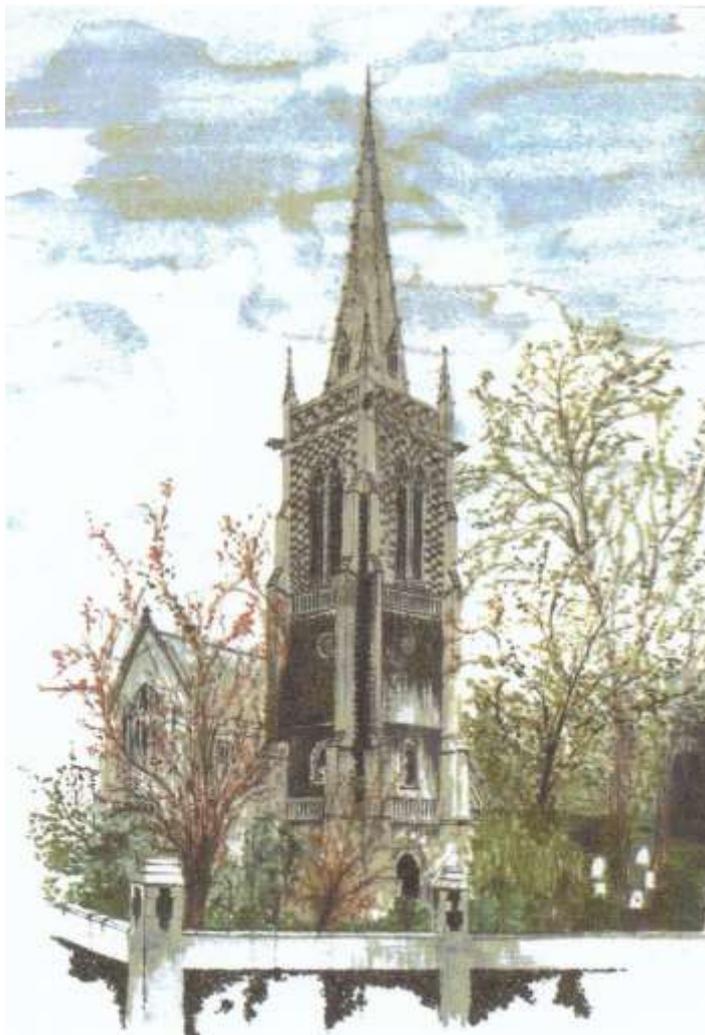


ST MARY-LE-TOWER CHURCH PAPER

SUNDAY 8th March 2020



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UPDATE TO GOOD HYGIENE PRACTICE AT COMMUNION SERVICES:

- *If you think you even might be infectious, please receive the Bread ONLY.*
- *Please do NOT dip the bread into the wine; this is no longer allowed.*
- *We will not be exchanging handshakes at the Peace until further notice.*

If you have difficulty getting to a Communion rail, please let a steward know and appropriate arrangements will be made. At the 10.30am service, gluten-free breads are available at the communion rail in the chancel.

Sunday 8th March

Second Sunday of Lent

- 8.00AM Holy Communion (BCP)** President: Canon Roger Pallant
- 9.30AM Choral Matins (BCP)** Choir: Ladies, SCS & ATB
Officiant: Canon Charles Jenkin;
Readings: Genesis 12.1-4a; Romans 4.1-5, 13-17
Psalm: 121 (page 513); Preces & Responses: *Byrd*
Benedicite: *Tone VIII 2*; Benedictus: *Gibbons*
Anthem: Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord *Hilton (page 5)*
Hymn: A&M 116
- 10.30AM Choral Eucharist (CW)** Choir: Ladies, SCS & ATB
President: Canon Charles Jenkin; Preacher: Canon Roger Pallant
Readings: Romans 4.1-5, 13-17; John 3.1-17
Setting: Messe Solennelle *Vierne*
Hymns: A&M 584, 124, 128i, 116, 421
- 5.00PM Choral Evensong (BCP)**
Officiant: Canon Charles Jenkin Choir: (Choristers, SCS & ATB
Readings: Numbers 21.4-9; Luke 14.27-33
Psalm: 135 vv. 1-14 (page 521) Preces & Responses: *Byrd*
Setting: Evening Service in B minor *Noble*
Anthems: Ave maris stella *Elgar*, The Lord bless you *Rutter*
Hymns: NEH 60ii, 63

Sunday 15th March

Third Sunday of Lent

Principal Readings: Exodus 17.1-7; Romans 5.1-11; John 4.5-42

- 8.00AM Holy Communion (BCP)** *Canon Charles Jenkin*
- 9.30AM Choral Matins (BCP)** *Canon Charles Jenkin*
- 10.30AM Choral Eucharist (CW)** *Canons Roger Pallant & Charles Jenkin*
- 3.00PM No Choral Evensong at SMLT.** The Choir will be joining the Cathedral Choir for the annual Suffolk Justice Service at Bury St Edmunds.

Forthcoming Special Services

- Sun 22nd Mar Mothering Sunday. 10.30AM Eucharist with all-age address**
- Sun 5th Apr Palm Sunday. 10.30AM United Service at SMLT with Christ Church Tacket St. (No 9.30am Choral Matins)**
- Thurs 9th Apr Maundy Thursday. 6.30PM Eucharist of the Last Supper**

INTERCESSIONS

Jesus said "there shall be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.

We pray for the mission and unity of the Church throughout the World, remembering today the Anglican Church in the Congo, their clergy and people. In our diocese we pray for those in the Shoreline Benefice (Shotley). For the work of Suffolk Family Carers.

In our life at the Tower, we pray for our observance of a holy Lent. For those exploring the Alpha Course. That together we can learn how to share our faith in a relaxed and open way. For our children young people that they may grow in faith.

We pray for all who are finding the winter months difficult. For those still affected by floods in this country, and those engaged in flood management. We pray for our stewardship of the natural world, and all its resources, that can be used to reverse and mitigate climate change.

We pray for everyone as they continue to counter the spread of the Coronavirus. For those who are unwell, those who are treating and caring for them, and for the bereaved. For UK citizens trapped abroad, that they receive appropriate treatment and can return home safely. For all health workers and authorities.

We pray for our Local Government Officers, Councillors and Service providers. For all who exercise authority in Suffolk, that they show wisdom in their judgement and planning. Teach us all to accept our responsibilities towards one another.

We pray for those we know who are sick or otherwise distressed including: Derek Le May, Grace Chandler and Fr John Thackray. We continue to pray for Sonia and Philip Docherty, Cullum Doe, Jaydon McConnachie, Angela Pantelis and Bob Tostevin. We remember those now unable to be regularly with us in Church including this week: Joyce Courage and John Bradberry.

We pray rest in peace and rise in glory for those who have recently died, among them George Pipe, Simon Warr and Lilian Caudle, and we pray for all who mourn. We give thanks for the lives of those whose remembrance falls at this time of year including Barbara Bellamy.

Names and Topics for the prayer lists should be given to the Administration Office.

THE COLLECT (Prayer for the Day)

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth,
that they may return to the way of righteousness:
grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things
that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

BIBLE NOTES

Today's readings are about the way faith in God puts people in touch with the good purposes of God. Christians are not people who basically set out to try and impress God with right attitudes and good works in order to be blessed by him. Rather, Christians are people who are learning to have faith in the God who already loves them and already has good purposes for them, knowing that what they need to do is to trust him and live in this light.

What people believe about the character of God is absolutely vital, and the message of today's readings is that the kind of faith that sees God as basically judgmental, seriously misses the point. True faith in God, faith that gets the character of God right, trusts deeply in the grace of God. Moreover grace is primarily about loving generosity rather than judgement.

Having this kind of faith is not another test. It is much more like getting to know someone better. Abraham got it right because he believed in the good purposes of God and set out to find a new life. Nicodemus, although he is very religious, is nevertheless mired in his traditional assumption that getting to know God is basically about trying to lead a good life so that he will be blest. Of course, Christians are indeed called to live good lives. But the first call is to discover the loving goodness of God.

This is why belief in Jesus is so vital, for it is Jesus who most fully reveals to us the true character of God. When we allow our understanding of God to be transformed by Jesus, then there is indeed a kind of new birth into a new world, in which the work of God is to save and renew rather than to condemn.

Canon Charles

FIRST READING

Romans 4.1-5, 13-17

What are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations') – Abraham believed in the presence of the God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

GOSPEL READING

John 3.1-17

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.’ Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’

Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?’ Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You must be born from above.” The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.’

Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can these things be?’ Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?’

‘No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.’

ANTHEMS SUNG BY THE CHOIR TODAY

9.30AM, Hilton: Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord, and cast not off thy servant in thy displeasure; for we confess our sins unto thee and hide not our unrighteousness. For thy mercy's sake, deliver us from all our sins.

5.00PM, Elgar: *Ave, maris stella, Dei Mater alma, Atque semper Virgo, Felix caeli porta. Sumens illud Ave Gabrielis ore, Funda nos in pace, Mutans Evae nomen. Solve vincla reis, Profer lumen caecis, Mala nostra pelle, Bona cuncta posce Monstra te esse matrem Sumat per te preces, Qui pro nobis natus Tulit esse tuus. Virgo singularis, Inter omnes mitis, Nos culpae solutos, Mites fac et castos. Vitam praesta puram, Iter para tutum, Ut videntes Jesum, Semper collaetemur. Sit laus Deo Patri, Summo Christo decus Spiritui Sancto, Tribus honor unus. Amen.*

Hail, star of the sea, loving Mother of God, and also always a virgin, happy gate of heaven. Receiving that Ave from Gabriel's mouth confirm us in peace, reversing Eva's name. Break the chains of sinners, bring light to the blind, drive away our evils, ask for all good. Show yourself to be a mother, may he accept prayers

through you, he who, born for us, chose to be yours. O unique virgin, meek above all, make us, absolved from sin, gentle and chaste. Keep life pure, make the journey safe, so that, seeing Jesus, we may always rejoice together. Let there be praise to God the Father, Glory to Christ in the highest, to the Holy Spirit, one honor to all three. Amen.

Rutter: The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face to shine upon you to shine upon you and be gracious and be gracious unto you. The Lord bless you and keep you The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you, The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you and give you peace.



ST MATTHEW PASSION
J.S. Bach

Saturday 4 April 2020 - 6PM
ST MARY LE TOWER IPSWICH

TOWER CHAMBER CHOIR
TOWER SINFONIA

Daniel Joy Evangelist
Andrew Gosden Christus
Zoë Brookshaw Soprano
Catherine Backhouse Alto
Jonathan Hanley Tenor
James Geidt Bass

Christopher Borrett Conductor

Tickets: £15.00 (all seats)

Purchase on the door *or* online www.stmaryletower.org.uk/concerts

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY It is time for the annual collection of coin boxes for The Children's Society. If you are able to bring your box to church that would be helpful but otherwise I would happy to come and collect it from you. Thank you for helping The Children's Society.

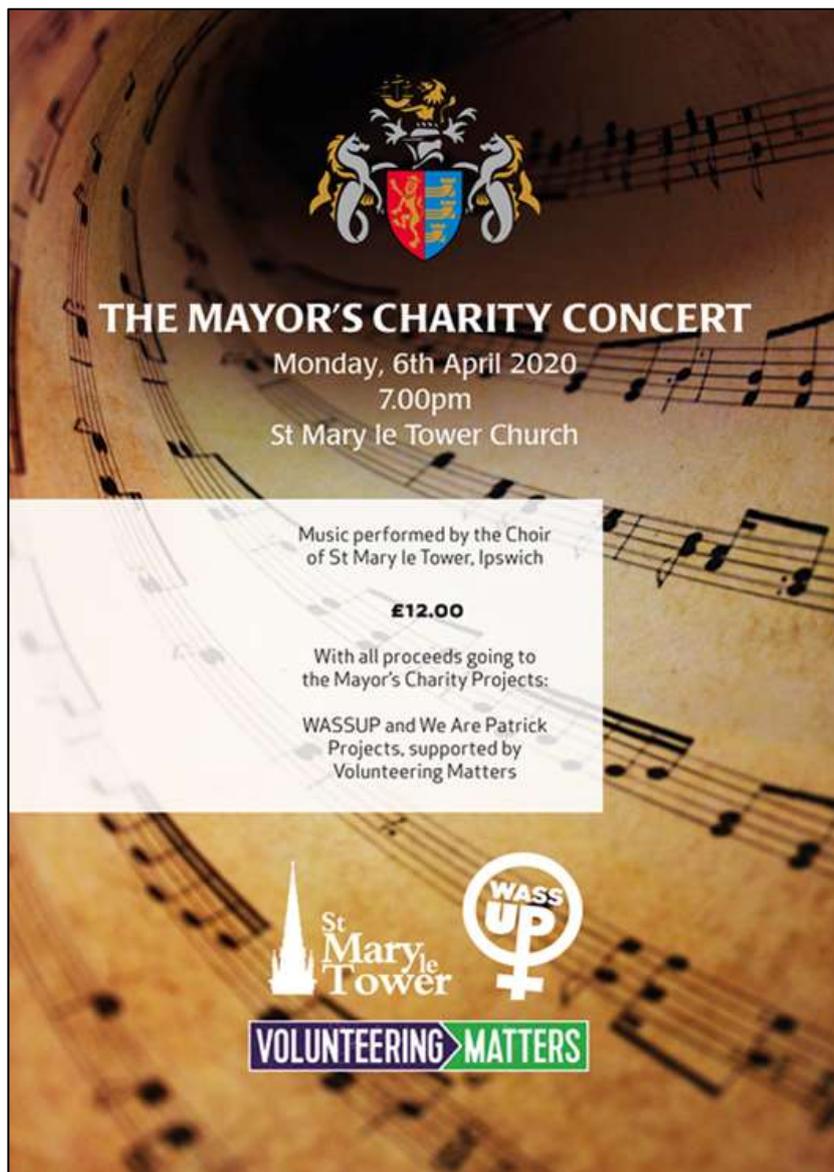
Sally Graham

HYGIENE ADVICE AT COMMUNION SERVICES

Please refer to the instructions on page 2 regarding updated hygiene advice at Communion services, which is aimed at helping to slow the spread of the Coronavirus. The following notes will be helpful:

- Theologically and spiritually, receiving Holy Communion in one kind only has long been regarded as fully receiving all the benefits of the Sacrament.
- The practice of dipping bread into wine is strongly discouraged as unhygienic, and Communion Administrants at SMLT have now been instructed not to allow this to take place any more.
- Best practice is mindful of the fact that hands can all too easily become a route for the transmission of infection, especially if hand has touched face.
- If anyone has any concerns about any of this, please speak to the clergy or the churchwarden.

In addition, if anyone has been advised that they should self-isolate because they may have the Coronavirus, please let the clergy know. We would like to pray for you and help support you at home.



THE MAYOR'S CHARITY CONCERT
Monday, 6th April 2020
7.00pm
St Mary le Tower Church

Music performed by the Choir
of St Mary le Tower, Ipswich

£12.00

With all proceeds going to
the Mayor's Charity Projects:

WASSUP and We Are Patrick
Projects, supported by
Volunteering Matters

St Mary le Tower

WASSUP

VOLUNTEERING MATTERS

WHAT'S ON AT THE TOWER 9th – 17th March

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Mon 9 th | 12.00N Service of thanksgiving for the life of Simon Warr 6.30PM Choral Evensong. |
| Tues 10 th | 2.00PM Funeral of Lilian Caudle 6.30PM Choral Evensong. |
| Wed 11 th | 10.30am Holy Communion |
| Thurs 12 th | 6.30pm Alpha Course in Church House |
| Sun 15th | Normal Sunday Services except: <u>No Choral Evensong</u> The Choir will be joining the Cathedral Choir of Bury St Edmunds for the annual Justice Service |
| Mon 16 th | 6.30PM Choral Evensong. |
| Tues 17 th | 6.30PM Choral Evensong. 7.30pm PCC Meeting |

GEORGE PIPE RIP George, a much loved former churchwarden & friend of St Mary-le-Tower, and nationally renowned bell ringer, passed away earlier this week at home. Our prayers are with all who mourn for him, particularly his wife, Diana. The funeral details will be announced as soon as they are finalised. *May he rest in peace and rise in glory.*

MOTHERING SUNDAY POSIES Dads and children are invited to gather in St Mary-le-Tower Church from 10AM on Saturday 21st March to make the posies for Mothering Sunday. All materials supplied (drinks and biscuits included); just come along and help.

EASTER INSPIRE – More SMLT articles needed! The deadline for your contributions is Sunday *March 29th*. Please send your contribution to *stmaryletower@hotmail.com* or pass to Donna Joyce or Sue Adair.

EASTER FLOWERS Contributions towards Easter Lilies can be made in the envelopes to be found at the back of church. Please pass your contributions (*Please make cheques payable to S Adair*) to Sue Adair or hand in to the Parish Office (see front page) clearly marked.

CHURCH MAIN ENTRANCE RAMP has been removed. A flat entrance for a wheelchair is available at the west entrance which will now be more routinely open. There is additional lighting to draw attention to the new step and remind people that there is a different layout.

TOWER CONTACTS:

Churchwarden: Jo Jones Email: *jonesgriz01@gmail.com*. Tel: 07813 543587

Administrator (Church and Tower House): Donna Joyce

Parish Office contact details on front page.

Outgoing Letters: Remember to check the letter rack at the back of church.