

# Welcome to St Mary's

Pewsheet for week commencing **21 February 2021**



Currently the church is open daily for private prayer only.

M-F 9.45am-3pm; Sat 10am-12noon; Sun 11am-4pm

## ***Sunday, 21 February — The first Sunday of Lent***

Readings: Gen 9:8-17; Matthew 4: 1-11

8am BCP Holy Communion service on FaceBook @stmaryslinton.org.uk available until 7 March.

10am Virtual Worship including first of Lent Sermon series. Zoom registration details on the website.

10am Parish Eucharist—FB live service from St Mary's.

Themes for Lent, Lent sermons and discussion groups. See website.

Together@Home sheets and resources for children and families. See website for links.

## **New this week**

**Children and Families**—see website for Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday and Lent resources.

Today the **Make Lunch core team** (Alison, Cathy, Sue and myself) met to pack and then deliver **10 Boxes of Hope**. These contained ingredients and a recipe for tuna and sweetcorn pasta bake, cereals, bread, milk, fresh fruit and veg (with many thanks to the organic farm shop owners) plus household items like liquid soap and kitchen towel roll, and a bag with craft materials, felt pens, colouring sheets, puzzle sheets. The box also contained a sheet with an encouraging message and signposting to Linton Community Help and to REACH for further support. We then delivered to the families who had booked via schools, pre-school and our church connections.

We have already had feedback all thanking us and saying what a difference the box will make to half term. Please continue to hold these families in prayer. Here is a prayer circulated by TLG:

*We pray for all families and children who are feeling fearful, anxious and exhausted. We pray they will feel comforted and at peace today. Whatever challenges they may face in the days, weeks and months ahead, we pray they will know they are not alone.*

Please pray for us too – it's been physically hard today, a lot of lifting! Thank you for standing in the gap for the vision. Your prayer is making a difference! Sarah Thorne.

**Virtual Bingo** - The Events Committee of St Mary's Church Linton invite you to join us for our free virtual bingo on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm via zoom**. To join us please email [events@stmaryslinton.org.uk](mailto:events@stmaryslinton.org.uk) for zoom details and your bingo cards.

Charlotte Ellis, Chair of St Mary's Events Committee, 01223 892257

**Lent**—As we approach a second Lent in lockdown, I have been challenged to create an area at home to help me in my meditations and thought you might like to share the idea. I have prepared Lent in a Bag (with the help of my friends) containing all you will need. I will be pleased to deliver one to you to help you prepare for Easter. [Sarah Thorne](#)—Children & Families Ministry

If there is someone or something you would like members of St Mary's to pray for, please send a prayer request to the Church Administrator. If you would like to talk confidentially to a member of the clergy, contact the Rector, Maggie Guite on 01223 890273 or the Curate, Michael Wilcockson on 01223 891005

**'Daily Prayer from St Mary's Linton':** Maggie Guite continues to make a podcast each weekday morning on Spotify, Google Play etc and posts it on the St Mary's Facebook Page.

**For those without internet who are isolated – Daily HOPE Church of England.**

Available Free 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044. Prayer; online service; hymns.

**St Mary's Telephone Support Line** Tel 893687 [cathy.watts@stmaryslinton.org.uk](mailto:cathy.watts@stmaryslinton.org.uk) For those requesting a call for themselves or others or willing to make regular phone calls.

**Reach Community Projects** Read the latest news [here](#). Donations of tinned or dried goods for the **Haverhill Foodbank** can be left in the box in the Tower vestry when the church is open.

**TLG - Transforming Lives for Good** is a charity you will hear more of in the very near future.

**Emotional First Aid** is an easy-to-understand online webinar offered by TLG that equips people to support those struggling with their emotional and mental health as a result of this pandemic. This training is trauma-informed and will help both individuals and organisations to recognise and understand emotional signals and respond to them effectively. It is open to **anyone** in the church who wants to feel equipped enough to walk alongside those who struggle with mental health needs related to isolation, anxiety and poverty. You need to register here: <https://www.tlg.org.uk/your-church/emotional-first-aid>

**Mental Health Resources.** A new resource provided by mental health charity MIND. Also, mental health services can be accessed in this area by dialling 111 and selecting option 2 - direct contact with mental health professionals.

**Linton Community Help update. Please don't wait!** Ten months on from our set up, no-one expected to still be dealing not just with Covid but with the longer term impacts. Many are struggling with being stuck at home, and perhaps lonely, and for some this may be more difficult - across all ages. Children, young people and parents are trying to manage home learning, adults may be newly unemployed or with job uncertainty or earn less, but bills remain the same. Families may be dealing with all these challenges. We are working in partnership with St Mary/s and have funding to support people with just that little extra help to cover food, energy bills, new shoes for the children, transport to appointments. We can also help signpost or help with employment, training and money advice. Reach Community Projects have a free confidential debt service. All enquiries are treated confidentially - contact us now [lintoncommunityhelp@gmail.com](mailto:lintoncommunityhelp@gmail.com) or 011223 901123 or **Reach** on 01440 712950.

Following the **online survey** in May 2020, the Church Times is inviting people to complete a new survey: [New Covid-19 survey: Have you grown to like church better during lockdown? .](#)

Message from Yannick: **Free fitness workouts. Armchair yoga class.**  
Email [marta.maj@mmhealthandfitness.co](mailto:marta.maj@mmhealthandfitness.co)

## **Opportunities for Learning—ALM Training: Spring Term 2020**

### **ALM Children's Ministry course: Starts 24 February 2021**

Open to all volunteers or employed children's workers in Ely Diocese in the Church of England. It is for those wanting to train as an ALM Children's Minister or existing ALMs wanting a refresher.

Theory and practical skills are based on an understanding of current theology of the child and the development of their faith. A diverse range of topics - including current theological thinking and understanding of faith development, All Age Worship, Developing ministry to under 5's, working with schools, developing creative storytelling, mission to families and multisensory learning and creative prayer.

Contact: **Debbie Hill Development Officer for Children & Families** [debbie.hill@elydiocese.org](mailto:debbie.hill@elydiocese.org)  
07837 699016

### **ALM Pastoral Ministry course: Starts 29 April 2021**

For anyone across Ely Diocese in the Church of England looking to develop pastoral roles as part of their parish team. Pastoral roles vary from parish to parish and may involve pastoral visiting, making use of pastoral phonecalls, or providing a listening ear. The course runs for 8 months, meeting once per month, and covers topics ranging from attentive listening, to dealing with conflict, restoration and resilience, how to support families, understanding power dynamics, supporting those facing prejudice of any kind, well being and mental health, bereavement and loss, and enabling the flourishing of those with cognitive impairment or disability. Contact: **Phil Marsh Development Officer for Mission and Ministry**

[Phil.marsh@elydiocese.org](mailto:Phil.marsh@elydiocese.org) Tel : 01353 652730

**Music in Worship** – organised by the Royal School of Church Music.

### **Music for Mission and Ministry. 3-Day Courses in 2021**

Following Music for Mission and Ministry Online. Sessions include reflections on the effect of Covid-19 on our worship and the shape of 'the new normal.' Having been deprived of singing for so long, this may be just the time to release the voice of the congregation with renewed energy. Led by Revd Helen Bent with Jonathan Robinson Online Course: Tuesday 23 - Thursday 25 February 2021 via Zoom

Residential Course: Tuesday 4 - Thursday 6 May 2021, Wydale Hall, Yorkshire. [Further details here.](#)

### **Cambridge Month of Accompanied Prayer, Lent 2021**

An opportunity for people to be accompanied once a week by a trained guide 22 February to 19 March. Most days and evenings possible. These 'meetings' will be on a virtual platform or by telephone. There is no charge for participation. Introductory session on Zoom on Sunday 21 February, at 3pm. If possible, applications by Monday 8 February, to allow time to match pilgrims and accompaniers. Contact Kay Dodsworth: [ekdodsworth@gmail.com](mailto:ekdodsworth@gmail.com); 01223 234493 or 07786910406. or Romie Ridley: [romieridley@gmail.com](mailto:romieridley@gmail.com); 07941862435 or 01223 842922. **Application forms are on the website.**

**Addenbrooke's Hospital/Rosie Hospital Hospital Visiting A Ministry for you?** Have you a few hours a week? Do you like meeting people, listening to their stories and encouraging them on their spiritual journey? Then you might be able to help the Chaplaincy at Addenbrooke's Hospital. We are looking for lay visitors who will come in, adopt a ward and visit the patients on a weekly basis. Regular Lay Visitors training courses are run by the Chaplaincy Department at Addenbrooke's Hospital. The next one starts on Wednesday morning, 24th February 2021. [See role description.](#) Contact the Chaplaincy Administrator. Box 105, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, CB2 0QQ. 01223 217769 or e-mail: [chaplaincy@addenbrookes.nhs.uk](mailto:chaplaincy@addenbrookes.nhs.uk)

**A Beginners Guide to Using Minecraft for Collective Worship: Thursday 25 February, 7.30- 8.30pm via Zoom.** Looking for a new and engaging way to offer Collective Worship online? Revd Becky Dyball offered Collective Worship to her church primary school using Minecraft! A Zoom training session to explain the basics - how to create a storyline, record a voice, record in game footage and edit it all together, plus tips. Opportunity for questions and sharing experiences! [Book online](#)

### **REACH Ely Audit – from the Archdeacon of Huntingdon & Wisbech**

Many churches (*including St Mary's*) have already filled in their audit – thank you, and to those who have given their time and energy to that task. The information you provide will help us all to plan for the future. [Information here](#). With that sense of loss that we feel all the time at the moment and especially when completing the audit can I commend this prayer to you both as a lament for all that we have lost and a prayer as we face the future.

*O God of comfort and challenge Whose presence is ever reliable,  
as we look back, grant us an ability to grieve over what is ending:  
as we look forward, grant us diligence to seek your will  
patience to wait for you, eyes to behold you,  
and a church to proclaim you. Through Christ our Lord. Amen*

### **Bishop Stephen's Lent Challenge – Hope and a Future**

Each year church schools across the Diocese are invited to take part in a Lent Challenge. The Challenge for 2021 was launched last week, and can be found [here](#) Have a look and see if there are ways you can support schools in your parishes with this, or use some of the suggestions and material in church.

### **The Big Lent Read – A National Book Club: starting 17 February**

[The Big Lent Read](#) with the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book *Living His Story*.

It's free to join in, either for individuals, home groups or whole churches. Through a series of short weekly videos released on the Sundays of Lent, author Hannah Steele will unpack liberating and practical ways of sharing the Gospel story afresh, and share how we can live Jesus' story in our own lives simply by allowing people to be drawn to him through our natural gifts. It's one more opportunity for making the reading of the book a shared experience with others, bringing communities to journey together through Lent despite being physically separated.

### **The Leprosy Mission – Unconditional Campaign 24 January – 24 April 2021**

Helen Walton, regional manager, Leprosy Mission in the East of England, asks us to highlight this campaign supporting people affected by leprosy in Mozambique. During the campaign all donations will be doubled by the UK Government. Worship resources and other information are available [here](#). Helen has shared a [short service](#) via YouTube from Christ Church, Orton Goldhay which people can use. Helen is happy to speak to churches or groups, so do contact her if you're interested.

**Vellore**—Following Catherine Richardson's recent talk to the Mothers' Union on her visit to Vellore, here is some information from the Diocesan website:

The Diocese of Ely and the Cambridgeshire Ecumenical Council have been linked with the [Diocese of Vellore in South India since 1992](#). The wealth of sharing knowledge, prayer support and fellowship is evident in the many visits between the two dioceses. The Diocese of Vellore is in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu and centres on the town of Vellore itself. It is part of the Church of South India, a united church since 1947, made up from the Anglican, Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational churches.

The [Revd Canon Fiona Brampton](#), the Bishop's Adviser for World Mission, is the key contact for this link.

## **Parish Prayer Board February 2021**

*Subjects for prayer and thanksgiving mentioned in our prayers. Phone the Rector 890273 or email [admin@stmaryslinton.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmaryslinton.org.uk) with your request. Obtain permission for inclusion of names. Prayer requests are kept for 2 weeks and take the place of the prayer list in church. The Ministry Team are each praying for several in the congregation so that all those on the electoral roll are included.*

10 February—We ask for prayers for Vic and Beryl Terry (Nichols Court).

11 February - Please pray for Chris Kemshell, the minister of Linton Free Church. He is home from hospital, but will have to return for a gall-bladder operation.

17 February—Chris Morse is having major heart surgery at Papworth on Thursday February 25th. We pray for him, for Di and their family at this time.

To add to the pewsheets, or to receive it by email or as a paper copy, contact Anne:  
[admin@stmaryslinton.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmaryslinton.org.uk) Information for pewsheets to be received by 11am Thursday.