

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

PRAYER REQUESTS: If you would like prayer for yourself or someone you know, clergy pray daily for those who have asked for our prayers. Anyone may put a name on our prayer list by contacting the clergy, a Reader, or the parish office. If you wish to be prayed for publicly at our Sunday Services please say so, otherwise your name remains on the clergy daily prayer list.

Psalm 23

Congregational Response:



Verses sung by the choir:

1 The Lord is my | shepherd:

therefore can I | lack | nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green | pastures:

and leads me be|side still | waters. **Response**

3 He shall refresh my | soul:

and guide me in the paths of righteousness | for his | name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no | evil:

For you are with me; your rod and your | staff, they | comfort me. **Response**

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who | trouble me:

you have anointed my head with oil and my | cup • shall be | full.

6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my | life:

and I will dwell in the house of the | Lord for | ever. **Response**

GOSPEL John 19. 25b-27

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

POST COMMUNION

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Diocesan 'Living God's Love' Topic for the Week: *Going deeper into God:* All who lead Bible Study Groups

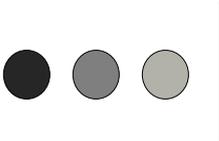
In our parish: Scheduled Interviews for Associate Vicar at All Saints on Thursday

The Sick: John Went, Richard Sewell

The Recently Departed: Peter Lale

First Anniversary of Death:

**If you would like a Home Visit or Home Communion,
please contact Parish Clergy or the Parish Office.**



Parish Notices

WORSHIP SERVICES: Public worship services are cancelled. See present advice (it changes frequently): <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches> Where possible the church will be open for personal prayer at service times. See District news for further details. Also keep checking our website and the Church of England website for updates. The church will continue to be open between 10am - 2pm on weekdays for personal prayer.

NATIONAL CALL TO PRAYER ON 22 MARCH, 7PM *Light a Candle of Hope*: A call to prayer re the Coronavirus pandemic from the presidents of Churches Together in England. They wrote 'At such a time as this, when so many are fearful and there is great uncertainty, we are reminded of our dependence on our loving Heavenly Father and the future that he holds. Therefore at 7pm this Sunday, light a candle in the windows of your homes as a visible symbol of the light of life, Jesus Christ, our source of hope in prayer'. **St Nicholas Church will be open from 6.30pm—7.30pm for personal prayer and to light a candle.**

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL SAINTS as we interview candidates for Associate Vicar this week.

ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION: Notice is hereby given that the Electoral Roll of the Parish of Harpenden will be revised by the PCC beginning on **Sunday 8 March and ending on Sunday 29 March**. If you are not on the Electoral Roll and would like to be, please pick up a form (come into the Parish Office or request that one be emailed or posted to you) and return by **29 March** at the latest. Also, if you are already on the roll and your details (eg address, phone number, email address) have changed, please email marriott.ro@gmail.com or contact the parish office, no later than **Sunday 29 March**. **Ro Marriott, Parish Electoral Roll Officer.**

DONATIONS AND GIVING AT THIS TIME: We still need your giving to help us fund our churches. If you are not on the Parish Giving Scheme, please consider giving by text, see front of pew sheet. You are welcome to drop off cash donations in an envelope to the parish office. If you'd like to go on the Parish Giving Scheme (it's simple) contact Claire Petevinos, giving.recorder@parishofharpenden.org

PARISH OFFICE: Our plan is to keep it open during its usual hours.

INFORMATION ABOUT EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS IN OUR CHURCHES, please check this online pew sheet regularly

ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL ADMISSIONS. The school is aware of the suspension of church services. The impact on school applications is to be considered and an announcement will be made by the school in due course.

HELPING THOSE IN ISOLATION: If you are under 70 and able to help those in isolation, by doing shopping, collecting prescriptions, running errands, etc - please contact the parish office 765524 or Sara Payne on 07957208771. If you are over 70 you can still help by telephoning other people in isolation for a chat, please also let us know if you would like to do this. Many thanks in advance.

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS THIS WEEK

MONDAY

TUESDAY- FRIDAY

SATURDAY (Staffed by Volunteer)

OFFICE CLOSED

10.00am-2.00pm

9.30am-12noon

SAS will not be running as scheduled on Sunday 23rd March due to the ongoing situation with the Coronavirus and the recent government advice to restrict all but essential travel. The Church of England in response has suspended public worship. We will look to start up again in the spring term, depending on the situation with the virus. (associate.vicar@stmarys.parishofharpenden.org).

DAY PILGRIMAGE TO CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: We regret this trip is cancelled.

LENT GROUPS are cancelled.

STAINER'S CRUCIFIXION: We regret this is now cancelled.

TEA, CAKE AND CHAT: Due to the current situation re Coronavirus there will be no Tea cake and Chat on 17 April.

SUPPER CLUB: Please note Supper Club will be suspended until further notice.

CORNELIA'S COFFEE SHOP is temporarily closed as the Church of England has recommended that serving of refreshments be suspended due to the risk of cross-contamination. This means that the Memory Lane Café will also not take place until further notice.

SONGS OF PRAISE on Mothering Sunday at 1.15pm will be showing an item regarding Mothers' Union.

FOODBANK: Donated items can still be left at the back of our churches at times when they are open. The foodbanks we support (Feed at The Vineyard, St Albans and Harpenden Salvation Army) are short of virtually everything, but particularly nappies—and especially larger sizes. If giving in this way is difficult in the current circumstances, you can also give financially through the FEED fund—<https://www.thevineyardchurch.co.uk/feedfund> ; they will then buy the much-needed supplies! FEED says "Thank you all for your continued support of FEED. We truly could not do what we do without you all. We are continuing to support our community in the best way we can, although this will look very different in the coming weeks. "

SCRAP WOOD IN CHURCH YARD OF ST NICHOLAS. With recent winds there is various pieces of scrap wood, branches, in the church yard. You are welcome to take it for your personal firewood.

HARPENDEN CHURCHES TOGETHER ARTS FESTIVAL, 14-28 JUNE. Would you like to display your art, whatever it is you do artistic wise? Let us know by 1st April and we will try to get a date to display in the Hall.

ST NICHOLAS QUIZ was due to take place on Saturday 25 April. Doors open 7pm. Dinner and table rounds from 7.30pm, main rounds from 8pm. Please book with the Parish Office at the time of payment. Tables of up to 8 people. £15 a head, to include a ploughman's dinner. One table for teenage helpers available at £5 per head. BYO. Desserts and raffle in the interval. Cheques made payable to St Nicholas PCC – St Nicholas . **On hold for now ; stay tuned for further information**

Please follow & interact with our Parish via twitter or facebook,

You can also access them through the church website: www.parishofharpenden.org

If you have anything to go on our sites please email :

digital.media@parishofharpenden.org

All Saints' Church Notices



ALL SAINTS' LOCAL MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT TEAM exists to support every member of our church family in:

enabling people to encounter God in worship and prayer
encouraging and teaching people to grow as His disciples
equipping people to live as Christians in the community.

Prayer ministry is available after the 11.00am Worship Service

Emergency Prayer Chain: jenny.britt@yahoo.com

ALL SAINTS VACANCY: Please do pray for all those involved in the appointment of the new All Saints Associate Vicar and for all those affected by the vacancy. Interviews are scheduled for this week. You may like to set aside some time on Monday evening in particular, as we can't encourage you to gather at Rosemary's house.

BUSY BUNNIES: In the present circumstances, (Coronavirus) we are going to have to suspend Busy Bunnies until further notice.

ADCM: In preparation for the ADCM, can all reports for the booklet be submitted to Sue Whetherly by Sunday 22 March. The meeting itself is now postponed until later in the year, but do still need to get the paperwork done. suewhetherly@hotmail.co.uk. Many thanks.

REMINDER OF NOTICE FROM JANUARY:

All Saints Church and the District Wardens would like to offer our sincerest thanks to Kirsty Hollywood who has managed hall bookings for the past year. Unfortunately Kirsty's situation has changed since she took on the role and she is unable to continue in the role long term. We consider the hall to be part of the outreach of the church to the community and this role is fundamental to allowing this to continue. We are therefore looking for a member of the congregation who could take over this responsibility. If you think that this could be you, please come and talk to one of the wardens, Elizabeth, Pete or Goetz who can give you more details.

Update March: **We have not yet been able to fill the role of the hall bookings organiser. Thank you to those who have considered taking up the role.**

Please consider prayerfully if this could be you; as it is now two months later, the need to fill the role has become more urgent.

If you are interested and would like more details, please come and talk to one of the wardens, Elizabeth, Pete or Goetz.

WE WERE SAD to learn of the death of Peter Lale, former member of All Saints'. His funeral will be on Friday 27 March, 2.40pm at Mortlake Crematorium. Please remember Jean and the family in your prayers.

ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Children intending to apply to St George's Secondary School are advised to submit a clergy reference form with their application. The school gives priority to children with a clergy reference.

To ensure this can be given, a Record of Attendance should be completed for 2 years before application. The School website provides further details of the admissions criteria. The school will consider applications without a clergy reference but through a separate admissions category.

St Nicholas' Church Notices



TIMES FOR PERSONAL PRAYER: St Nicholas Church will be open for personal prayer for daily offices: Wednesdays, 10am; Saturday, 10am; Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, 5pm. We will try to keep the church open on Tues-Sat mornings, 10am to 12noon for drop in for personal prayer. On Sunday, no services, but the church will be open 8-9am; 9.30-10.30; 11.30-12.30 for personal prayer.

HELP with our Communication! Do you use social media? Maybe you can help St Nicholas with ours. Can you spare a little time each week? Please speak with the parish office or the Rector.

ASSISTANT CURATE: The Revd Dr James Hadley has taken indefinite leave of absence from his curacy effective today (16/03) in order to go to Italy to be with his partner and family. Our thoughts and prayers go with him until he returns to finish his curacy. You can contact him via email: assistant.curate@stnicholas.parishofharpenden.org

HELPING THOSE IN ISOLATION: If you are under 70 and able to help those in isolation, by doing shopping, collecting prescriptions, running errands, etc - please contact the parish office (765524) or Sara Payne on 07957208771. If you are over 70 you can still help by telephoning other people in isolation for a chat, please also let us know if you would like to do this. **IF YOU ARE IN ISOLATION AND NEED HELP, PLEASE LET US KNOW.**

TODDLER TIME: Unfortunately this has been suspended until further notice.

St Mary's Church Notices



CAR PARK: Repairs to the front driveway have been completed, thank you for your support.

ST MARY'S FETE: Our Fete will be on Sat 20 June, Lou Fraser is leading our planning and organising. We need someone to organise the Raffle please. Do speak to Sally or Lou if you could do that.

CORONAVIRUS: We are seeking to be proactive in caring for our community, please don't hesitate to contact us if you need any help and please continue to look after friends and neighbours.

WORSHIP SERVICES: St Mary's will be open for prayer from 9.15am - 10.30am prayer Tuesday morning 9.30-10.30 Sunday

What's on This Week

Monday 23

5.00-5.20 pm St Nicholas' Church open for personal prayer

Tuesday 24

9.15-10.30 am St Mary's Church open for personal prayer

5.00-5.20 pm St Nicholas' Church open for personal prayer

Wednesday 25 The Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary

10.00-11.00 am St Nicholas' Church open for personal prayer

5.00-5.20 pm St Nicholas' Church open for personal prayer

8.00pm PCC Meeting at St Nicholas

Friday 27

5.00-5.20 pm St Nicholas' Church open for personal prayer

Saturday 28

10.00-11.00 am St Nicholas' Church open for personal prayer

Sunday 29 The Fifth Sunday of Lent

March

St Nicholas

8.00-8.30am Church open for personal prayer

9.30—10.00 am Church open for personal prayer

11.30am-12noon Church open for personal prayer

All Saints

9.30am Church open for personal prayer

11.00am Church open for personal prayer

St Mary's

9.30-10.30am Church open for personal prayer

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|---------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Readings set for 29 March: | EZEKIEL 37.1-14 | ROMANS 8.6-11 | JOHN 11.17-45 |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

Please tell the Parish Office about meetings, events and notices by **12 noon on Wednesday**
on 01582 765524 or office@parishofharpenden.org