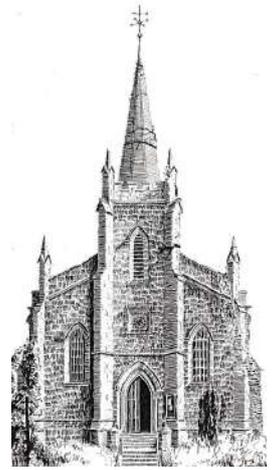


# St Mary the Virgin Riverhead with Dunton Green



**Sunday 30th August 2020 - 12th Sunday after Trinity**

## ***Jeremiah 15.15-21***

O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name,

O LORD, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. Therefore, thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

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

## ***Romans 12.9-21***

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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 16.21-28***

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

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

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.*

On Saturday September 5 at 11am we are having  
OUR FIRST SERVICE BACK IN CHURCH SINCE LOCKDOWN BEGAN!!!  
PLEASE do be praying it will be a meaningful and encouraging service and  
please do COME AND JOIN US if you possibly can.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT WHETHER YOU ARE ATTENDING THE CHURCH FOR PRIVATE PRAYER OR ATTENDING ANY SERVICE YOU WILL NEED TO WEAR MASKS AND FOLLOW THE GUIDANCE

**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**

**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=TnZxenFXRE1HYTNSMk84WWhxVFkzdz09>

ID is 616 146 1466

password stmarys

**Allison Bull** To everyone who has been enquiring about Alison. She is now thankfully back home and doing OK. She wishes to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers which were a great help.

**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.

**Sponsored Bike Ride in aid of Kent Churches** This is taking place on Saturday 12th September. There will be a table set up in the church porch and the form for visitors to sign in, Christine and Woody are taking part as are Tess Fox and family. They would all be very grateful for sponsorship and this link should hopefully take you to a form where you can sign up.

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-portal/fundraiserPage?pageId=1199212&newPage=true#stickyAnchor>

**Wedding invitation!**

Please join us on Zoom next Saturday (5th September) as we celebrate our marriage from 1pm (ceremony at 1.30pm). As we are only allowed limited numbers inside the church in Wadhurst your presence on Zoom will be just as important to us as being present in person. Our intention is to set up a screen so we'll be able to see you too!

Zoom meeting ID: 939 5562 8700

Passcode: 474960

(Please note: we are obviously dependent on decent connectivity within the church so please forgive us if a poor signal causes interruptions on the day.)

We hope you can join us.

Love from Suzanne and Bennet

xx

### **Opening Hymn: Father, hear the prayer we offer**

Father, hear the prayer we offer;  
not for ease that prayer shall be,  
but for strength that we may ever  
live our lives courageously.

Not for ever in green pastures  
do we ask our way to be;  
but the steep and rugged pathway  
may we tread rejoicingly.

Not for ever by still waters  
would we idly rest and stay;  
but would smite the living fountains  
from the rocks along our way.

Be our strength in hours of weakness,  
in our wanderings be our guide;  
through endeavour, failure, danger,  
Father, be thou at our side.

### **Music after Communion: You're the Word of God the Father**

You're the Word of God the Father,  
from before the world began;  
every star and every planet  
has been fashioned by Your hand.  
All creation holds together  
by the power of Your voice:  
let the skies declare Your glory,  
let the land and seas rejoice!

*You're the Author of creation,  
you're the Lord of every man;  
and your cry of love rings out  
across the lands.*

Yet You left the gaze of angels,  
came to seek and save the lost,  
and exchanged the joy of heaven  
for the anguish of a cross.  
With a prayer You fed the hungry,  
with a word You stilled the sea.  
Yet how silently You suffered  
that the guilty may go free.

*You're the Author of creation,  
you're the Lord of every man;  
and your cry of love rings out  
across the lands.*

With a shout You rose victorious,  
wresting victory from the grave,  
and ascended into heaven  
leading captives in Your wake.  
Now You stand before the Father  
interceding for Your own.  
From each tribe and tongue and nation  
you are leading sinners home.

*You're the Author of creation,  
you're the Lord of every man;  
and your cry of love rings out  
across the lands.  
And your cry of love rings out  
across the lands*

### **Closing Hymn: Take up thy cross**

Take up thy cross, the Saviour said,  
if thou would'st my disciple be;  
deny thyself, the world forsake,  
and humbly follow after me.

Take up thy cross, let not its weight  
fill thy weak spirit with alarm;  
his strength shall bear thy spirit up,  
and brace thy heart, and nerve thine arm.

Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,  
nor let thy foolish pride rebel:  
thy Lord for thee the cross endured,  
to save thy soul from death and hell.

Take up thy cross then in his strength,  
and calmly every danger brave;  
'twill guide thee to a better home,  
and lead to victory o'er the grave.

Take up thy cross, and follow Christ,  
nor think till death to lay it down;  
for only he who bears the cross  
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

To thee, great Lord, the One in Three,  
all praise for evermore ascend:  
O grant us in our home to see  
the heavenly life that knows no end.

### **Closing Music:**

**Gavotte, by Samuel Sebastian Wesley**