

Welcome to St. Mary's Shortlands

3 May 2026 – 5th Sunday of Easter

Today

10.30am 10.30am - Holy Communion with Junior Church

Celebrant and preaching: Rev. Dave Edmondson

Reading: Adrian Bingham

Intercessions: Glo Sherman

Hymns

606 Thy hand o God has guided

153 Now the green blade riseth

470 I the Lord of sea and sky

Comm: 441 God is love

Anthem O taste and see – Vaughn Williams

609 To God be the glory

APCM after 10.30 service

This week

Tue 5 May 10.00am - 12 noon - Craft and Chatter

Wed 6 May 10.00am – Morning prayer in the chapel

10.30am – 12.30pm – Community Café

Thur 7 May 9.30am & 12.30pm - Baby and Toddler sessions

7.00pm – Junior choir practice

7.30pm – Adult choir practice

Sat 9 May Taketime meditation in the chapel

Sun 10 May 10.30am - Holy Communion

4.00pm - Tea Time Together for families with children up to Yr 5

6.00pm - Youth Club for Years 6 -13



APCM 3rd May after 10.30 service

The APCM is the church's annual meeting where we reflect on the past year and look ahead to the future. The Election of Churchwardens and APCM will take place together. APCM documents are available, only a limited number of printed copies will be provided. All documents are also available to view online. stmarysshortlands.org.uk/span/annual-parochial-church-meeting

Collect

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading: Acts 8.26-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he

proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Gospel reading: John 6.44-51

No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, "And they shall all be taught by God." Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

Post-Communion Prayer

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Please remember in your prayers this week...

The Community...

For the Missionary Societies of the Church, especially those supported by St. Mary's, and our Mission of the Month.

The World ...

For all areas of conflict and those suffering from natural and man-made disasters.

The Sick ...

For those who are recently unwell, including Christine Perzyna, Barbara Page, Elizabeth Barnes and Robert Barnes. We continue to pray for Eileen Abbam, Sally Aldred, Angela Ash, and for those who seek our support by bringing these prayers to our church.

The Departed ...

We pray for everyone grieving the loss of loved ones, especially the family and friends of David Linstead. We remember those whose anniversaries we keep this week: Nancie Dalton, Mabel Putman, John Greenwood, Irma Shivanathan and Ronald Rankin.

NOTICES

- **Hope Explored - 8pm-6th May (Chapel).** Join us for a friendly sessions full of conversation, welcome, and real hope in Jesus.
- **Tea Time Together** at 4.00pm for families with children up to Yr 5 and **Youth Club** from 6.00pm for Years 6 -13. Next dates - May 10th, June 14th, July 12th
- **Plant sale:** Saturday 16 May 11am-1pm in the church grounds. Refreshments available from St Mary's Community Café.
- **Cake and Cuppa:** All who give their time and talents to the life of St Mary's are invited to a Thank You in the Vicarage Garden on Sunday 24th May at 3.30pm. Sign up at the back of the church.
- **TakeTime meditation group:** Saturday 9th May, 10th July, 12th Sept, 10th Oct, 14th Nov and 12th Dec from 10.15 – 11am in the chapel for a seated relaxation exercise and a guided meditation imagining yourself with Jesus. No Bible knowledge needed.

Our Mission of the Month (MOM) for May is Embrace the Middle East

There is a display at the back of the church. Each MOM receives equal donations from the church & from individuals.

**Please use this QR code to make a donation to St Mary's.
Thank you.**



Donations for Bromley Foodbank can be left in the church porch.

Items most needed are long life dessert & milk, adult toothbrush, toilet rolls, ladies deodorant, tinned cold meats, cooking sauces, laundry detergent/pods & carrier bags

At St Mary's we take our safeguarding responsibilities very seriously: we are committed to ensuring our church and hall buildings are safe places for all. If you have any concerns about safeguarding you can contact our Parish Safeguarding Officer Pauline Lambourne
safeguarding@stmaryshortlands.church or 020 8658 0470

Parish Office

Open 10am–12noon - office@stmaryshortlands.church
Tel: 020 8460 5682

Rev. Dave Edmondson - vicar@stmaryshortlands.church
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Church Wardens

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