

Hertingfordbury & The Five Greens Parish News



Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir in Concert
Saturday 11th May at St Mary's (Full details inside)

May 2024

Here with you - Here for you

Printed copies are available from St Mary's church & Four Rivers Coffee Café

PARISH OF ST. MARY'S, HERTINGFORDBURY

www.hertingfordburystmary.org

Priest in Charge Reverend Alan Stewart - email: h.alanstewart1@gmail.com
Not Friday please unless very urgent **01992 582726**

Assistant Priest Reverend Bill Church - email: churchwj@hotmail.com
01992 410469

Churchwardens

Robin Bishop The Fobury, St. Mary's Lane, Hertingfordbury SG14 2LD
robinhbishop@gmail.com **01992 551946**

David Gorton 3 The Mill, Hertingfordbury Rd, Hertingfordbury SG14 2SB
dgorton1@btinternet.com **01992 551430**

PCC Secretary Ms Rachel Carter **07378 550871**
raich.carter@yahoo.co.uk

Treasurer Robin Bishop (address see above)
robinhbishop@gmail.com **01992 551946**

Cheques should be made payable to "St Mary's Hertingfordbury PCC"

Choirmaster Paul Attridge **01992 627210**

Organist Paul Attridge **01992 627210**

Pastoral Visitors Kay Juniper **01992 558321/07776 340932**
Helen Bishop **01992 551946**
Christine Gorton **01992 551430**

Wedding Administrator

Karen Cox **07990 578749**
greggandkaren@hotmail.co.uk

Safeguarding Officer

Robin Bishop (address see above)
robinhbishop@gmail.com **01992 551946**

Parish News Editorial & Advertising

Philip Juniper **07767 312382 / 01992 558321**
kpjuniper@yahoo.co.uk

**If you would like a printed copy of the Parish News delivered to you, please
contact Philip Juniper above**



Star Quality

Scrolling through Instagram, I recently came across a guy who walks around with a rolled-up red carpet. When he sees someone approaching, he unrolls the carpet in front of them. And without exception, the initial surprise of these unsuspecting pedestrians, quickly turns to delight as they proceed to sashay and strut their stuff on this makeshift cat-walk. And for those few seconds, they feel and act like a star.

Watching their reaction is both joyful and beautiful.

When was the last time you felt seen and celebrated? Can you remember the last time someone told you what they appreciate about you, or how wonderful you are?

When it happens, it's a joyful and beautiful thing. It's transformative.

It costs absolutely nothing to roll out the red carpet; to lift someone with our words. But sadly, I think we're often too distracted or embarrassed to tell someone just how much we value them, or to list those small things in them that make a big difference to us. It's so much easier to stay silent or to take one another for granted.

Throughout his life, Jesus lifted the faces of the downcast, and celebrated the forgotten. In his presence people felt seen and celebrated. It's an example worth following.

Today, may we each commit to packing our invisible red carpet, and with our words and attention highlight the star quality in the next person we meet.

Alan



This publication was kindly printed by St Andrew's church

Registers

There are no registers this month

Some Dates for your Diary

1st May - **Mindfulness & Meditation** 7.30pm in church (St Andrews) and on Zoom. Other Wednesday evenings are Zoom only

4th May – **Village Breakfast at the Fobury** 8.30 – 11.00am

5th May – **Brian Fries from Young Life** will attend the 9.15 service to share a brief update of their work with young people

9th May – **Ascension Day Service in the style of Taize.** 8pm at St Andrews

11th May – **Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir** at St Mary's church 7.30pm



Last years Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir at St Mary's was a great success. Please come again this year at 7.30pm on 11th May. Wonderful singing and wine available at the interval. Tickets £10 from Kay Juniper 07776 340932 / 01992 558321

Sunday Services at St Mary's

Sung Eucharist 9.15am every Sunday

Zoom Sunday Service at 10.30am (joining details from Robin Bishop)

All Age Service & Young Church 9.15am on 2nd Sunday of the month



Exploring Confirmation



Service of Confirmation, St Andrews, Tuesday 4th June

We're delighted to be welcoming Bishop Stephen Venner to St Andrew's for a service of Confirmation for both our parishes on **Tuesday 4th June at 7.30pm.**

Confirmation is for anyone who...

- may have been baptised/christened as a child and would like to affirm that faith for themselves.
- would like to take the next step in committing to following Christ.

In this very special service, the Bishop lays his hands upon our heads, speaks our name and prays for the strength of the Holy Spirit to fill our lives.

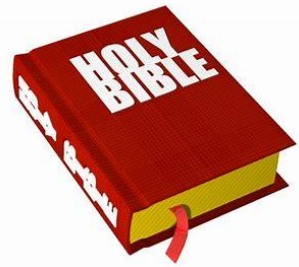
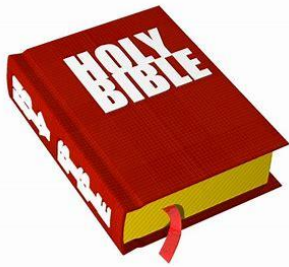


We're holding a two-session **Exploring Confirmation** course for those who would like to think about this.

Each session will be tailor-made for those who come, with an opportunity to choose the questions you want to explore.

Tuesdays 14 and 21 May 7.30-8.30pm.
The Brace Room, St Mary's Church Hertingfordbury

If you are interested please contact Rev Alan Stewart
01992 582726 / h.alanstewart@gmail.com



The Bible Course

An eight-session course helping you to explore the BIG story

Whether you're well versed in Scripture or new to the Bible, The Bible Course (from the Bible Society) offers a superb overview of the world's best-selling book. The course will increase your confidence, equip you to read the Bible better and help you to see its relevance to daily life. Over eight interactive sessions, it combines video teaching, group discussion, personal reflection and daily readings.

Meeting people in groups, where everyone shares their thoughts and experiences, lies at the heart of The Bible Course as everyone learns from each other.

13 of us took part in this course last autumn and found it really helpful and enjoyable.

We are looking to offer it again in the summer, starting in early June and we'd like to get an idea of what size of group we might expect before deciding on a time and venue.

To find out more, or to register your interest in attending the course, please get in touch with Kath Oates: kathoates2022@virginmedia.com



A Personal Prayer with Rev Alan

On the third Sunday of the month Rev Alan will again be available in the Cowper Chapel at St Mary's for personal prayer. This will be during communion at the 9.15am service and is for anyone who would value prayers of thanksgiving, healing or concern



Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir

will be performing on



SAT 11th MAY @7.30pm

at St.Mary's Church Hertingfordbury

tickets £10 msg Kay Juniper 07776 340932

*The choir was founded in 1935 by a group of
Welshmen who had moved to WGC in
search of work. They enjoy singing music from a
variety of genres including songs
from shows, spirituals, traditional English,
Scottish & Irish pieces.*

a FOHSM event



***The Friends of Hertingfordbury St Mary
Programme of Events 2024
Open to everyone***

Saturday 4 May

Village Breakfast at The Fobury (08.30 – 11.00)

Helen Bishop 07746 694890

Saturday 11 May

Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir at St Mary's Church (19.30)

Tickets £10

Kay Juniper 07776 340932

Saturday 13 July

Village Fun Day St Mary's Church (14.00 – 17.00)

David Gorton 07544 702241

Friday 26 - Saturday 27 July

Art Exhibition at St Mary's – an exhibition of works by Rev Alan Stewart

Further information to follow – Helen Bishop 07446 694890

Saturday 28 September

Le Café Français at St Mary's Church (09.30 -12.00)

Helen Bishop 07746 694890

Saturday 16 November

Christmas Market at St Mary's Church (10.00 -13.00)

Helen Bishop 07746 694890

Becoming a Friend

The Friends of Hertingfordbury St Mary was granted charitable status just before Christmas (Charity number 1206041).

The purpose of The Friends is to raise money for the restoration and preservation of the church building and churchyard. The funds are not for the day to day running of the church. That's the responsibility of the congregation. We should like to make sure that this beautiful church is here for future generations.

The Friends of Hertingfordbury St Mary

Membership forms, with the FoHSM account details, are available inside the church by the south door should you like to become a Friend or make a donation. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like more information. Thank you for your support.
Helen Bishop thefobury@outlook.com 07746 694890

*You are invited to the
Village Breakfast
at The Fobury on
Saturday 4th May at 8.30 - 11.00am*



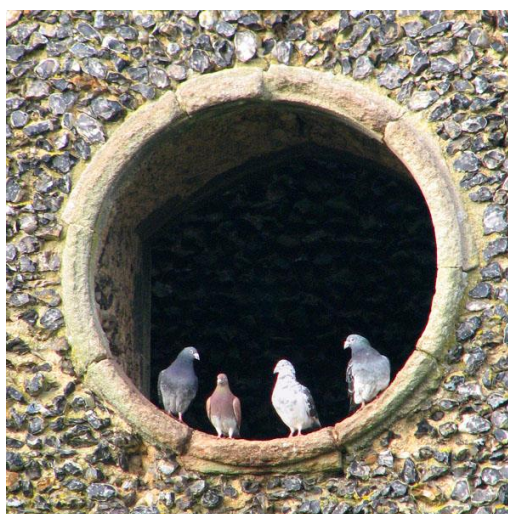
*A selection of breakfasts including
The Full English, Smoked Salmon & Scrambled
Eggs, Bacon or Sausage rolls or even enjoy with a
glass of Bucks Fizz.*

*message Helen Bishop on 07746694890 for more
information.*

a FOHSM charity event

Eco Church: Caring for God's Earth

Help us to respond faithfully to the climate and nature crises



Evelyn Simak / St Andrew's church, Roudham - pigeons perched in the sound hole

Eco Church is a scheme run by A Rocha UK, equipping churches to care for God's creation through their worship, buildings, land, community engagement, and individual lifestyles.

Essentially, the idea is that churches make a commitment to demonstrate their engagement with the environment by working towards an award.

There are five areas that a church must demonstrate environmental engagement with to receive an award:

- Worship and teaching
- Management of church buildings
- Management of church land
- Community and global engagement
- Lifestyle

According to the Church of England website: 'As of the end of 2022, there are 1155 Bronze, 401 Silver, and 23 Gold Church of England Eco Churches, and our first two gold cathedrals; Salisbury and Chelmsford. The scheme is a fantastic resource for encouraging churches, cathedrals, and dioceses to embody the fifth mark of mission.'

St Mary's is proposing to have a go at working towards a Bronze Award! If you care about the environment and would like to get involved, ask Rachel Carter (raich.carter@yahoo.co.uk)

St. Mary's Churchyard Regulations – Easter

We are very conscious that this is a sensitive area – and we are most grateful for the care shown by many people tending graves and memorial plaques – but as Churchwardens we are required to ensure that the regulations laid down by the diocese relating to the churchyard are adhered to. The rules relating to churchyards are very stringent compared to those applying to local authority cemeteries. The full regulations are displayed on the noticeboard by the entrance and inside the South Door porch.

We would therefore ask that you remember that the placing of the likes of Easter Bunnies, windmills and so on, on graves/plaques is not permitted. Similarly floral remembrances should consist of natural flowers. Also please do not use glass vases or jars as they might be accidentally broken during mowing.

Whilst we should be reluctant to do so, we will, if necessary, remove items. We would always be happy to explain our reason for doing so. Please do speak with us if you would like advice about what is permitted.

Remembrances should be removed by Ascension Day (9 May) at the latest. Thank you.
David & Robin, Churchwardens

Meadow Saxifrage, below, is already flowering in the St Mary's churchyard nature plot (in the front middle section)



Meadow Saxifrage

The delicate, snow-white, five petalled flowers and long stalked, kidney shaped leaves are distinctive features of the meadow saxifrage.

This is a declining species nationally with its stronghold in eastern England. It was once a common species on hay meadows and old grasslands but as these habitats have vanished so has the meadow saxifrage.

Thank you to Rev Bill Church for this photograph



Church Flower Rota - May

5th - Sue Parsell

12th - Wedding

19th - Sue Payne

26th - Jean Skinner



We are extremely grateful for the time, generosity and skill that the flower team give each week to make the church look so beautiful.
Above from L-R : Sue Payne, Jean Skinner, Sue Parsell, Sharron Maxwell, Alison Robinson & Penny Duce

Easter Images at St Mary's – Dawn service & Easter Flowers



A Job Well Done

The Hertingfordbury Village Residents Association (HVRA) is pleased to announce the notice board has been successfully installed on the back wall of the village triangle. We were able to obtain a grant from Hertford Town Council for this and thanks goes to Robin Bishop who liaised with the appropriate department on our behalf.

This completes the project planned by Mick Barratt during the early stages of the COVID lockdown. Thanks to all who supported the undertaking in the village, in particular Mick Barratt, David Gorton and James Lidgett; but really so many contributed throughout and we should all pat ourselves on the back for a piece of landscape well done. A reminder also that the village sign was painted by Sarah Williams and planned and executed by Mick.



Over the last few years there have been photos in the Parish News as the project has unfolded and recently one showing the sign with newly erected lights. These last few are showing 2 villagers using the notice board (Helen Bishop & Suzanne Rutland-Barsby) and the planted area in all its glory. Penny Barratt

Hertingfordbury & The Five Greens Parish News



The Parish News is published digitally monthly apart from the two month editions of December/January & July/August

Printed copies are available from St Mary's Church in Hertingfordbury and the Four Rivers Coffee café in Birch Green

Whilst covering church news and matters we also try and reach out as much as possible to include the wider Hertingfordbury and the Greens community activity, be it schools, brownies, clubs etc. If you would like anything included please contact the editor Philip Juniper kpjuniper@yahoo.co.uk

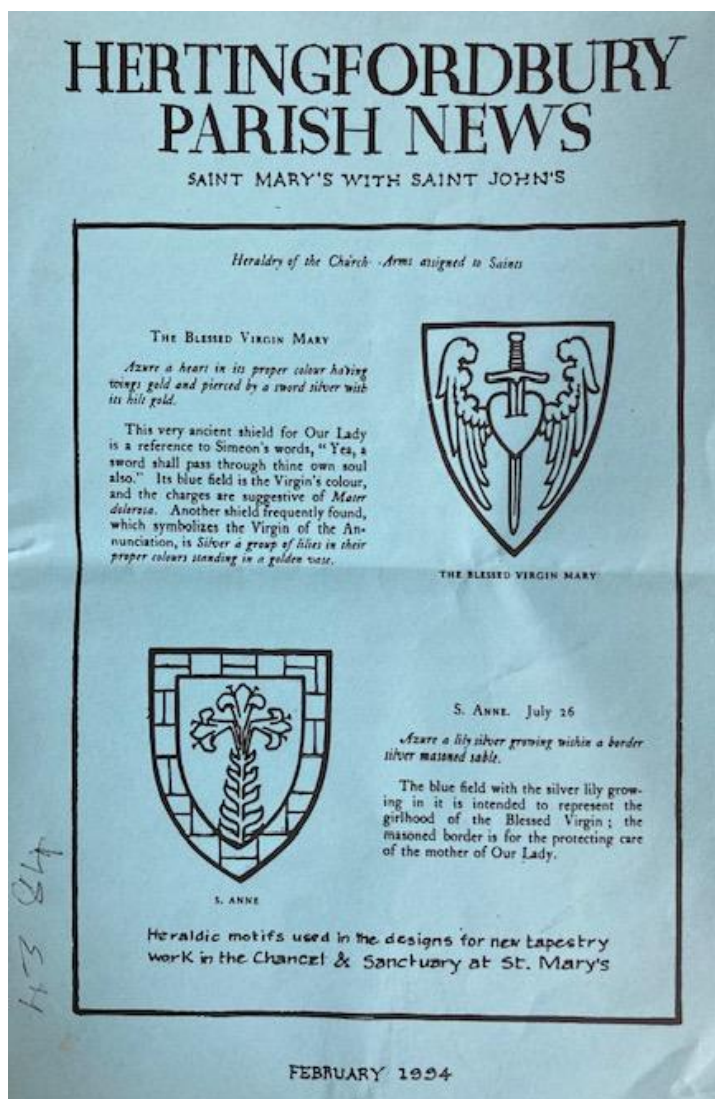
You can access the latest and recent digital editions of the Parish News by scanning the QR code with your camera on your mobile phone



This Parish News poster will shortly be displayed on all the notice boards in Hertingfordbury and The Greens.

As well as highlighting the magazine it also informs where printed copies can be obtained and has a QR code that enables on line access and download of the latest and recent publications on a smart phone

Hertingfordbury Parish News – February 1994



Last month we had a piece on the 30th anniversary of the ordination of women priests featuring our **Rev Rosemary Caruana**. This month **Joan Haynes** sent me an old copy of the Parish News from February 1994, 30 years ago!

The Rector then was **Rev Jim Birtwistle** and Rosemary was Parish Deacon. The attached images and texts from that edition feature a letter from Rosemary regarding the Christmas services and Christingle as well as the arrangements for services at St John's lest we forget.

Also **Jean Walker** was one of the churchwardens along with **John Wood**. They both did so much for St Mary's and of course in those days St John's

Also highlighted is the mention within the magazine of the new tapestry work (runners, cushions & kneelers) for the Chancel & Sanctuary at St Mary's. This was all organised by **Richard Hitch** who also designed and drew the front covers of the magazines then and this one features the heraldic motifs used in the new tapestry work.

Thank you Joan for sharing this with us

"Dear Young People of the Parish,

Thank you very much for attending in such splendid numbers the Crib service, the Christmas Morning Family Eucharist and the Christingle Service. Whilst I appreciate that these three services are rather Special, I would like to point out that on alternate months throughout the year there is a service at St John's, Letty Green. In 1994 these services will be on the 4th Sunday of the following months: February, April, June, August and October. The service begins at 10am and there is always time for refreshment afterwards. Please give some thought to coming – you never know – you might enjoy it! Mums, Dads, Grandparents and all adults are all most welcome too, for after all the Family in Family Service is the Family of God and that is YOU - With love & blessings – **Rev Rosemary**"

"New tapestry work (runner, cushions, kneelers) for the chancel & sanctuary at St Mary's are now nearly complete. They will not be much seen by the congregation once they are in place. They will therefore be the subject of a small display in the North Aisle on Sunday 20 February for anyone wishing to see them – **Richard Hitch**"

HERTINGFORDBURY & THE GREENS

SUMMER FETE

15th June
1.30pm

**Traditional Games,
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Prize Raffle,
Music & Dance,
Homemade Cakes,
Food & Drink, BBQ,
Craft & Antique Stalls
... and much more!**

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Easter Images at St Mary's



The Last Hour



Easter Sunday



We bring people together through a shared curiosity for the arts. We meet on the last Thursday of the month to hear arts related lectures in a comfortable, friendly atmosphere at the The Spotlight in Hoddesdon. We meet for coffee at 10am, followed by the lecture at 10.30. **Visitors are very welcome at the lectures for a small fee.**

Upcoming lectures

30 May – **Tamara de Lempicka: Art Deco Diva** by Alexandra Epps

27 June – **An Actor's Life for Me** by Tyler Butterworth

(followed by the Summer Lunch)

26 September – **Breughel, the Seasons and the World** by Gavin Plumley

For more information please go to our website
www.theartsocietyeastherts.org.uk

Joint Parish Awayday



Wholehearted Enjoyment

After a spring of persistent wind and rain, the second weekend of April 2024 blossomed with unexpected sunshine. This was just as well, as around 80 people from the congregations of St Andrew's and St Mary's joined together at St Joseph's in The Park School in Hertingfordbury for the parishes' annual get-together or 'awayday'.

In keeping with the 'wholeheartedness' theme of the event, it was a day of wholehearted joy. With the help of some careful planning by the two churches and members of staff at St Joseph's, the classrooms, hall and beautiful grounds were turned into temporary worship areas, musical studios, creative workshops and places to dine and socialise.

It was relaxed. It was inspirational. It was creative. But more than anything, it was fun. Look out for a full report in next month's magazine. In the meantime, take a sneak preview of the happy participants gathered in the morning, enjoying a break in the sunshine and looking forward to their school lunch (which was yummy).



'ROOTED IN JESUS, GROWING IN WISDOM,
OVERFLOWING WITH THANKFULNESS'
(COLOSSIANS 2:7)

Hertingfordbury Cowper C of E (VA) Primary School

We are looking forward to our Summer Term here at Hertingfordbury and would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of our children's recent learning.

Year 4 trip to The British Schools Museum, Hitchin

The children in Year 4 enjoyed a day at the British Schools Museum in Hitchin, linked to their current History unit of learning 'How did the Victorians influence our life and our school?' The children and staff came dressed in role as Victorians. The children stepped back in time to see what life would have been like for a Victorian child.



Hertingfordbury Cowper C of E (VA) Primary School

Year 5 History – Ancient Greeks Day

Our Year 5 class transported back to Ancient Greece. They came into school dressed in their togas and enjoyed a whole day of different activities to end their History unit of learning 'What do we learn from the Ancient Greeks?'



Sports News

A team of children from across years 3 to 6 went to Hertford Rugby Club for the Hertford and Ware School Sports Partnership Cross Country event. We are very proud of all the children, who as a team won the overall trophy. We also had some individual medals.



Live Lively -



Square Dance!

Waggoners Square Dance Club

All sessions at St Joseph's in the Park School Hall Hertingfordbury



Want to have fun, exercise, make friends?

Square Dancing is fun and easy to learn. No previous dancing experience is necessary. Singles and couples welcome. Wear comfortable shoes. Dance to a range of music with movements cued by the Caller.

Although it is identified as dance, the movements are low impact with dancers "walking" through the moves in time with the beat of the music

Come and try a "taster session" Hoedown.....

MIDSUMMER HOEDOWN on Monday 17th June 7.30 – 10pm £5

HARVEST HOEDOWN on Monday 7th October 7.30 – 10pm £5

Interested throughout the year? Please contact Penny & Bob Warner - 01920 465276

For further details see www.waggonerssquaredanceclub.com

e-mail: waggonerssdc@gmail.com



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**HERTFORD YOUNG LIFE
INTERNATIONAL PRESENTS**

QUIZ NIGHT

18 MAY 2024 | 6.30PM - 9.00PM

COWBRIDGE HALL SG14 1PG

Compete for cerebral supremacy as you raise money for a great cause! Teams of up to 8 people. Hog roast (or veggie option) dinner and a bottle of wine for each team will be provided, but please bring any other drinks you would like. As part of the evening, we will be celebrating the work of Young Life International in Hertford, and you'll be invited to consider supporting the ministry in various ways.

Contact Bryan Fries with any questions

✉ bfries@ylinternational.org

☎ 07846 549809

🌐 hertford.ylinternational.org



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Four Rivers Coffee Shop open in Birch Green – now open Thursdays!

The Birch Green café is now open Thursday to Sunday. You can buy to drink in or to take away. For more information visit fourriverscoffee.co.uk



Four Rivers Coffee Company in Birch Green

Opening hours

Thursday & Friday 8am to 4pm

Saturday & Sunday 9am to 2pm

Fourriverscoffee.co.uk

Printed copies of the Parish News are now available from Four Rivers Café



Recreation Ground Library

A library, containing books, both fiction and non-fiction, including a good children's section, DVD's and games has been set up in the tennis pavilion on the Hertingfordbury recreation ground.

This is a free resource for all Hertingfordbury residents. Access can be gained at any time by the use of keys that are kept in a key-safe at the pavilion. Should anyone have any books, DVD's, or games to donate to the library new stock is always welcome.

If you are interested in using this facility please contact Penny or Mick Barratt on 07715 378212 and they can provide you with the key safe access code.

Hertingfordbury Parish Council

Chairman – Paul Rochford

Vice Chairman – Haidy Blake

Councillors – Nicola Gordon, Roger Morris, Simon Bostock

Member of Parliament – Oliver Heald

County Councillor – Ken Crofton

District Councillor – Bob Deering

If you wish to contact the Parish Council please contact the Clerk

Clerk: Katie Eyre at clerk@hertingfordbury.org.uk

Next Meeting

Meetings are at Hertingfordbury Cowper School between 7pm – 9pm. Members of the public are welcome. Please see website for latest dates

To report an issue with fly tipping, highway fault, overflowing rubbish, street lighting etc, please call East Herts District Council directly on 01279 655261 or go to <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/faultreporting/>



Defibrillators

Please note that Defibrillators are housed on the outside walls of the.....

- Parish Room (The Brace Room) at St Mary's Church, Hertingfordbury
- Cowper School, Birch Green – outside the school gate



Church Cleaners

We really need people (men or women!) to join our church cleaning rota

It takes a couple of hours every few weeks. We want our beautiful church to always look its best

If you can help please contact Virginia on 01992 583560



Churchyard Volunteers Needed



Volunteers required for grass cutting

Second Saturday of each month, anytime between 9 - 12 noon

Reward is a picnic lunch and good company..... and a laugh!

Please let David Gorton know if you are able to help

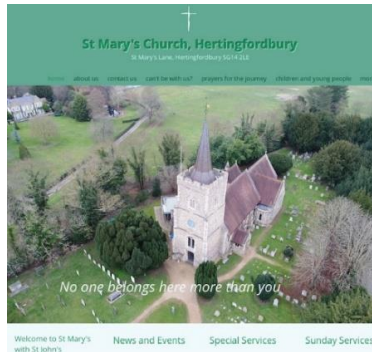


Volunteers needed to open/close St. Mary's



As part of St. Mary's commitment to be 'Here with you, Here for you' we are pleased that we have been able to keep the church open during the day. However, to do so requires volunteers to open and close the building every day. As a village if we want the church to be open – and I think we do - we need some new volunteers. It is not an onerous task.

Please give serious thought to joining the rota and speak to one of the Churchwardens. Thank you for considering this



www.hertingfordburystmary.org

The St Mary's website features all the church news including the latest digital Parish News in full colour

This website is a vital communication tool to be able to follow updates on the church.
If you wish to contribute in any way please contact Rachel via e mail
raich.carter@yahoo.co.uk



WhatsApp Groups

If you would like to be part of the **St Mary's Church WhatsApp Group** please contact David Gorton on 07544 702241

Hertingfordbury Village WhatsApp Group is a sociable community group. For more information please contact Jamie Shawyer or Mick Barratt

Brace Room

The Brace Room at St Mary's Church is available for hire for anybody in our community. This could be for meetings, exercise sessions or any other purpose. Includes excellent toilet and kitchen facilities. For more information contact David Gorton 01992 551430 or dgorton1@btinternet.com



Zoom Services

While we welcome you to services at St Mary's, Zoom services available for your worship

Please contact the church office if you'd like to be added to our mailing list and receive the service or meeting invitation details: standrew.hertford@btinternet.com or contact Robin Bishop to be added to the St Mary's distribution list

Every Wednesday

Meditation & Mindfulness 8.00pm

Every Sunday

Service of the Word 10.30am

(Every 3rd Sunday will offer Communion)

Compline 7.00pm

Please note that a recording of the Reading, Sermon and Prayers from the Sunday morning service is now available on the St Mary's website

www.hertingfordburystmary.org

WALTER WALLINGER CHARITY

Walter Wallinger died in 1709 leaving "Four hundred pounds for the placing of poor children of this Parish as Apprentices."

Times have moved on and the trustees of the charity now take the view that the income from the endowment should be used to give grants for educational purposes to people under 25 who have for at least two years lived, or been educated, within 'the ancient parish of Hertingfordbury' which today roughly means Hertingfordbury village and the five Greens and outlying houses.

Something of the order of £1500 is available annually. Typically grants are one-off payments not exceeding £450 for something that will help with the applicant's education in a broad sense, such as a musical instrument, specialist equipment, a field or other course. Grants are available to anyone in school, FE or Higher Education.

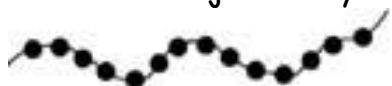
An application form is obtainable from Robin Bishop, the Chairman of Walter Wallinger's charity at robinhbishop@gmail.com

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Mindfulness & Meditation

Explore the riches of Christian Meditation and how it fits with the practice and insights of Mindfulness

Each weekly session is free and lasts for about 45 minutes. We begin with some gentle exercises to help still the mind and then a guided meditation, followed by some silence. Beginners especially welcome!

Now Online on Zoom every Wednesday at 7.30pm except for the first Wednesdays when we usually meet in person at St Andrew's church

For further details and Zoom codes please see our website

www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk

or contact the church office 01992 504373 standrew.hertford@btinternet.com

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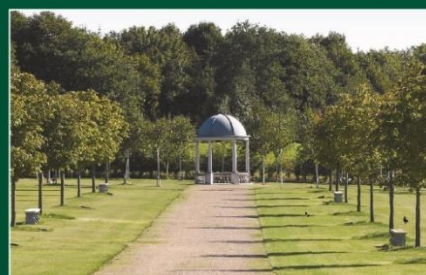
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