

Useful Contacts	
Priest in Charge	The Revd. Jes Salt (819377) priestincharge@stmarysbuckden.org.uk
Secretary	Philip Mowat (811254) secretary@stmarysbuckden.org.uk
Churchwardens	
St Mary's	David Pickavance (07902 867603) david.pickavance1@outlook.com
All Saints	Sue Dorrington(07724 553101)
Offord	offordallsaints@gmail.com John Simpkin (819664) Mobile 07904 617973 warden.offord@yahoo.com
Find us online:	
St Mary's	www.stmarysbuckden.org.uk Twitter: @A1ChurchBuckden Facebook: St Mary's Buckden
All Saints	allsaintsoffordcluny.wordpress.com Facebook: All Saints Offord Cluny
Friends in Deed	07810 006598

Items for the pew sheet should be sent to the Priest in Charge or secretary by 9am on the previous Tuesday

SERVICES AND EVENTS CONTINUED

Sunday 27 September 12.15pm in St Mary's – Election of Churchwardens and APCM - There are vacancies for PCC, Deanery Synod and churchwarden. Those on the church or civic electoral roll may vote in the election of churchwardens. Those on the church electoral roll may vote in the PCC elections. There are nomination forms in church and on the website. Due to Covid-19, we will not be using the usual paper volunteer sign-up sheets but will assume that all current volunteers wish to continue in the same roles. If you would like to have your name added to or removed from a particular volunteer rota please contact David Pickavance.

FURTHER NOTICES

A reminder that Government legislation requires you to wear facemasks at all times when you are in All Saints' or St Mary's. Also please follow our instructions which are displayed on our websites, noticeboards as well as guidance from the duty warden.

We are staying with this style of pewsheets and circulating it as we have been doing since mid-March as it is appreciated that many of you will not be able as yet to attend church.

St Mary's chosen charity for September and October is the Historic Churches Trust. - This tied in with the Ride & Stride event held yesterday on 12 September

<https://camhct.uk/> Founded in 1983, CHCT provides loans and grants to help fund repairs and improvements to places of worship across Cambridgeshire. In order to support this charity, it is still not too late to sponsor our team(s) who participated. Please use the just-giving link <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stmarysbuckdenrideandstride>

Explorers Course starting in October – For those whom lockdown might have raised questions about life, faith and God. More information to follow.

Date for your diary – All Saints' APCM and Election of Churchwardens will be held on Sunday 25 October – More details nearer the time.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal 2020 – Buckden community will be taking part again and boxes will be collected in November. Please note sweets and toothpaste now cannot be accepted due to customs regulations but hand made toys with the correct stuffing can. More information in Roundabout or from Carol Swepstone (810053)

The Benefice of Buckden & the Offords

Sunday 13 September 2020

(14th Sunday after Trinity)

Dear Friends

I am sure that most of us have seen this week's government announcement restricting social gatherings. At the time of writing, our understanding (and indeed hope) is that acts of worship in church are exempt from these restrictions. I will keep you informed of any changes. Meantime, please do come and join us on a Sunday morning - 9.30 at All Saints (this week) and 11.00am at St Mary's.

My thanks to all who have volunteered to join our prayer initiative 'Footsteps in Prayer', which starts tomorrow (14th). It is not too late to get involved - have a word with me afterwards, and do let me know if you would like to come to the Commissioning Service tonight in the marquee in the Lion - Archdeacon Hugh McCurdy will be joining us.

Finally, a reminder to St Mary's folk, that the APCM is fast approaching, on 27th September and it would be great if we would all see how we can support the church community at St Mary's during this uncertain time.

Thanks, many blessings and enjoy the services.

Jes

A prayer about the corona virus

Father God, as people and nations of the world, help us to realise our dependence upon one another. We pray for healing among the sick, wisdom among our leaders, protection and effectiveness for health workers, and responsible behaviour by each of us as individuals. Most of all, Lord, we pray that you dispel our fears, for you 'did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self discipline' (2 Tim 1:7). For Jesus's sake. Amen.

Prayer after communion

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of the week (collect)

Merciful God,
your Son came to save us
and bore our sins on the cross:
may we trust in your mercy
and know your love,
rejoicing in the righteousness
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gospel Reflection

Forgiveness is the central thread running through this gospel reading. We hear a call to forgive not seven times but 'seventy-seven times'. There is an acknowledgement here that forgiveness is not easy. However, it is necessary because there is mercy at the heart of God. In circumstances where forgiveness seems impossible, we must remember to leave judgement to God, who knows his creation more deeply than we do.

 Prayer Corner	Please pray in Offord for: All whom we know in hospital, the elderly, disabled and housebound.	and in Buckden for: The surgery, medical and non-medical staff, all whom we know in hospital, the elderly, disabled and housebound.
---	---	--

SERVICES AND EVENTS

Saturday 12 September - Virtual Saturday coffee –

Also Saturday 19 September, 11.00-11.40am: Virtual coffee. Please note the Zoom meeting details- ID: 798 1012 3003 Password: 6WMstJ Joining Link: Sat Coffee URL ending 5 October. Repeats weekly.

Sunday 13 September Services

9.30am in All Saints' – Morning Service

11.00am in St Mary's – Family Communion

6.00pm in Marquee Lion Hotel – Footsteps in Prayer Service of Commissioning and Encouragement

(Please let Jes or Richard Noble know if you intend to come along so that we can manage the numbers)

Monday 14 and Friday 18 September – St Mary's is open for private prayer. (10am-4pm)

Wednesday 16 and 23 September at 9.30am in St Mary's – Service of Holy Communion

Thursday 17 September at 7pm outside Lion– Getting

Active This informal walk around Buckden is suitable for all ages/abilities and will take about an hour or less if you prefer.

Sunday 20 September Services

9.30am in All Saints' – Holy Communion.

11am in St Mary's – Family Communion

Sunday 27 September in St Mary's at 11am – Harvest

Celebration – Please bring gifts of tinned and packet food only. There will be no 'bring and share' lunch afterwards this year. Instead there will be a best face mask competition. APCM follows afterwards (see next notice).
(Further notices Overleaf)

This Sunday's Readings

Please note that each reader has the freedom to choose their preferred version so the following may not match 'word for word'.

Psalms 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. ² He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;³ he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. ⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long. (NRSV)

Matthew 18.21-35

21 Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church* sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' ²² Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven* times. ²³ 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents* was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii;* and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." ²⁹ Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister* from your heart.' (NRSV)