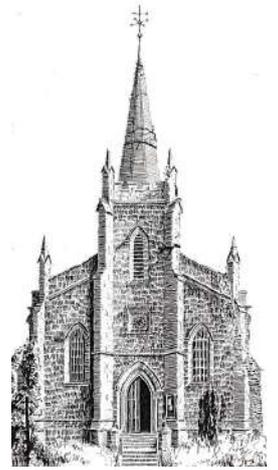


St Mary the Virgin

Riverhead with Dunton Green

Sunday 4th October 2020 - 17th Sunday after Trinity



‘Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labour on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare. Give ear and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live.’ Seek the Lord while He may be found; call on Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake His way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him, and to our God, for He will freely pardon. ‘For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways’ declares the Lord. ‘As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than Your thoughts. As the rain and snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is My word that goes out from My mouth: it will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. Instead of the thornbush will grow the pine tree, and instead of briars the myrtle will grow. This will be for the Lord’s renown, for an everlasting sign, which will not be destroyed’
Isaiah 55:1-3, 6-13

That same day, Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered round Him that He got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then He told them many things in parables, saying, ‘a farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering his seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop – a hundred, sixty, or thirty times what was sown. He who has ears to hear, let him hear. Listen to what the parable of the sower means: When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. The one who received the seed that fell on the rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. The one that received the seed that fell among the thorns, is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man that hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.

Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

For your information

Team Rector On the 8th of August the Revd Mark Bridgen was instituted and inducted as the new Team Rector of the West Sevenoaks Team Ministry, which comprises the churches of St Mary's Kippington, St Mary the Virgin, Riverhead and Dunton Green and St Luke's, Sevenoaks.

Mark can be contacted, for whatever reason, by email: mark.bridgen@btinternet.com

By phone: 01732 452112

By mobile: 07375299944

As Team Rector he is available for all in the team and wants to make sure that he can be easily contacted by all.

The start of the process for the recruitment of the new Team Vicar posts in the West Sevenoaks Team Ministry

From your Team Rector: Dear friends, from September we will begin the process of the recruitment for the Team Vicars in the life of West Sevenoaks Team. I would like to thank all those from St Mary the Virgin and St Luke's who have worked tirelessly and faithfully to prepare parish profiles. Advertising, shortlisting and interviews will take us to the beginning of November. As we begin the process, I offer a prayer below for your personal and corporate prayers throughout this time. God bless this team and each of you. Mark

Our gracious God, we thank you for your guidance thus far in the birth of our new Team Ministry. We pray now that you will guide us as we come to the recruitment of our new Team Vicars. Come alongside all those who will make applications and all those who will discern, that your will be done and your kingdom come. Amen.

West Sevenoaks Team – Fortnightly Tuesday prayers by Zoom: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays

On every second and fourth Tuesday there will be half hour prayers offered for our new Team and an area, in turn, of the life of its ministry. People will be invited to join us care of Zoom and the meeting id and passcode will be:

Meeting ID: 974 868 8695

Passcode: 7bEsdU

People are invited to Zoom from 6:45pm for a 7pm start. We will always end at 7:30pm.

Dates this year are:

Tuesday 8th and 22nd of September; 13th and 27th of October; 10th and 24th of November; and the 8th of December. (No prayers on the 22nd of December)

Services at St Lukes are 8.00am BCP Holy Communion Service, people will be asked to enter and exit via the North Porch. At 10.15am there is also a Parish Eucharist which is being zoomed for those not able to attend, but the code is not generally circulated until Saturday afternoon as a new one is used each week for security purposes. For this later service people arrive at 10.00am and are ushered to a seat, leaving promptly at the end, but can distance chat outside. There is no criteria for attending and anyone is welcome.

St Mary Kippington – services

SUNDAYS

8:00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10:30am

1st Sunday: Family Service, usually in the Parish Centre (or outdoors weather-permitting)

2nd Sunday: Holy Communion

3rd Sunday: Morning Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)

4th Sunday: Holy Communion

5th Sunday: Holy Communion with Healing or Morning Prayer in the Celtic tradition

THURSDAYS

A Common Worship Communion service is held at the Church every Thursday from 10am. In the winter this service takes place in the Centenary Room – which is adjoined to the church

Ride and Stride 2020 A huge thank you to everyone who supported this year's Ride and Stride event. Everyone has been very generous and we have raised the fabulous amount of £465.45 to support Kent churches and us at St Mary's. Particular congratulations to our intrepid walkers, Christine, Margaret, Charlotte, Ravi, Woody, Anna and, although a week late because of illness, Family Fox!

Loaves and Fishes There is probably an even greater need for this service during these very difficult times for us all. If you are shopping for food etc if you can pop something extra into your basket I am sure it would be greatly appreciated. Margaret Holman at 2 Cranmer Road has a basket in her porch into which goods can be placed and she will undertake to deliver them to St John's.

Please pray for Sarah Seuwing - The daughter of Peter Flynn's friend Pat who is very seriously ill

SKET (Sevenoaks Kenya Education Trust) In the past we have always supported this charity by means of our harvest celebrations through the purchase of your harvest lunch and a retiring collection. Obviously this year that is not possible so we are suggesting that perhaps those, who wished, could make a donation through the church account. PCC of Riverhead with Dunton Green 40-52-40 000024384 and marking it SKET for identification.

The Children's Society Margaret Holman has catalogues for the society's Christmas cards which can be collected from her porch (perhaps when you are dropping off your gifts for Loaves and Fishes) There is also a folder containing the full size cards for you to see. They can be purchased either through Margaret or by ordering directly online.

Services For October We are very happy to announce that we will hold some Sunday services in church in October. Please see the attached document which describes what to expect when coming to church for The full schedule of October services is as follows:

4 October	8am	Church - BCP Holy Communion
	9.30am	Zoom - Family service
7 October.	8pm.	Zoom - Compline
11 October.	8am.	Church - BCP Holy Communion
	9.30am.	Zoom - Eucharist
14 October.	8pm.	Zoom - Compline
18 October.	8am.	Church – Communion by extension
	9.30am.	Zoom - Morning Prayer
21 October.	8pm.	Zoom - Compline
25 October.	8am.	Church - BCP Holy Communion
	9.15am.	Church - Holy Communion immediately followed at 9.45am by the APCM
28 October	8m	Zoom - Compline

From November we plan to hold both the 8am service and the 9.15am service in church – there won't be a 9.30am Zoom service. Further details will be given nearer the time. We also hope to stream the 9.15am church service when we have solved a few technical issues.

Opening Hymn: We plough the fields

We plough the fields and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand:
he sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes, and the sunshine,
and soft, refreshing rain.
All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,
for all his love.

He only is the maker
of all things near and far;
he paints the wayside flower,
he lights the evening star;
the winds and waves obey him,
by him the birds are fed;
much more to us, his children,
he gives our daily bread.
All good gifts....

We thank thee then, O Father,
for all things bright and good,
the seed-time and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food.
Accept the gifts we offer
for all thy love imparts,
and, what thou most desirest,
our humble, thankful hearts.
All good gifts.....

Hymn: All things bright and beautiful

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
he made their glowing colours,
he made their tiny wings:

The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning
that brightens up the sky:

The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden,
he made them every one:

He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God almighty,
who has made all things well:

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.

Final hymn: You shall go out with joy (Sing through 3 times)

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace,
and the mountains and the hills shall break forth before
you.

There'll be shouts of joy and the trees of the field
shall clap, shall clap their hands.

And the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and you'll go out with joy.

Closing music: Prelude in Classic Style by Gordon Young