

PCC & Ministry News: Our annual meetings and elections took place on 11th April and the new PCC met on 22nd April 2021.

Results of Annual Meetings and elections 11th April 2021

Churchwardens: David Pickavance and Vas Mowat were re-elected for the year.

PCC: Four PCC members were re-elected this year for a 3-year term. Current elected PCC members are:- Anne Carter, Carole Coram, Michelle Jazrawi and Kate Merrell (all elected 2019); Ian Carter, Marilyn Rolin, Sammy Riley and David Riley (elected 2021).

There are 4 vacancies on PCC

Independent Examiner: Barry Priest was re-appointed .

Deanery Synod representative: Ian Carter was elected.

Electoral Roll: 116 persons on roll of whom 20 reside outside of the Parish.

Ministry: St Mary's is now in a vacancy (or interregnum) until a new priest in charge can be appointed. During this time our Sunday Services and Wednesday Communion will continue as normal with the help of our great team of retired and other local clergy and lay ministers. Bookings for baptisms, weddings and funerals are still being taken – please contact the churchwardens in the first instance.

Building: Work on the vestry has commenced. A faculty to extend the garden of remembrance (ashes plot) has now been granted. The Church Property Register is in the process of being updated.

Safeguarding: One new Friends in Deed driver is currently going through checks and training. Records for Youth Club Leaders are to be checked before Youth Club restarts in late June.

Charity nominations: If you would like to nominate a charity (and provide advertising / support) for the forthcoming cycle, please contact a PCC member or email PCC@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Services during the vacancy – Dates for your diary:

Clearly, we are all extremely sorry to see Jes and Jane move to pastures new, and we are very grateful for everything that they have done. However, it is important to note that our services will continue while we wait for the appointment of a new priest-in-charge. We will be continuing with our 11.00 am Sunday and 9.30 am Wednesday services, other than Wednesday 19th May. Indeed, we welcome Archdeacon Hugh McCurdy to lead our service on Sunday 2nd May. After that (and always subject to last-minute changes), the majority of services will be led by either our own Miles Falla or Ann Brittain, or Robert Sibson whom many of you will remember from the last vacancy. We will also have Stephen Bowring and Glenn and Maggie Coiley leading occasionally. Last, but not least, we will be led by Bishop Dagmar on 15th August and by our Rural Dean Nicki Bland on 18th July. Plenty to look forward to!

St Mary's The Parish Church of Buckden Newsletter: May 2021

Dear Friends,

This is by way of a thankyou letter to express our appreciation for your friendship, kindness and generosity, not only at our farewell service on 25th April but throughout our 5 ½ years with you. Jane and I have thoroughly enjoyed the privilege of serving the community here in St Mary's and in the wider village and contributing to God's work here in Buckden.

Sad though we are at leaving, we are sure that (to follow the theme of our farewell service) we are following the voice of the Good Shepherd in moving to Rutland Water. It should therefore follow that He has just the right person lined up to come to Buckden to take you on the next stage of your journey with God. Meantime you are blessed with two excellent wardens in Vas and David and an experienced and loving ministry team. I am sure you will give them your full support and, more importantly, hold them and your prospective new incumbent in your prayers.

Finally, please do come and see us. Our new address is - 5a Audit Hall Rd, Empingham, LE15 8PH, and my email address is unchanged – [jes.salt@btinternet.com](mailto:j.es.salt@btinternet.com) .

We look forward to welcoming you, although perhaps not all at once!

Blessings and best wishes,

Jes & Jane



PRAYER CORNER

PLEASE PRAY....

For our PCC and Churchwardens
that, they will be united in the love of God and a desire to serve Him and our community as the vacancy starts.

For the person
God is preparing to come here as the next Priest in Charge.

For our nation
as it emerges from lockdown that people will behave responsibly, and that we may be generous in making vaccination available to countries that need it.

St Mary's Church Buckden: contact information
The Vicarage, Church St, Buckden, St Neots, PE19 5TL

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Churchwardens
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Pastoral Care: Marilyn Rolin 07719 087215 pastoralcare@stmarysbuckden.org.uk
Safeguarding: Sammy Riley 07720 244255 safeguarding@stmarysbuckden.org.uk
Friends in Deed: Angie 07810 006598

Church Opening arrangements

St Mary's is currently open at the following times:-

Sunday 11am Family Service
Wednesday 9.30am Holy Communion

Days and times may change, and numbers are limited, so please do check before visiting. Please book in advance for each Sunday service by emailing David Pickavance, as above, and please be sure to comply with the safety measures in place and always wear a mask / face-covering in church.

Virtual worship, prayer and support continues

During the pandemic, we have found many ways that we can be together (virtually) and give support and encouragement to one another. These activities will be continuing alongside any services that we may be able to hold in church.

Phone, message and email your individual friends, neighbours and family members.

Explore our Website www.stmarysbuckden.org.uk

"Like" our Facebook page: St Mary's Buckden

Follow us on Twitter @A1ChurchBuckden

Subscribe to our YouTube channel: St Mary's Buckden

Join our email distribution list: If you would like to receive regular emails from us with pewsheets, newsletters, service sheets and sermons, please email your request to consent@stmarysbuckden.org.uk and we will add you to the distribution list.

Sunday Service on YouTube the service will be streamed on YouTube at 11am each Sunday and available as a recording thereafter.

Saturdays – join our Virtual Saturday Coffee Session via Zoom at 11am each Saturday. Meeting ID:798-1012-3003 Password: 6WWMstJ

If you cannot access any of our online resources, please do let us know.

Charities:



St Mary's chosen charity for May-June is Godmanchester Foodbank.

We support Godmanchester Foodbank throughout the year, but for the months of May and June we are trying to give a little extra support and to raise awareness.

<https://godmanchester.foodbank.org.uk/>

Every day people in the UK go hungry for reasons ranging from redundancy to receiving an unexpected bill on a low income. A simple box of food makes a big difference, with foodbanks helping prevent crime, housing loss, family breakdown and mental health problems.

Foodbanks partner with a wide range of care professionals such as doctors, health visitors, social workers, churches and police to identify people in crisis and issue them with a foodbank voucher.

Foodbank clients bring their voucher to a foodbank centre where it can be redeemed for three days' emergency food. Volunteers meet clients over a warm drink or free hot meal and are able to signpost people to agencies able to solve the longer-term problem.

St Mary's is both a collection point and a voucher holder for Godmanchester Foodbank. If you are in need of help or support, please contact Anne Carter on 07779 651974.

Cash donations can be made online via this link -

<https://www.give.net/GodmanchesterFoodbank//oneoff>

Food donations (non-perishable) can be made via the collection boxes in:-
- St Mary's (see overleaf for opening times); Nisa Buckden; Budgens Offord Cluny

Christian Aid Week 2021 is the 10th - 16th May;

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week>

The climate crisis hurts us all. But people living in poverty fight the worst of it every day. From drought to flooding, climate change robs people of control over their lives. Extreme weather means people are struggling to survive without a reliable source of water. Your gift could help a community build an earth dam, so when the rains do come, they will have the water they need to live. A reliable source of water will help families withstand long drought or relentless rainstorms.

Every envelope. Every gift. Every challenge can change lives.

Please support Christian Aid week this year. Buckden & District Churches Together will be distributing envelopes to houses in Buckden as well as to the churches.

Collection points will be announced.

Closing Date for the June Newsletter is Sunday 23rd May.

Items by hand to Phil Mowat or by email to secretary@stmarysbuckden.org.uk