

SERVICES THIS WEEK

This week:

Sunday:

6.30pm Evening Worship + prayers
for wholeness and healing

Weekdays:

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

Next Sunday:

Trinity 8
8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Holy Communion

Readings:

Genesis 1:1-6
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

Supporting ministry and mission at St Mary's

It costs about £1,600 a week to run St Mary's. If you would like to support the work of the church by regular monthly donations, please consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme. Forms are available at the back of church, or you can sign up by phone on 0333 002 1260 or online at parishgiving.org.uk. Donations can also be made by bank transfer to PCC St Mary's Church Selly Oak, sort code 40-11-20, account number 41565818. A Gift Aid declaration will add 25% to the value of your donations without cost to you – please ask a warden for a form.

Parish ministry team

Clergy

Revd Hazel White – 0121 4713517
Revd Jayne Adams 07894 167552
Revd David Parker 0121 445 1901/07532 338961
Father Jacob Pallett 07510 270381

Licensed Reader

Mary Cutler 0121 472 3343

Church Wardens

George Harrison: 07831 573169 Martin Sorby 07982 850 444

Please note: Hazel and Jacob usually observe Friday as their 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/>

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

Parish of Selly Oak St Mary



TWS

This Week Sheet

Welcome

Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 31st July 2022

Hymns: 631 382 678 452 476 (omit v3)

Collect:

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Readings:

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

Post Communion Prayer:

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life,
ever giving himself that the world may live:
may we so receive within ourselves
the power of his death and passion
that, in his saving cup,
we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen.

For your prayers:

Those who are unwell: Chris Dukes, Gerald Fage,
Rosemarie Okot, Anthony and Diane Smith, Diana Smith,
Vicky Tod, Pat Westwood

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/being-a-christian/cofeb-praying-together/church-of-england-birmingham-praying-together-july-2022/church-of-england-birmingham-praying-together--july-2022.php>

Diary dates

July

Sun 31 st	12 noon	Baptisms
	6.30pm	Service with prayers for wholeness and healing
Tues 2 nd Aug	10am	Funeral in church
Sun 14 th Aug	12 noon	Baptisms
Sat 20 th Aug	3pm	Wedding

Keeping safe

For everyone's safety, we ask that we revert to the practice of accessing the church toilet via the path around the outside of church, and not via the choir vestry & steps.

We are now able to reintroduce the chalice at all Eucharistic services for those who would like to receive communion in both kinds. There is no pressure to receive the chalice, and for those who do not wish to do so, please be assured that your communion is no less valid. Please note that intinction is not permitted under CofE guidance.

Altar Servers

Prior to Covid we had a team of altar servers, lay members of the congregation who assisted the clergy team and deacons in various ways before, during, and after the 10am Eucharist. The role includes setting up before the service, carrying candles in procession during the service, and assisting at the altar as needed. We hope to reintroduce servers in September. If you would be interested in joining the team, please speak with one of the clergy or with Richard Edmonds.

Book Group

Our next meeting will take place at Bridgewater Court on Wednesday 3rd August at the usual time of 7.30pm. We will be talking about *Murder Before Evensong* by (The Reverend) Richard Coles, which will hopefully be a popular choice since it turns out we all enjoy a good murder!

Birmingham Talking Newspaper

There are leaflets about the Birmingham Talking Newspaper for the Blind and Visually Impaired at the back of church. Please take one if you are interested in receiving this. They are also looking for volunteers either to read items or help on the computer and sound recording side.

Mary Cutler

Additional role for David

Over the last few months I have been covering some services for St Faith and St Laurence, Harborne, who are currently without a vicar. After discussions with the Archdeacon and Area Dean, I have volunteered to support them on a more regular (but still informal) basis for the next 6 months. They have accepted this offer, so I shall be away from St Mary's a bit more than before, but you will still see me regularly.

David

Service with prayers for wholeness and healing

The evening service on Sunday 31st July at 6.30pm will include the opportunity to be anointed with the sign of the cross using oil blessed by our Bishop in the Cathedral on Maundy Thursday. A simple prayer for Christ's forgiveness, healing, and love will be prayed. No-one will be asked why they are coming for prayer, God already knows our needs, and we are all in need of healing, none of us are completely whole. Everyone is welcome at this service, there will be no pressure to come forward for anointing and prayer, it will simply be available for those who would find this helpful.

Hazel

For community and families

St Gabriel's Weoley Castle invite us to join them for games and craft activities in the park known as 'the duck pond' on the corner of Castle Road and Shenley Fields Road from 1.30pm to 3.30pm on Sunday August 14th. All are welcome.

Foodbank update

Many thanks for your continued support. Items they are currently low on are: Squash, Cereal, Sandwich spreads- jam, peanut butter, Tinned meat- ham, spam, corned beef, Coffee, Treats- multi packs of chocolates /sweets, Biscuits, Shampoo, Men / women's deodorant.

The readings

Sometimes I feel that Ecclesiastes is the most depressing book of the Bible. Even Lamentations has some good news (3:23) and gives us the wonderful hymn "Great is Thy Faithfulness", but what do we get in Ecclesiastes other than nihilism? But it is true. What do we do that we can take with us? As they say, there are no pockets in shrouds, and all that we create we leave for others. But for the person who believes in God, possibly the words of 5:18 will give us some hope; "Behold, what I have seen to be good and to be fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life which God has given him, for this is his lot."

But Ecclesiastes was clearly not well remembered by the rich man in the Gospel reading. Here we see the teaching of Ecclesiastes put into real life terms, with the warning that we never know when we will die and all that we accumulate becomes nothing. So how are we supposed to live?

Possibly we get more of a lead from Colossians. We are told that we should seek the things that are above, and not on earth. This means a complete change, putting aside all things which are associated with our former life without Christ, and to clothe ourselves with the new self. We read on to learn that we should put on compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience. We still need to work, to care for ourselves and others, but we should do this with a focus on God, trusting that in Him we will come to that better place where treasures will not degrade (Matt. 6:20)

George Harrison