



Inspire

June 2017

Dear brothers and sisters,

As I write this my ordination to be priested is just over a month and a half away.

This year has flown by and it only seems like yesterday when I arrived at St. Marys and the Gt. Baddow team to start my curacy and year as Deacon. Fresh faced from college and the academic bubble of Cambridge, it's fair to say it took our family and I a while to adjust to life in the parish. I especially found the challenge of moving into a larger church than I had been in at college daunting but also the moving into public ministry has required some processing and adjustment, especially in reflecting on the role and function of a minister.



Being a deacon is about serving and is rightly the foundation for all ministry. Amongst the discernment and ordination process I had read the recommended reading and understanding of the threefold ministry of Deacons, Priests and Bishops. I also appreciated reading Bishop Graham Tomlin's 'The Widening circle' book and his input at last year's Bradwell Study day which developed my understanding of the calling of creation to glorify God, God's people, the church to witness God's love and intercede for the world and the individual priestly calling to equip the Church for good works. As I prepare to be priested, amongst the ordinal promise I especially take seriously the call to preach God's word and care for God's people.

You may ask what have been the highlights of my last year? The annual Holiday club was fantastic and although I very much felt fresh faced and underprepared, it gave me a real sense of the desire for mission which is the beating heart of St. Marys. I have also enjoyed serving the community in Foodbank and helping lead our new home group. I very much look forward to further opportunities to learn further especially in the wider team churches.

Today I was reminded today of the passage from John 15 where Jesus declares He is the true vine and especially his analogy of pruning and cutting back in order to produce fruit. This act of pruning reminds me of times along my journey in responding to God's call. At times I have felt like being in a process of being pruned but also formed and shaped for God's service.

I would like to thank you all for your kind support, patience and encouragement during this year, especially with welcoming us as a family. I would love to see as many as possible at the occasion of my ordination whether at the service or following at the church tea. I understand not all can and will be able to attend and I appreciate your prayers.

P.T.O.

As I prepare to be priested it is a moment to give thanks to God for but also a moment to consider carefully the responsibility of God's calling on my life. This is a calling I recognise I cannot fulfil in my own strength but look to God to equip and anoint me for.

God bless you. Matt

Ordinations

Matt our curate will be ordained priest along with several others from the area on **Sunday 2nd July 4.00pm at All Saints, Maldon**. The service will be ticketed (maximum 50 seats) so please sign up on the sheet at the back of Church if you would like a guaranteed seat. Please ensure that you are seated by 3.45pm.

We will be celebrating Matt's ordination later at 7.00pm back at St Mary's with a tea and refreshments. Please sign up on the second sheet at the back of sheet if you will be attending, just for dietary requirements.

David Matthews will be ordained Deacon at St. Paul's Cathedral 3pm Saturday 1st July and will serve his curacy at Holy Trinity Brompton. Please pray for David, Sophie and baby Archie as they begin this new stage of ministry and family life.

Polly Kersys Hull will be ordained Deacon in September at Chelmsford Cathedral and will serve her curacy at St. John's Leytonstone. Please pray for Polly and Matt as they move into the parish over the summer in preparation for Polly's ordination.

Kenyan Visitors to St Mary's

We are very much looking forward to welcoming visitors from St. Thomas' Cathedral Kerugoya, Kenya at the end of June. The exact details of the visit are still to be finalised but the likely dates are 29th June – 11th July.

Those who will be staying with us at St. Mary's are:

Ven John Samson Mbui Ngechu (Provost of St. Thomas' Cathedral)

Lay Canon Charles Komu Gikunju

Mr Charles Matere Gichuki

Mrs Elizabeth Wanjiku Gaite

If you are able to help with offering accommodation or invitations to meals, groups etc. please contact Philip or the church office. A timetable of events and activities will be posted in church over the next couple of weeks. Please pray for this exciting visit and for all the practical arrangements.

Mission Focus on FEBA

Two-Way Communication

At first glance radio appears a one-way communication device – ‘it’ speaks: listener|listen.



We can think back to images of families gathered around the radio before TV, particularly during war times, listening to news, public announcements, and Prime Ministers’ and Sovereigns’ addresses to the nation.

But times have changed and so has radio. It is now a two-way medium where listeners also get to speak. They make music requests, share their opinions, contribute to phone-ins or have their responses read out on air. And two-way communication is really needed to develop relationships of trust.

We see this clearly in the Bible too. In the Old Testament, the prophets spoke the words of God to the people, and the priests spoke the people’s words to God. In the New Testament, Jesus became God’s Word to the people, and because of his death his followers could speak directly to God becoming their own priesthood.

Feba’s partners work to develop two-way communication with their listeners. They want to engage with their audience, to know of their joys and hopes, their dreams as well as their challenges and issues they face. Their programmes speak news, advice and information to them but radio has also enabled listeners to speak and be heard. As they share their experiences and opinions they speak to each other, to community leaders and officials. Using the medium of radio, they can ‘find’ each other and work together for a changed community.

Thank you for praying for Feba. As you speak to God, you can have his confidence that you are being heard. “If we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.”
(1 John 5: 14b)

This is from the June FEBA Prayer Diary. For more information, please ask Colin Vernon.

Tiny Church

For pre-school children, meeting for Summer term in the **Church Centre** between 1.45pm and 2.45pm for a time of singing, bible story, craft activity and refreshments all aimed at pre-school children.

LAST TWO SUMMER TERM DATES 2017: Thursday 15th June and Thursday 13th July

If you want to know more then please speak to Sue Finch (473143) or Kirsty Houghton (475724). Look forward to seeing you there ☺

Thy Kingdom Come

Last year more than 100,000 people joined with the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to pray in the 10 days between Ascension and Pentecost and St. Mary's and the Great Baddow Team took part in the initiative.

This year the Thy Kingdom Come prayer initiative is being held again and we are planning a variety of opportunities to meet together to pray as well as providing resources for individual prayer and for families.

Events still to come:



Friday 2nd (8am) – Sunday 4th June (8am) – 48 hours of prayer at Meadgate Church the Parade

Saturday 3rd June: 10am Praying for the Parishes Prayer walk starting at St. Marys, to St. Paul's finishing at Meadgate Parade, (to join with 48hrs of prayer if people want to).

You can #pledgetoprayer and find out more about Thy Kingdom Come at:
<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

Mid Africa Concern (MAC) Strawberry Tea

St Mary's will be hosting the annual MAC Strawberry Tea on Saturday 17th June commencing at 2:00pm. The cost will be £5 per person or £15 per family (to include 2 adults and 2 children). Various items will be on sale and all proceeds will go to Potters Village in Uganda.

A sign -up list will shortly be at the back of church.

This year we are especially pleased to welcome Mike & Sue Hughes from Potters Village.



Please come along and listen to their experiences and have a chat with them.

Forthcoming Dates for your Diary

Friday 2nd June 8am – Sunday 4th June 8am - 'Thine Kingdom Come'
48 hours of prayer at Meadgate Church, the Parade

Saturday 3rd June – Men's Prayer Breakfast in Church



Saturday 17th June – 2pm MAC Annual Strawberry Tea in church

Sunday 9th July – 4.00pm Switched On! Summer



Opportunities to Serve

The mission and ministry of St. Mary's is supported by a very large team of people using their gifts in God's service. There are always opportunities to get involved and at the moment we have several particular needs:

Christian Aid: This year Graham & Anne Heath are organising our Christian Aid collection for the last time. They've done a brilliant job over many years but now it is time for them to hang up their angel wings. If you would be interested in getting involved with organising this annual mission outreach please have a word with Graham or Anne or speak to one of the clergy.

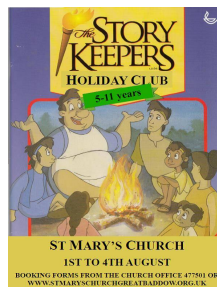
Sunday Vergers and Welcome Team: Each Sunday a team of people work with the Church Wardens in ensuring the smooth running of our services. We have a particular need for new people to help with verging and welcoming. If you would like to find out more about what is involved please speak to Kay Pountney or one of the clergy.

'The Story Keepers' Holiday Club 2017

Holiday Club 2017 for 5yr – 11yrs will be **Sunday 30th July - Sunday 6th August**

Booking are now being taken. Please pick up booking forms from the Church Office. £14 for 1st child, £12 for subsequent children.

Holiday Club preparation is well underway and we have an exciting programme for the children of games, songs, crafts and stories about Jesus.



We would like a few more volunteers to help during the week. If you can offer one or more mornings on 1-4th August 8.45am to 12.30pm, I would love to hear from you.

We will also need help to decorate the church in Roman style on Saturday 29th July and I'm looking for refreshment volunteers as well for the 1-4th August.

If you feel you can help please contact Elizabeth Podd by email: elizabethpodd@aol.com or by telephone: 07971 677997.

Church Diary for June 2017

Thursday 1 st	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	11.30am	Church open until 2.00pm
Friday 2 nd	8.00am	THY KINGDOM COME 48 hours of prayer at Meadgate Church, the Parade
	11.30am	Church Open
	7.30pm	Bellringing in church
Saturday 3 rd	9.00am	Men's Prayer breakfast in Church
	10.00am	THY KINGDOM COME Praying for parishes Prayer Walk starting at St Mary's
Sunday 4th June – PENTECOST		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Team GB Pentecost service at St Paul's
	6.30pm	Pathfinders meet in Bell St Hall
Monday 5 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9.00am	Bibles & Babies group meet in Bell St Hall
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
Tuesday 6 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation group in Prayer Chapel
Wednesday 7 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 8 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10.00am	Café Club in church
	11.30am	Church open until 2.00pm
Friday 9 th	11.30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	7.30pm	Bellringing in church
Sunday 11th June – Trinity Sunday		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Morning Praise – Focus on FEBA
	6.30pm	Encounter... with Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Pathfinders meet in Bell St Hall
Monday 12 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10.00am	MAC pack in Bell St Hall
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
Tuesday 13 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
Wednesday 14 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 15 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	11.30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	1.45pm	Tiny Church in Church Centre

Friday 16 th	11:30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	6.00pm	Cool Connection Club night in Church Centre
	7.45pm	Choir practice in Church
Saturday 17 th	2.00pm	MAC Strawberry Tea in Church
Sunday 18th June – The First Sunday of Trinity		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Encounter...
	6.30pm	Pathfinders meet in Bell St Hall
Monday 19 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9.00am	Bibles & Babies group meet in Bell St Hall
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
Tuesday 20 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
	7.30pm	Book Club meet in Church
Wednesday 21 st	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 22 nd	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10.00am	Café Club in church
	11:30am	Church Open until 2:00pm
Friday 23 rd	11:30am	Church open until 2.00pm
Saturday 24 th	1.00pm	Wedding of Lee Harper & Stella Jamieson
Sunday 25th June – The Second Sunday of Trinity		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Family Service with Baptisms of Hannah & Reuben
	6.30pm	Encounter...with Holy Communion
Monday 26 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
Tuesday 27 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
	6.00pm	St Mary's Playschool Open Evening
Wednesday 28 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	3.00pm	Thanksgiving Service for Clive Clark
Thursday 29 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	11:30am	Church Open until 2:00pm
Friday 30 th	11:30am	Church Open until 2:00pm
	6.00pm	Cool Connections Club night in Church Centre

The Church Office

Hours of Opening:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday:

Wednesday & Friday

Tuesday evenings

Email: stmaryschurchoffice@gmail.com

01245 477501

9:30am to 12:30pm, 1:45pm to 3:00pm

9:30am to 12:30pm

7:00pm to 8:00pm (wedding applications only)

Web-site: www.stmarysgreatbaddow.org.uk



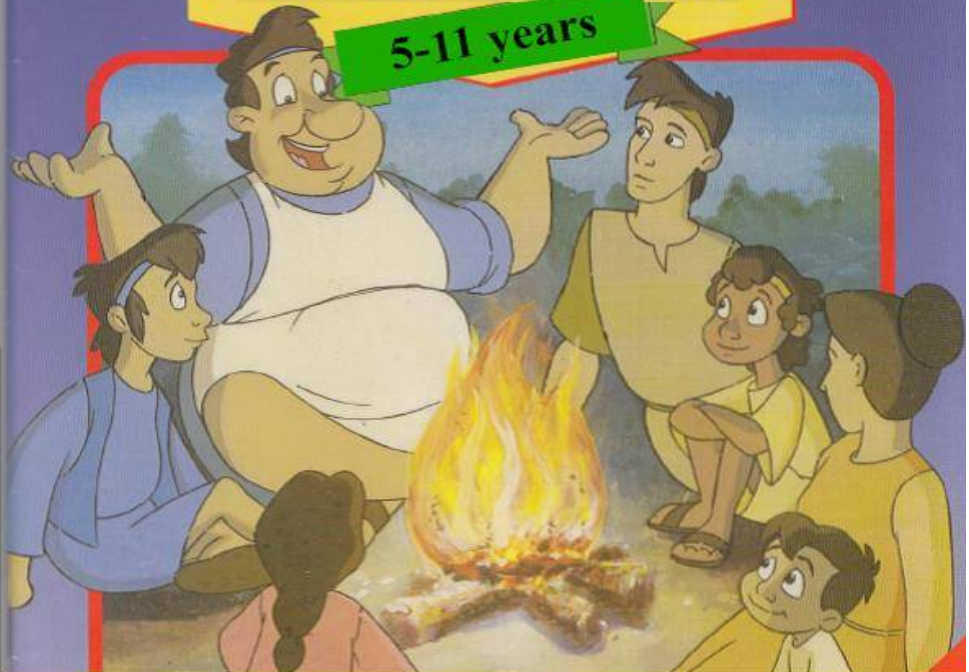
The STORY KEEPERS

AD64

HOLIDAY CLUB



5-11 years



ST MARY'S CHURCH

1ST TO 4TH AUGUST

BOOKING FORMS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE 477501 OR
WWW.STMARYSCHURCHGREATBADDOW.ORG.UK

**Booking Forms now available via the Church Office
or in the Welcome Corner at the back of Church.**
