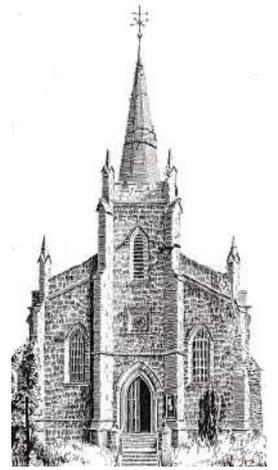


# St Mary the Virgin Riverhead with Dunton Green



**Sunday 23rd August 2020 - 11th Sunday after Trinity**

## ***Isaiah 51.1-6***

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## ***Romans 12.1-8***

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## ***Matthew 16.13-20***

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’ And they said, ‘Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’ And Jesus answered him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.’ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **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](mailto: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.

**St Lukes** are now holding an 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.

**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.

## **Services for the week**

**Tuesday team prayers** : 7.15pm for about 20 to 30 mins via Zoom. Link information to follow

**Wednesday Compline**: from 7.45pm for 8pm start via Zoom. Service approximately 30mins. Usual link etc applies but copied below for ease of use:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6161461466?pwd=TnZxenFXRE1HYTNSMk84WWhxVFkzd09>

ID is 616 146 1466

password stmarys

**From the Churchwardens:** The church is now open for private prayer from 10.00am to noon each Saturday until further notice. Please follow the instructions when visiting.

### **Zoom services - recording of services**

As some of you may have noticed Daphne had been recording our Zoom services. The intention had been to place the audio only part of some of the services on our website so that those who are unable to join us using Zoom could at least listen to them at another time. Unfortunately we haven't yet mastered the technology to do this and so Daphne has deleted all recordings from her computer. We do not plan to record services until further notice (if for reasons of technological hiccups any services or part thereof are recorded then they will be deleted from Daphne's computer).

### **Zoom services - background concerns**

Please remember that anyone who logs into the service can see the background you are sitting in front of. So if, for example, you have any priceless heirlooms or family photos you would prefer not to be open to "public viewing" please either remove them from camera shot, change where you sit or choose to use a virtual background in the meetings settings area of Zoom.

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

### **Bible Study and Prayer Group** (suspended for the month of August)

A regular group meets for prayer and bible study each Monday morning in the Lady Chapel where there is a prayer board for people to pin up their prayer requests.

The meeting starts at 9.45 for prayer and this is followed by bible study. The meeting usually lasts approximately 1½ hours. To date we have studied Women of Faith, Life Changing encounters from the Gospel of John, Exodus 1-18, Romans 1-5, Guide to Psalms, Job and Philippians. We are currently studying Judges "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly". If you would like to join us you will be made very welcome. Please contact "Daphne Harrison" [daphneharrison@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:daphneharrison@yahoo.co.uk) or "Ronnie Todd" [vat.lady@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:vat.lady@hotmail.co.uk)

PLEASE NOTE, DURING LOCKDOWN WE ARE MEETING VIA ZOOM

**Coffee following Services** Each Sunday for the time being we are staying on Zoom after the service - giving people a couple of minutes to pop out and make a coffee - and then come back and have a chat and catch up with some of the congregation you have not seen, just as we would if we were able to be in the church.

**Virtual Coffee Morning** We now meet for a virtual half hour coffee morning on Thursdays at 11.00am. Come and have a chat with some people you have not seen for some time. Sign on instructions are as below

### **ACTS**

Last Sunday Michael Gentry, the Area Dean was speaking to us about the incident in Matthew, when Jesus walked on the water to His disciples and then encouraged Peter to do the same. Peter started to sink when he stopped looking at Jesus and needed Him to rescue him. Jesus said Peter lacked faith. Michael was saying we were very similar to Peter and he was encouraging us all to remember to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus and to grow and strengthen our faith in Him by prayer. He was saying that we can so easily neglect praying until life gets difficult and then it was very easy for our prayers to become a list of requests. He encouraged us to pray at all times using different kinds of prayers. This would deepen and strengthen our relationship with Christ. He suggested using the following mnemonic ACTS to help us

Adoration

Confession

Thanksgiving

Supplication

**Adoration:** to remind ourselves how great and awesome God is - and that He is always loving in His dealings with us.

**Confession:** to acknowledge before Him all that we have done that we shouldn't have and the many things we have not done that we should have ( our sin)

**Thanksgiving:** to remember all the many blessings we have from Him - especially that He is our Saviour Who died to save us from the result of all our sin.

**Supplication:** to ask Jesus for His help for ourselves and others to live in truly loving ways.

### **Poverty and Hope**

Dear Friend

In this time of global pandemic we are anxious not to forget marginalised people and communities living in poverty. Their needs remain and, in many cases, have been exacerbated by COVID-19.

Our annual Poverty and Hope Appeal aims to raise money to help such marginalised people address the causes of poverty. Projects work with the local Church so our support is a huge encouragement to our brothers and sisters in Christ as they reach out to help their local communities. We continue to support projects in Burundi, Sri Lanka, Syria, Zimbabwe and Kent.

We know that the pandemic has greatly affected many members of our communities and that these people need our help and prayers. But we hope that you will not forget people whose lives are disadvantaged by global poverty and will feel able to support the Poverty and Hope Appeal in whatever way you can.

Yours sincerely

Debbie Cooper, Coordinator, Diocese of Rochester Poverty and Hope Appeal  
6 Calverley Park, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2SH

### **How to donate**

We know that the pandemic has greatly affected many members of our communities and that you yourself may be struggling. However, if you are able to do so please support the Poverty and Hope Appeal in whatever way you can. We have broadened the ways you can donate.

**E-banking:** You can make a donation by e-banking to following account: Rochester Diocesan Society and Board of Finance, sort code 20-54-29, account 90760099.. In the reference box, please put P&H so we can correctly allocate the money to the Poverty and Hope Appeal, and something to identify your church (or nothing if you wish your donation to be given anonymously). Please email [povertyandhope@gmail.com](mailto:povertyandhope@gmail.com) if you need more details.

**Give.net:** You can donate by card via <https://www.give.net/povertyandhope/fundraising>. You can also gift aid your donation if you are a qualifying UK taxpayer. Give.net is part of Stewardship, a Christian charity that supports Christian giving.

## **Meekness and Majesty**

Meekness and majesty,  
manhood and deity,  
in perfect harmony,  
the man who is God.  
Lord of eternity  
dwells in humanity,  
kneels in humility  
and washes our feet.

*Oh, what a mystery,  
meekness and majesty.  
Bow down and worship  
for this is your God,  
this is your God.*

Father's pure radiance,  
perfect in innocence,  
yet learns obedience  
to death on a cross.  
Suffering to give us life,  
conquering through sacrifice,  
and as they crucify  
prays: 'Father, forgive'.

*Oh, what a mystery.....*

Wisdom unsearchable,  
God the invisible,  
Love indestructible  
in frailty appears.  
Lord of infinity,  
stooping so tenderly,  
lifts our humanity  
to the heights of His throne.

*Oh, what a mystery....*

## **Communion (Woody's choice ☐!)**

*Bless the Lord, Oh my soul,  
oh my soul,  
worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before,  
Oh my soul,  
I'll worship Your holy name.*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;  
it's time to sing Your song again.  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before  
me,  
Lay me be singing when the evening comes.

*Bless the Lord, Oh my soul....*

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger.  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.  
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;  
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

*Bless the Lord, Oh my soul.....*

And one that day when my strength is failing,  
the end draws near, and my time has come;  
still my soul will sing Your praise unending;  
ten thousand years and then for evermore!

*Bless the Lord, Oh my soul.....*

## **Tell out my soul**

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;  
tender to me the promise of His word;  
in God my saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His name!  
Make known his might, the deeds His arm has done;  
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
His holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might!  
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
the hungry fed the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of His word!  
Firm is his promise, and His mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and for evermore.

## **Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring by Johann Sabastian Bach**