



- Rooted in faith, reaching out in love -

Newsletter

Sunday 30th March, 2025

Mothering Sunday - Lent 4

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP - said)
Celebrant & Preacher: Canon Angus Aagaard
Service begins in the Book of Common Prayer on page 294 and readings on page 135

10.30am Choral Eucharist (Boys', Girls' & Men's Voices)
also on Facebook & YouTube
Each Sunday morning's service sheet is uploaded [here](#) on the preceding Friday.

Celebrant & Preacher: Canon Angus Aagaard
Mass setting: *Missa Eliensis* Wills
Hymns: 285, 77, 186, 184 (New English Hymnal)
Reading: Malachi 3.9-12 - Jayne McHale
Gospel: Luke 2. 33-35
Intercessions: Tony Fitzpatrick
Motet: *Ave maris stella* Grieg
Organ voluntary: *Dialogue sur les grands jeux (Ave Maris Stella IV)* de Grigny

To reflect the solemnity of the season, we ask that there be no applause after the voluntary.

Refreshments will be served following the Service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Sunday School meets during the 10:30 service each week; we currently have members from pre-school to Year 8. Today we'll be thinking about how mothers and others care for us, and ways in which God is like a mother. And doing some top secret activities linked to the theme of the day...

Everyone is invited to assemble at the Welcome Desk at the back of church during the first hymn. Visiting children are always welcome (pre-schoolers are kindly asked to bring a parent/carer).

5.30pm Choral Evensong (Boys' & Men's Voices)
* Lent course: The Apostles' Creed - The forgiveness of sins - Canon Angus Aagaard
Preces and Responses: Plainsong responses
Psalm: 30
Canticles: Stanford *in C*
Anthem: *The Lord is my shepherd* Howells

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing. He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort. He shall convert my soul: and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk in the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: thy rod and thy staff comfort me. Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me: thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full. But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Hymns: 360, 359(t.322)
Readings: Isaiah 40.27 - 41.13 - Deborah Walker
Timothy 4.1-18 - Tony King
Organ voluntary: *Variations on 'Vater unser im Himmelreich' (from Sonata VI)*
Mendelssohn

To reflect the solemnity of the season, we ask that there be no applause after the voluntary.

*** LENT COURSE**

This year is the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea at which the Nicene Creed, which we usually say at the Sunday morning Eucharist, was agreed for use by the Church. The Apostles' Creed, usually said at Evensong, had already begun to be formed by the time the Council met and undoubtedly influenced the Church's profession of faith. During Evensongs in Lent we are examining our understanding of the Apostles' Creed.

As it is permitted to use the Apostles' Creed at the Eucharist as well, during Lent we are replacing the Nicene Creed with the Apostles' Creed on Sundays at 10.30am and hope this might whet the appetite to come to Evensong to consider the meaning of what we are saying.

MIDWEEK SERVICES

Wednesday 2nd April 10.00am Holy Communion
5.30pm Choral Evensong (Choral Evensong, recorded at St Mary's last week, is broadcast on Radio 3 at 3pm)
Friday 4th April 5.30pm Choral Evensong

FORTHCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday 6th April - Lent 5

8.00am Holy Communion; 10.30am Choral Eucharist; 5.30pm Choral Evensong

Sunday 13th April - Palm Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion; 10.30am Choral Eucharist with procession of palms and the Passion Gospel; 5.30pm Choral Evensong

Sunday 20th April - Easter Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion; 10.30am Choral Eucharist; 5.30pm Orchestral Festal Choral Evensong

Sunday 27th April - Easter 2

8.00am Holy Communion; 10.30am Parish Eucharist; 5.30pm Parish Evensong

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

Patrick Carr, Claire Fisher, Harry Fox, Ruby Hayes, Patricia Heaps, Phyllis Hole, Elizabeth Holroyde, Claire Kime, Tony Robinson, Luke Ryan, Chris Shilton, Jennifer Tarney.

PRAYERS FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:

Tony Bannister, Joan Stevens, Jackie Holliday.

PRAYER FOR THE CMM SISTERS

Lord Jesus, we give thanks for the CMM Sisters in Tanzania and Zambia, and for the support they give to the younger Sisters in their education. Bless and inspire them as they learn. We pray for those sitting their Form IV exams this month (equivalent to GCSE), especially Sr. Stella and Sr. Vailet, that they may gain the grades needed for more advanced study that might, in time, lead to vocational training in teaching or nursing. Amen.

THE MAYOR'S SPRING SING/PACKMORES MARKET TAKEOVER

Thanks to all those who took up the call to bake! Thanks also to the St Mary's volunteers, including a number of children, who gave up their time on Saturday to help out. This was all much appreciated by all the charities and initiatives concerned.

ROOTED IN FAITH, REACHING OUT IN LOVE - REALISING OUR VISION

To bring St Mary's Vision2030 to life, we need to take a vital first step: increasing our planned financial giving by £30,000 annually.

As I prayerfully reflect on 2 Corinthians 9:7-8, I am reminded that giving is an act of faith and joy, "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."

Many assume the King Henry VIII Endowed Trust fully funds our church, but it doesn't. Giving at St Mary's has been declining, likely due to this misconception and the pandemic. To move forward, we must act together.

A Call to Renew Our Commitment

This Lent we are running a Stewardship Campaign. A strong response will allow us to step forward with confidence, and we'll benefit from the King Henry Trust matching our increased giving. Without a strong response, we'll need to reevaluate our mission plans.

We're asking everyone to renew their commitment to St Mary's by:

✓ Registering on the new electoral roll by Friday 11th April (if done online, please also send a confirmation email to admin@stmaryswarwick.org.uk)

✓ Reviewing their financial giving or tithing and switching to the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) by Friday 18th April

Electoral roll applications and stewardship packs are available at the back of church.

I know some are financially stretched, and I simply ask that we all contribute as best we can, prioritising St Mary's ministry in our giving. Your generosity is essential to fulfilling our vision. Let's step forward in faith, together.

Fr Angus

WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER WITH US?

We have a wonderful group of loyal and dedicated volunteers who help us keep St Mary's Church running by welcoming all our visitors, giving fascinating tours and answering any historical questions!

Visitor Team Volunteers

We believe greeting visitors is a very important role within our Church and we couldn't open to the public without their help. No experience is necessary, but we do ask that you have a sociable nature and an interest in history. We would love to hear from you if you are interested and can spare as little as a few hours a week to volunteer at our wonderful church. *Currently we desperately need Visitor Team Volunteers on Sunday afternoons.*

Do you have a love of history?

We are also looking for volunteer guides to help with our visitor experience, imparting important historical facts, or just to be on hand to answer any questions about St Mary's Church. A willingness to engage with visitors; persons of any faith or none are welcome, although we do need empathy with the Christian faith.

Please speak to the Visitor Team at St Mary's Church or contact 01926 403940 and leave your contact details. Thank you!

LENTEN BAROQUE

We have only one lunchtime in April, and it will be given on Friday 4th by our Organ Scholar, Harry Sullivan. Reflecting the fact that we will be over halfway through Lent, his programme opens with the sombre Prelude and Fugue in B minor by J. S. Bach before presenting a suite of works based on Lutheran chorales for the season by several of Bach's fellow Baroque composers: Hanff, Krebs, Lübeck, Scheidemann and Weckmann. Open for free with a retiring collection, Harry's performance begins at 1.15pm - please, support him if you can and enhance your Lenten fast!

EASTER LILIES

The Flower Team invite you to make a donation towards Easter Lilies to remember someone you loved. Please give the donation to Tony King or Brenda Watts with a note of the name of the people you wish to remember, or send to the Parish Office. Thank you.

STABAT MATER - PERGOLES!

The Girl Choristers and Beauchamp Strings will be performing Pergolesi's masterpiece, *Stabat Mater*, on Holy Wednesday, 16th April at 5.30pm (doors open at 5.00pm). Tickets available on the door: adults £10, under-16s free.

RSCM 'VOICE FOR LIFE'

It is a great joy to award medals and certificates to a number of our choristers on Sunday morning. The Royal School of Church Music's training scheme covers music theory, singing technique, sight-singing and aural skills, liturgical knowledge, and more. Congratulations to Mia Atkin and Isaure Puibaraud for Light Blue, Sophie Chester and Aimée Shepherd Caballero for Dark Blue, Harry Turnell for Red, and Emily Monks (in absentia) for Yellow.

FOODBANK

Thank you so much for the donations for the Packmores Estate Food Pantry. I can see how very grateful the Pantry users are for your kind gifts. As well as the normal non-perishable goods usually sought, this week they have particularly asked for tinned tomatoes, chickpeas, baked beans, tinned soups, tea, coffee and more long-life milk (which always goes down very well). If anyone feels able to add some to their trolley while buying their own groceries that would be amazing! Any questions, please do ask Suzette (community@stmaryswarwick.org.uk).

NEW MOTHER AND BABY GROUP

From Wednesday 30th April, St Mary's, in conjunction with Warwick a Singing Town, will be offering a weekly free singing group, Singing for Mums, aimed at mothers with newish babies, to promote emotional and mental wellbeing, in Church 10-11.30am. Please do speak to Suzette if you would like more information (community@stmaryswarwick.org.uk).

EASTER EGGS!

St Mary's is celebrating the hard work of all the staff at Warwick Hospital! We will be delivering as many Easter eggs as we can muster to the hospital on Good Friday. It would be wonderful to show our appreciation with abundance! If you are able to buy an Easter egg or two when you are in the supermarket and leave in the back of church (or, if easier, leave a cash donation in an envelope so that we can buy one on your behalf). Thanks to those who have already done so. Please speak to Suzette if you would like any more information (community@stmaryswarwick.org.uk).

LIVESTREAMING

We provide a livestream of our 10.30am Sunday service on Facebook and YouTube. Our Data Protection Policy can be read on the noticeboards or on the "Featured" section of the front page of our website. The south side of St Mary's (by the font) is a zone for those who wish to maintain social distance or avoid the cameras from our livestreaming. In other parts of the Church every attempt is made not to show faces, but this can happen if people turn around during the service. The congregation is not filmed whilst receiving communion.

Canon Angus Aagaard, Rector: 07810 646644 or rector@stmaryswarwick.org.uk

Canon Peter Holliday, Precentor

Director of Music: Oliver Hancock

Assistant Director of Music: Mark Swinton

Organ Scholar: Harry Sullivan

Please note that for legal and copyright reasons the taking of videos,
photographs and recordings is not permitted during services.

Further information about St Mary's, our life and ministry can be found on:

Website: www.stmaryswarwick.org.uk; Twitter @StMarysWarwick and @StMWarwickMusic
Facebook @StMarysWarwick; YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/c/CollegiateChurchofStMaryWarwick>

Parish Office: (01926) 403940 Option 1

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