

Welcome to St Mary's

Pewsheets for week commencing 16 May 2021



Currently the church is open daily **M-F 9.45am-5pm; Sat 10am-5pm; Sun 11am-5pm**

Services

Thursday, 13 May	7.30pm Deanery Ascension Day Service via Zoom. Details on website.
Sunday, 16 May	Readings: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; John 17: 6-19
<i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i>	8am BCP Holy Communion
<i>The Sunday after Ascension</i>	10am Parish Eucharist in church. Please note there will be paper orders of service today instead of a PowerPoint presentation. 10am Virtual Worship via Zoom. Registration details see website. Together@Home resources for children
Thursday, 20 May	10am Holy Communion. In church.

New this week

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) Sunday, 23 May 11.15am in church

Nominations are invited for 2 churchwardens and up to 6 PCC members. There is a notice on the table in church for you to sign if you feel able to offer yourself to serve the church family in this way. Proposers and seconders are also required. Please speak to [Sue Mudge](#) or any existing PCC member if you would like further information.

Monday, 17 May—7.30pm via Zoom. Mothers' Union. Bible Quiz with Margaret Smith

Wednesday, 19 May—10am Tots in the Garden (behind Pavilion). [Contact Sarah Thorne.](#)

Living in Love and Faith—groups tbc

Thy Kingdom Come

Prayer journals are still available in church. Do take a copy and pass one on to a friend or neighbour.

It's time to download the **Thy Kingdom Come app** and join in this global wave of prayer. This is a wonderful discipleship tool for all ages, with content for adults, youth and children, created to help all come closer to Christ and pray for others during the eleven days of Thy Kingdom Come. All of our key resources are featured on this free app and it is a wonderful and accessible way for individuals and families to journey through this time of prayer. Download the app now! [See website](#)

Thy Kingdom Come—Children's Resources

Every day between Ascension and Pentecost the Children and Families at St Marys Facebook page will post a new episode of a fun-filled TV series for children: the Cheeky Pandas Show. There are free activity packs you can download from the [Thy Kingdom Come website too!](#) Please take a look. For more info, contact [Sarah Thorne](#)

USPG

We at St Mary's recently gave a donation of £500 to the USPG (United Society Partners in the Gospel) and have become Partners in Mission with the Church in Bangladesh. This programme is about community and health engagement in western areas of Bangladesh. It includes assistance for institutions and many practical initiatives, plus education and social development.

Do look for more detailed information on the church notice board at the back of the church. This is an exciting partnership and we will receive updates from the Bangladesh Church twice a year. Once Covid restrictions are lifted we will be able to organise a USPG speaker to visit. Who knows in time a group from St Mary's may be able to visit the Church in Bangladesh !?

Thy Kingdom Come

Vineyard Churches UK are organising a virtual Bow Down event, calling Christians to unite in a single moment of prayer at 9pm BST on Friday 14 May as part of Thy Kingdom Come. Join in this collective moment, as we bow our knees in prayer, and lift up our communities and nations to God at this time. All who sign up will be encouraged to pray for 15 minutes including the Lord's Prayer and to light a candle at the end symbolising Christ - the Light of the World. Why not join in - as a church (in-person or online), as a household or as an individual, along with many others online? If you are not able to take part, why not consider organising something similar in your church or nation? [Find out more here](#).

We ask for your prayers for those affected by the Coronavirus in Brazil and India.

Church Cleaners:-With the relaxation of some of the Lockdown rules, this is to invite those who previously helped to consider whether they would like to rejoin our team. We will, of course, welcome any one new who feels they would like to volunteer.

The more the merrier and our turns won't come round so often. We are so very grateful to the team of eight people who have soldiered on during the lockdowns, and quite understand why a number of people preferred to withdraw for various reasons. Contact Jo George on 894964 for further information.

Ride and Stride 2021—Saturday, 11 September 2021

Parish Prayer Board April 2021

Subjects for prayer and thanksgiving mentioned in our prayers. Phone the Rector 890273 or email admin@stmaryslinton.org.uk with your request. Obtain permission for inclusion of names. Prayer requests are kept for 2 weeks and take the place of the prayer list in church. The Ministry Team are each praying for several in the congregation so that all those on the electoral roll are included.



Christian Aid Week 2021 - 9 - 16 May

There is a long tradition in Linton of supporting Christian Aid during May which sees its main fundraising events. In past years we have delivered envelopes around the village, in conjunction with the URC, Cornerstone and, latterly, the Group churches, and collected an average of £2,500. An impressive feat for small village churches but also a great witness to our belief in helping our neighbours.

This year, Christian Aid are reminding us of the even more urgent need created by the combination of climate change and the pandemic. One example is in Kenya. The main problem is the lack of access to a reliable source of water to help them withstand the unpredictable weather made worse through the climate crisis. The weather has become more extreme. Drought has become more frequent and intense, resulting in millions of people being short of food as they are unable to grow crops.

In parts of Kenya in 2020, drought was followed by relentless rainfall and flooding, which damaged crops that had struggled to grow. With no access to reliable water sources or a way to capture rainfall, many communities are struggling to survive.

The coronavirus pandemic has only increased the urgent need for families to access a reliable source of water for handwashing. In Kitui county, eastern Kenya, 8 out of 10 people depend on water to grow crops, for food and to earn a living. Without a reliable water source, staple crops like maize and beans are damaged and destroyed. The lack of water forces people to walk further and further to find a dependable source. Cows, sheep and goats are becoming weak without access to water, and can't produce milk or be sold. People are struggling to cope. Lives are at risk.

Our response this year is to provide envelopes in church, during Christian Aid Week, into which you can place your donations. Alternatively, you could support Maggie's upcoming garage sale as she is kindly donating the proceeds to Christian Aid.

We aren't in a position to go house to house this year but we can all, still, make a difference.

Pam Richardson

[For more information see here](#)



If there is someone or something you would like members of St Mary's to pray for, please send a **prayer request** to the Church Administrator. If you would like to talk confidentially to a member of the clergy, contact the Rector, Maggie Guite on 01223 890273 or the Curate, Michael Wilcockson on 01223 891005

For those without internet who are isolated – Daily HOPE Church of England.

Available Free 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044. Prayer; online service; hymns.

St Mary's Telephone Support Line Tel 893687 cathy.watts@stmaryslinton.org.uk For those requesting a call for themselves or others or willing to make regular phone calls.

Reach Community Projects [Read the latest news here.](#) Donations of tinned or dried goods for the **Haverhill Foodbank** can be left in the box in the Tower vestry when the church is open.

TLG - Transforming Lives for Good is a charity you will hear more of in the very near future.

Emotional First Aid is an easy-to-understand online webinar offered by TLG that equips people to support those struggling with their emotional and mental health as a result of this pandemic. This training is trauma-informed and will help both individuals and organisations to recognise and understand emotional signals and respond to them effectively. It is open to **anyone** in the church who wants to feel equipped enough to walk alongside those who struggle with mental health needs related to isolation, anxiety and poverty. You need to register here: <https://www.tlg.org.uk/your-church/emotional-first-aid>

Mental Health Resources. A new resource provided by mental health charity MIND. Also, mental health services can be accessed in this area by dialling 111 and selecting option 2 - direct contact with mental health professionals.

Linton Community Help update. Please don't wait! Ten months on from our set up, no-one expected to still be dealing not just with Covid but with the longer term impacts. Many are struggling with being stuck at home, and perhaps lonely, and for some this may be more difficult - across all ages. Children, young people and parents are trying to manage home learning, adults may be newly unemployed or with job uncertainty or earn less, but bills remain the same. Families may be dealing with all these challenges. We are working in partnership with St Mary/s and have funding to support people with just that little extra help to cover food, energy bills, new shoes for the children, transport to appointments. We can also help signpost or help with employment, training and money advice. Reach Community Projects have a free confidential debt service. All enquiries are treated confidentially - contact us now lintoncommunityhelp@gmail.com or 01223 901123 or **Reach** on 01440 712950.

Association of Christian Counsellors. This was mentioned in a recent letter in the Church Times. This website gives information on services available throughout the UK.

To add to the pewsheets, or to receive it by email or as a paper copy, contact Anne: admin@stmaryslinton.org.uk Information for pewsheets to be received by 11am Thursday.