

## FOR PRAYER

SICK AND SHUT-IN: Debbie Thornton / Alan Bartlett / Olive Lane / Bryan Walker / Wendy Trent / John Round-Turner / Margaret Watson / Pamela Bowen / Cindie Lind / Marlene Jackaman / Georgina Simpson / Rob King / Caroline Tea / Sybil Groves / Stuart Voss / Ruby Lee / Peter Brown / Lesley Gill / Lynne Hayward / Jean Marsh / Colin Wyatt / Jenny Robinson / Graham Anderton / Roger Newton / Joyce Burns / John Bowyer

DEPARTED: Patricia Bailey, Jane Wilson, Sarah Tolliday. ANNIVERSARIES: See list in magazine.

### PRAYERS FOR:

- Staff of Covid-19 vaccination centres locally, including the Rowley Mile
- Staff and residents at Godolphin Stables and Dalham Hall Stud
- Residents of Mat Dawson Close, Weston Way, Easton Close
- School and college students, under pressure from on-line learning

### Not forthcoming...

- **8:00 Sunday Mass, 18:30 Evensong.** Due to the perilous upsurge of Covid-19, the resumption of Early Mass and Evensong is delayed until further notice.
- **Monday evening Communion services** will not resume until further notice.
- **Re-starting worship at the old hospital chapel.** Now postponed until current Coronavirus restrictions ease sufficiently to make this practicable. We will be guided by the government's 'going forward' plan, due to be laid out this week.
- **Mothers' Union.** If restrictions are lifted, the meeting in March, on Thursday 4th, will be the Commissioning of Deidre Grosvenor as our Joint Branch Leader, with guest Linda Ginn, Diocesan President. Thank you, Blessings, *Ruth Kent*.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER: Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

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## NOTICES

**Our diocesan bishop, the Rt Revd Martin Seeley**, will be visiting St Mary's on St Mark's Day, Sunday 25 April, to celebrate mass and share his own views on the sacramental ministry of men and women. A 'straw poll' of St Mary's and St Agnes' congregations regarding this issue will follow the bishop's visit (voting slips will be distributed with the May magazine), followed by the substantive vote of the PCC in June, the result of which will be known by Midsummer's Day. Bishop Norman Banks will, it's hoped, visit later in the year, when Covid 19 is under control. For those who wish to consider the issues at stake, please visit the following websites for different sides of the debate: On the traditionalist side of the debate, see: <http://www.forwardinfaith.com>. On the inclusive side of the debate: <https://womenandthechurch.org/resources/priesthood-and-gender/> (a rather dry but fairly helpful resource). The question of women's ministry in the light of the Scriptures is more fully explored by Evangelical sources. Ian Paul introduces his Grove Booklet on women and authority here - <https://www.psephizo.com/biblical-studies/summary-the-bible-on-women-and-authority/>. This may be helpful for people who are questioning the Biblical texts, although it focuses more on practical leadership than on priesthood as such.

**Next Matins at St Agnes'** is Sunday 7 March. Remedial work on St Agnes' bell-tower is now time-tabled to begin week commencing Monday 1 March (a week later than planned), under the supervision of QI architect Philip Orchard. It's due to take a fortnight.

**St Mary's Lent Course: a message from the clergy.** Just to update you about our own SMENN Lent Course. This will be on Wednesday evenings starting 24 February in our already established slot. We are following 'Say Yes to Life' by Ruth Valerio. This lifts our focus from natural, everyday concerns to ecological and climate-change issues that have an impact on millions of lives around the world. Session titles include: 1. Let there be light. 2. Let the waters be separated. 3. Let the land produce vegetation. 4. Let there be light in the sky. 5. Let the waters teem and let birds fly. 6. Let the land produce living creatures and let us make humankind. There is a book but it is not necessary to buy in order to follow the Lent talks. **NB: Running time: 6.30-7.30pm.** *The Revd Cheryl Belding*

**Bishop's Lent Appeal.** In these challenging times across the globe, we are able to reach out and support friends in Christ who are facing far worse difficulties than we are. I am so grateful for the generous response to our previous appeals to support our link diocese, Kagera, and our commitment to serving our brothers and sisters in Kagera continues. The theme of the Bishops' Lent Appeal 2021 is **supporting key workers in Kagera:**

- **Farmers**, to support subsistence farmers across Kagera, and those who are helping them develop better ways of making the most of their land.
- **Doctors** at the Diocesan hospital, undertaking specialist training to reduce patients' need to travel many hours to find specialist treatment.
- **Priests** leading their communities, helping with training and transport, for example, £850 will buy a motorbike so a priest can spend less time walking,

maybe 10 or 20km between churches, and more time serving. Bishop Mike has produced a video introducing our 2021 Lent appeal which can be found [HERE](#). Clergy and PCC secretaries will be receiving information packs, including a brand new Lent Challenge booklet. Churchwardens should also have received an email with copies of everything. More information can be found on the diocesan website, [www.cofesuffolk.org/bishops-lent-appeal](http://www.cofesuffolk.org/bishops-lent-appeal). Or contact Chris and Anji Dawkins, Kagera Link Coordinators, for more information, [kagera@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:kagera@cofesuffolk.org)

**This Sunday's service at St Mary's is being livestreamed from St Mary's**, courtesy the Revd Cheryl Belding, Fr Jeremy Lind and Fr Mark Haworth. Service available at: [Service Times – St. Mary's & St. Agnes Anglican Churches, Newmarket](#). Thanks to Revd Cheryl for dealing with the technology. (The Whypay chatline will be also be available. Please dial 03300 945 940, and follow the instructions; the Room Number when asked is 24456910, and the PIN 7760. Please remember to include the # at the end of the room number and again at the end of the pin number.)

**Virtual coffee mornings, by Zoom**, are now being trialled on Thursdays between 10.30-11.30: a chance to meet up by computer, smartphone or phone for a chat in place of after-service coffee time in church. If you want to join (and you can Zoom in and out as you please during the hour), please be in touch with John and Sally Pascall at [john.pascall@outlook.com](mailto:john.pascall@outlook.com) or send a text to 07985 791524 and they will send you the link. You don't need Zoom to access the event, as there will simply be a web address to click on. If you have no internet facility, then there's a choice of 5 phone numbers to call, though there won't be any video access that way, obviously (Sally and John will supply these).

**A message from the bishop: Chrism Eucharist.** "This year I intend to live-stream the diocesan Chrism Eucharist from the Cathedral on the morning of Maundy Thursday (1st April). I would be grateful if clergy and licensed lay ministers would keep the time free in the diary to be able to participate remotely. Full details will follow in due course. Although the circumstances are difficult, I feel it is hugely important that we stay grounded in the rhythm of the liturgical year. It's also hugely important we have an opportunity for all of us to renew our commitment to ministry at a time when we are all feeling the pressure of this long lockdown. In the turbulence of the past year, I hope this comes as a gift to re-connect with the foundational promises of our vocation and ministry. A suitable date will be identified for later in the year when we hope to arrange an appropriate 'in person' service, including the Blessing of Oils and the offer of anointing."

**Asymptomatic COVID-19 Testing in Suffolk.** Suffolk County Council is introducing community COVID-19 testing in Suffolk to help identify Suffolk residents who are not showing symptoms of COVID-19 (asymptomatic testing). This may be of particular interest to clergy and lay workers who continue to deliver frontline care. More information on booking a test can be found on the Suffolk County Council website [HERE](#).

**Welcome to the  
Benefice of St Mary's Newmarket with St Agnes' Exning  
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT  
Year B (according to the Common Worship Lectionary)  
21 February 2021**

READINGS

9.45

Psalm 25.1-9  
Genesis 9.8-17  
1 Peter 3.18-22  
Mark 1.9-15

6.30

NO EVENSONG

COLLECT: Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,  
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:  
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;  
and, as you know our weakness,  
so may we know your power to save;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.

*A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus  
Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy.  
Sustain and support the anxious,  
be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may find comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.*

**PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU DO NOT MINGLE OR LINGER AFTER THE SERVICE YOU'RE ATTENDING HAS ENDED, FOR REASONS OF COVID SECURITY; REMEMBER THAT EVEN ONCE YOU'RE OUTSIDE THE CHURCH, PROTOCOLS OF MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING ARE STILL IN FORCE AS LONG AS YOU ARE WITHIN CHURCH PRECINCTS. THANK YOU.**





