

# St Mary's Church, Arnold

Welcome to St Mary's. We live in interesting times and with the church closed for the first time in its 870 year old history, we are trying to communicate without using paper!!

We hope that you are finding our weekly notice sheet helpful in these difficult times. We include the weekly readings for your bible study. We would be pleased to receive anything, which you feel would be encouraging e.g. Prayers & Reflections.



## Sunday August 2<sup>nd</sup> Eighth Sunday after Trinity

<b>Morning Readings: Genesis 32: v 22-31</b>	
<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Gathering on Zoom</b>

**Sylvia writes from Scripture with a thought and a prayer:**

You might like to read today's story from 2 Kings 6: 8-17

2 Kings 6:17 'Elisha prayed. ' O Lord, open his eyes that he may see.' Then the Lord opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.'

If I have a favourite Old Testament story it has to be this one. I suspect that many of us may not be familiar with it because it's not often we delve into 2 Kings! But what a wonderful story it is!

So to set the scene.....The King of Aram is at war with Israel. He has drawn up his battle plans and then put his army in place. Yet every time it seems that the army of Israel is already there waiting for them and they are thwarted. Somehow they seem to have inside knowledge of what he is planning to do! How can this be?

The answer is the prophet Elisha. God tells Elisha what the King of Aram is about to do! So the King decides that he must silence Elisha - capture him or kill him. He discovers that Elisha is in a town called Dothan. So he places his army all around the city. There can be NO escape this time.

Elisha's servant is petrified. To quote Private James Frazer, from Dad's army, he suggests that ' We are doomed!!!!' But Elisha is unperturbed. He seems to know differently. He suggests that his servant is looking only with his physical sight, not with spiritual sight and he prays that his servant will be given that gift. Suddenly the servant sees that all around Elisha is a ring of horses and chariots of fire. They are totally protected. There is no way that the army of Aram can penetrate this ring.

So often the problems we face overwhelm us. Some situations seem so impossible, so hopeless, so insurmountable, that we feel totally helpless. Perhaps it is because, like Elisha's servant, we can only see with our physical eyes. Perhaps we need to ask God to give us that spiritual sight to see the ring of fiery horses that constantly surround us wherever we go and whatever we face. Perhaps then we will be confident that nothing in our lives can be outside God's power and control....nothing is impossible with God.

### **A prayer**

Lord God, you know me through and through. You know the things that trouble me. You know the situations I face which feel as if they have no answers. I pray that you will give me that spiritual sight so that I see things from your perspective. Give me that confidence that you are in control. Amen.

### **Could you give a Donation?**

Thank you to everybody who has so far donated to our special appeal.

#### **Cost of clearing rubbish from church**

Skip 1 £245

Skip 2 £145

Man with a Van £80

#### **Costs in Church**

Deep Cleaning Company £1,450

Cost of redecorating Choir Vestry

Paint £257

Sundries £50

Fee for Painter and Decorator £550

Cost of repair of broken tiles in vestry

Grout £14

Tiles £40

Installation of heating radiator in vestry

Double radiator and Thermostat fitted £400 -500

Cost of extra electrical work in vestry £250

Cost of new church keys and lock £200

Floor coverings for Choir Vestry (not available yet)

Cost of floor covering for parish office Vestry (not available yet)

#### **Products for Church and Hall (to comply with regulations)**

Cost of Sanitizers and holders £150

Safety posters and tapes £30

Please contact the Church Wardens if you could bless us with one of the above gifts.

### **Evening Prayer - Light a Candle**

Don't forget to light a candle every evening at 7.00 pm and spend some time in prayer. Margaret has produced a Prayer Sheet, which can be downloaded from the website.

### **St.Mary's Website ([www.stmarysarnold.org.uk](http://www.stmarysarnold.org.uk))**

We have a dedicated page on our website in this time of the Corona Virus with various items, including prayer ideas, how we do church during lockdown, Daily Hope and addresses from both our Archbishop and our Bishop. Do have a look!

## **Morning Gathering**

We will be worshipping together again this week in our Virtual Church on Sunday morning at 10.30 am via Zoom

People don't have to have Zoom downloaded on their machine, they can just click on the link. However, their device may ask them to 'run' Zoom which they will need to do.

Details of joining the service:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82326995588?pwd=cXdWUWRTeCtFcW9SSUJMR295VHBXdz09>

Meeting ID: 823 2699 5588

Password: 690975

You can also join the service by phone. Dial: 0131 460 1196 and follow the instructions when to input the Meeting ID and Password.

## **Start the Day**

Bishop Paul and his wife Sarah are continuing with their series of videos on Tuesdays and Fridays featuring a reading from Solomon's Song of Songs, a reflection and prayer.

The videos go live at 9.30am on the diocesan [YouTube channel](#), but can be seen at any time.

**The Annual Parochial Church Meeting** has been arranged for Tuesday 8th September via Zoom. It is therefore time for the annual REVISION OF CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL of ST MARY'S PARISH.

If you are already on the Electoral Roll you do not need to do anything this year. If you wish to apply to join the Roll now, then please go to:

<http://stmarysarnold.org.uk/electoral-roll.html>

**Food Bank** - The need for contributions to the Food Bank is still there, although there is no collecting point in Church. However contributions can now be left in the box outside the front door of the vicarage. (They will be taken to food bank) Alternatively they can be taken directly to Daybrook Baptist Church in the car park (in Daybrook Square) on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10.00 a.m and 12.00 noon. If you would rather make a donation of money, go to their Facebook page. Thank you.

**Waterproof material** needed for making sponge bags for Christmas boxes.

Have you any old umbrellas, shower curtains, cagouls you could donate for us to use the material to convert into sponge bags please? If you can help please contact Andrea Sands. Thank you. 07814 770946

**Do you want to learn to play the guitar?**

38 CD course on learning to play the guitar free to a good home. Contact Andrea or Ed Sands. 07814 770946

## **Prayer**

Lord of all, help us to focus on you, to concentrate our thoughts in daily devotion and faithful discipleship, making you the centre of all we do and are, the hub of our lives and goal of our being. Whatever temptations and pressures we face, may nothing distract us from knowing you better and responding in grateful, loving service. Amen.

Weekly Readings		Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> August	85	Song of Solomon 5:2-end	2 Peter 1:1-15
Monday	3 <sup>rd</sup> August	30	1 Samuel 14:24-46	Luke 23:13-25
Tuesday	4 <sup>th</sup> August	36	1 Samuel 15:1-23	Luke 23:26-43
Wednesday	5 <sup>th</sup> August	34	1 Samuel 16	Luke 23:44-56a
Thursday	6 <sup>th</sup> August	150	1 Kings 19:1-16	2 Peter 1:16-19
Friday	7 <sup>th</sup> August	31	1 Samuel 17:31-54	Luke 24:13-35
Saturday	8 <sup>th</sup> August	42	1 Samuel 17:55 -18:16	Luke 24:36-end
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup> August	88	Song of Solomon 8:5-7	2 Peter 3:8-13



**Monthly Prayer sheet** - Please keep on praying! Please contact Chris Baker on [baker-christopher1@sky.com](mailto:baker-christopher1@sky.com) with requests and outcomes and these can then be circulated by email.

### Contacts

NEW EMERGENCY HELP LINE ISSUED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS 0300 500 8080  
This is NOT for medical emergencies the number for that remains the same 111

**The current lockdown situation is very difficult for those living in abusive relationships.**

***For those suffering with Domestic abuse and sexual violence in the home there is a Nottingham 24 hr Freephone helpline for Women 0808 800 0340 and Helpline for Men call 0115 960 5556.***

Vicar: Rev Margaret Caunt 0115 967 3805

[margaret.caunt@outlook.com](mailto:margaret.caunt@outlook.com)

Church Wardens:

David Rodgers 0115 953 1654

[dave.rodgers3@ntworld.com](mailto:dave.rodgers3@ntworld.com)

Liz Turley 07425145282

[elizabethturley2@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethturley2@gmail.com)

Safeguarding & Domestic Abuse Officer :

Larrie Thompson 0115 967 333

[larrie73@gmail.com](mailto:larrie73@gmail.com)

Parish Administrator(Office): 0115 920 9848

[admin@stmarysarnold.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmarysarnold.org.uk)

***If you have a favourite faith item that you think others would appreciate, please send to Ed Sands : [ejrsands@gmail.com](mailto:ejrsands@gmail.com) for inclusion in the next issue.***

