

# Welcome to St. Mary's Shortlands



## 5<sup>th</sup> July 2026 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

Today

### 10.30am Holy Communion with Junior Church

Celebrant: Rev. Jane Peters

Preaching: Rev. Dave Edmondson

Reading: Gill Dawson

Intercessions: Cathy Myers

Hymns

250 All creatures of our God and king

308 Just as I am

468 I danced in the morning

Comm: 54 I cannot tell

Anthem: Lead me Lord - Wesley

585 The Church's one foundation

### 6.30pm Informal Evening Service with the Music

**Group** - Come and celebrate the quiet beauty of "Ordinary Time" in the church calendar. Reflections, songs, prayers and an activity. Everyone welcome!

### This week

Tue 7 July 10.00am - 12 noon - Craft and Chatter

Wed 8 July 10.00am – Holy Communion in the chapel

10.30am – 12.30pm – Community Café

Thur 9 July 9.30am & 12.30pm - Baby and Toddler sessions

7.00pm – Junior choir practice

7.30pm – Adult choir practice

Sat 11 July 10.15am - Taketime meditation

**Sun 12 July 10.30am - Holy Communion with Junior Church**

Fair-trade stall after the service

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

**6.00pm Youth Club** for Years 6 -13

## **Collect**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**First reading: Genesis 24:34-38,42-49,58-67**

### **24:34-38**

So he said, 'I am Abraham's servant. The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, "You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son."

### **24: 42-49**

'I came today to the spring, and said, "O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, 'Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,' and who will say to me, 'Drink, and I will draw for your camels also'—let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son."

'Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water-jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, "Please let me drink." She quickly let down her jar from her

shoulder, and said, "Drink, and I will also water your camels." So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, "Whose daughter are you?" She said, "The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him." So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshipped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.'

#### **24: 58-67**

And they called Rebekah, and said to her, 'Will you go with this man?' She said, 'I will.' So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, 'May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes.' Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, 'Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?' The servant said, 'It is my master.' So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

## **Gospel reading: Matthew 11.16-19, 25-end**

### **11.16-19**

‘But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another, “We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.” For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, “He has a demon”; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, “Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!” Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.’

### **11. 25-end**

At that time Jesus said, ‘I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

### **Post Communion**

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***Please remember in your prayers this week...***

**The Community...**

For those to be baptised, confirmed and married this year.

**The World ...**

For all victims of conflict, oppression and climate change.

**The Sick ...**

For those who are recently unwell, including Ian Brentnall, Peggy Duffin, Janice Davis, Sheila Dowling, Christine Perzyna 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 Barbara Jones, Heather Donovan and Regina Claiborne-Dixon. We remember those whose anniversaries we keep this week: Kate Reid, Elsie Parks, Bill Shepherd, Frank Vickers and Marjorie Mann and Bernard Cox.

## **NOTICES**

- **Churches Together in Beckenham** – Summer Picnic Sunday 5th July. All are warmly invited at St Paul's, in Beckenham. An informal start time after Sunday services. Bring your own picnic and picnic blanket or seat.
- **Nominate St Mary's for a chance to win £5000**  
The Benefact Group will be giving 20 charities £5,000 each in a special draw. All you need to do is nominate St Mary's Church, Shortlands before 5<sup>th</sup> July. A link has been sent out to all those who consented to receive communication from St Mary's. Please support this initiative and improve our chance of being a winner.

- **Embrace the Middle East**, our Mission of the Month for May, is partnering with UK churches in the “Time to Act” campaign, responding to the call of Palestinian Christians for courage, compassion, and action amid ongoing violence and injustice in Israel and Palestine. Church leaders, including the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, have urged Christians to support this campaign and pray and advocate for a just and lasting peace—find out more at Embrace’s Time to Act online or Pauline Lambourne.
- We are pleased to announce that The Ouseley Church Music Trust has awarded St Mary’s a £2,500 grant to support our Junior Choir over the next two years. This funding will allow us to extend Claire’s hours as Director of Music, helping us to develop and grow this important ministry among our young people.
- **Support Welcare a local charity:** Please join us for a summer afternoon Piano Recital given by Pianist Geoff Mussard on Sunday 12th July 2026, 3 pm to 5 pm. At Saint Francis Church, Ravenswood Avenue, West Wickham. BR4 0PW. Admission £10 on the door.
- **You are warmly invited to a Gala Fundraising Dinner at St Mary’s Shortlands on Saturday 18 July, 7–10pm**, featuring fine dining 3 course meal, wine, and a special guest speaker, the Governor of the Bank of England in support of our Future Generations Project. Tickets £100 per person, to book email [fundraising@stmaryshortlands.church](mailto:fundraising@stmaryshortlands.church)
- **The choir is singing for a service for ABCD’s 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm at St. Botolph’s** in London (near Liverpool St. station). All are welcome – please see Claire if you wish to attend.

- **The choir is singing on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2 August at 5.15pm and Matins at 10.45 am 2 August at St. George's Windsor.** All are welcome to attend the services.
- **Safeguarding Training for All Volunteers**  
Due to Church of England safeguarding requirements, that everyone involved in any church rota now has to complete the Church of England's Basic Safeguarding Training. The Basic Safeguarding Training is designed to give us all a shared understanding of what safeguarding is, why it matters, and how each of us contributes to creating a safe and healthy church environment. It helps us recognise potential concerns and respond appropriately. Even for those who have served faithfully for many years, it provides a helpful common foundation. How to complete the training:

- **Online:** A simple course which can be completed individually. Please create an account and complete the Basic Safeguarding Course using the Church of England training portal:  
[safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org](http://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org) . Or
- **In person:** For those who prefer to do this training in person in groups we have some planned dates  
Wednesday 8th July - Midday  
Sunday 26th July - Midday  
Saturday 12th September - 10am  
Sunday 18th October - Midday

There is a sign up sheet at the back of Church or email Dave. Thank you for your help and support. Safeguarding is a vital part of our shared ministry, helping us ensure that St Mary's remains a safe and welcoming church for all.

- Once you complete training please email [safeguarding@stmaryshortlands.church](mailto:safeguarding@stmaryshortlands.church)

### **Fairtrade Dates**

July - Sun 12th, Wed 22nd  
August – Sun 9th, Wed 26th  
Sept – Sun 13th, Wed 23<sup>rd</sup>

### **Taketime meditation**

10.15am-11am in the Chapel  
11th July, 12th Sept, 10th Oct,  
14th Nov & 12th Dec

### **Our Mission of the Month (MOM) for July is Demelza**

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

### **Staying in Touch at St Mary's**



We are beginning to use our email list to share news and information about upcoming events at St Mary's. If you would like to receive emails from us, you can sign up by completing a short online form using the QR code provided, or by filling in one of the paper forms available at the back of church.

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 on 020 8658 0470 or [safeguarding@stmaryshortlands.church](mailto:safeguarding@stmaryshortlands.church)

**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 tinned fruit, cold meats & puddings, coffee, long life fruit juice, UHT milk, laundry detergent & ladies deodorant

### **Parish Office**

**Open 10am–12noon** - [office@stmaryshortlands.church](mailto:office@stmaryshortlands.church)  
Tel: 020 8460 5682

**Rev. Dave Edmondson** - [vicar@stmaryshortlands.church](mailto:vicar@stmaryshortlands.church)  
Tel: 07592136421

### **Church Wardens**

Gloria Sherman - [glowarden@stmaryshortlands.church](mailto:glowarden@stmaryshortlands.church)  
Robin Hogg - [robinwarden@stmaryshortlands.church](mailto:robinwarden@stmaryshortlands.church)

