

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Sunday:

6.30pm Choral Evensong
Hymns: 103, 503, 24

Weekdays:

Mon – Fri 8.30am Morning Prayer
Weds 10.00am Holy Communion
(followed by open church)

Next Sunday:

8.00am Epiphany 3
10.00am Holy Communion
Parish Communion

Readings:

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
1 Corinthians 12:12-31
Luke 4:14-21

Parish of Selly Oak St Mary



TWS

This Week Sheet

Welcome

2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Sunday 16th January 2022

All services today will be held in the church

Hymns:

1 (part 1 & v8) 380 102 429 & 385 676

Collect:

Eternal Lord,
our beginning and our end:
bring us with the whole creation
to your glory, hidden through past ages
and made known
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Readings:

Isaiah 62:1-5
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

Post Communion Prayer:

God of glory,
you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

For your prayers:

Those who are unwell: Chris Dukes, Judith Von Sicard,
Baby Miles O'Dowd, Irene Quinn, Diana Smith, Vicky
Todd, Pat Westwood

Those who have died: Raymond Burton, Baby Jeremiah
Gordon-Cameron, Susan Knowles

If you would like to be added to our prayer list, or know
someone else who would like our prayers, please email
sarahjherbert@aol.com or speak to one of the clergy.

Church of England Birmingham Praying Together:
<https://www.cofebirmingham.com/everyday-faith/being-a-christian/cofeb-praying-together/church-of-england-birmingham-praying-together--january-2022.php>

***St Mary's is here to proclaim and celebrate
the love of God for all.***

If you wish to support the work of the church financially,
you can be part of the Parish Giving Scheme. You can also
fill out a Gift Aid Declaration to increase the value of the
gift. See wardens for information. Here are our account
details:

PCC St Mary's Church Selly Oak
HSBC Account number: 41565818
Sort code: 40-11-20

Parish ministry team

Clergy

Revd Hazel White – 0121 4713517
Revd Jayne Adams 07894 167552
Revd David Parker 0121 445 1901/07532 338961

Licensed Reader

Mary Cutler 0121 472 3343

Church Wardens

George Harrison: 07831 573169 Martin Sorby 07982 850 444

Please note: Hazel usually observes Friday as her day off.

If you have any notices to add to the TWS, please email
sarahjherbert@aol.com by the end of Tuesday for
inclusion in the following Sunday's edition.

www.stmarysellyoak.org.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysellyoak/>

Diary dates

January

Sun 16 th	6.30pm	Choral Evensong (church)
Sun 30 th	10am	All-age communion
	5pm	Candlemas service

Church heating

Our church boiler is not working due to the failure of the heat exchanger. Unfortunately, this cannot be repaired and it has not been possible to find a temporary solution. We are still awaiting approval from the DAC to replace our oil-fired boiler with new gas boilers. From this Sunday we will return to holding Sunday services in the church due to concerns around the high level of Covid infections and the need for more space than the hall allows. All our electric heaters will be on continuously from Friday to Sunday, and supplemented with paraffin heaters on Sundays. Wednesday morning communion will remain in the hall. The following guidance on keeping safe applies to worship whether in the church or the hall:

NHS Track and Trace - for those who wish to check in using the app, the NHS QR code is displayed in the church porch. If you don't have access to the app, you can sign in using the form provided.

Face coverings are now mandatory in places of worship, unless exempt or leading any part of worship or removing it to eat or drink.

Social distancing - we encourage you to be considerate of others in giving one another space.

The Eucharist - we will continue with distribution of communion in one kind only.

Special Services for Candlemas, Sunday 30th January

Candlemas (or the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple) brings to an end the season of joyful celebration that began at Christmas and continued through Epiphany. This year we are holding a special service to mark this at 5pm on Sunday 30th January. It will be a journey from Epiphany to Candlemas with readings, music, prayers, and of course candles! The 10am Service on that Sunday will be an all-age communion service with Junior Church.

St Mary's Junior Club

St Mary's Junior Club is open to all children aged 5-11 years, new members welcome. The club is held in the hall on Wednesday evenings from 6-7pm and includes age-appropriate games, activities and crafts. Contact Gerald Fage or Hazel for further information.

Bequest

The PCC was able to pay for the work to repair the steeple and tower in 2020 because of the generous bequest of Margaret Burcham, who was associated with St Mary's for many years before she moved. A plaque to commemorate this has just been erected at the base of the tower near to the tower door.

Update from the foodbank

Towards the end of December, we were very short on all food items and were not able to meet the demand generated by a large number of new referrals. However - thanks to God and the people he uses - our stocks have built up enough to meet the immediate needs of our clients. We're still low on everything except pasta and baked beans, so our list of shortage items is 'everything except beans and pasta'!

Volunteering opportunity

St Mary's Hospice are looking for volunteers in their shops. To express an interest, please email joanne.howard@birminghamhospice.org.uk

Talking Space

The service offers an out of hours, safe place, to come and chat with Intervention Workers for anyone struggling to cope. Open 5pm Thursday-Sunday by appointment. Phone 0121 262 3555 or email help@birminghammind.org

The readings

One part of the morning service that everyone enjoys is when the children return from their classes and tell us what they have been doing. Their responses to any questions from the clergy are usually given earnestly, with childlike clarity, are sometimes funny and often contain original insights. They appear to enjoy the catechism as much as the adults listening in. In the Westminster Shorter Catechism (1647), approved by the church for children, the answer to the question: '*What is the chief end of man?*' is: '*The chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy him for ever*'. These former Presbyterians and Anglicans knew what was important in the Christian faith - enjoyment! And that is perfectly illustrated by all our readings today which celebrate Christ's coming.

Isaiah continues his upbeat message, with "*You shall no more be termed 'Forsaken' and your land be termed 'desolate'... your God shall rejoice over you*". The exile is over, the future is bright and other nations will see how good God is.

The Corinthian church was slow to understand and follow Christ in love and fellowship, so Paul reminds them of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, given to each member to enable them to be the people they should be. "*To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good*". Our gospel adds to the sense of joy and gladness by describing how Jesus used the lack of wine at a wedding to demonstrate God's generous nature. Six enormous water jars were filled to overflowing with the best possible wine in the region! This sign was the first sign of 7 recorded by John to portray the nature of Christ's kingdom. When you pray '*Your kingdom come*' just think of the joy it might bring.

Donald Knight