

# PARTNERS

## weekly newsletter



## 12th September 2021 - Trinity 15

### St Mary's Fordingbridge Patronal Festival

Today we in Fordingbridge are celebrating the birth of St. Mary. Already Hale and Breamore have celebrated, and last Sunday at the 10.00am Allsorts we looked at Mary through our church building and the items which adorn it.

But have you every thought about this young humble Jewish girl, plucked from obscurity by God, to be the earthly Mother of his Son Jesus. There she was, humble, young, poor, engaged to be married to an older man, a carpenter. An arranged marriage. Yet God had a much different plan for Mary, than the life she expected. She was chosen to be the “God Bearer” in a reversal of fortunes which was to change the world. The start of this amazing change, God sent his Holy Spirit upon her, and she was able to proclaim God’s Holy name, and proclaim that she was his servant in all things. A young girl who becomes pregnant, a social disgrace. They journey to a foreign place where she gives birth in a filthy stable with only Joseph to help her. They witness amazing things. They become refugees going to Egypt. They return home, and then her Son, becomes an itinerant preacher, with the ability to heal people. She follows him around. She is present, as her Son, now a criminal goes to his place of public execution, the utter shame. She watches him die, the most awful death. She sees him rise again, how wonderful but frightening, and she is told that he is taken up to heaven, and then witnesses the growing start of a church, founded by him based his teachings.

What an extraordinary life, and a reminder that it is the poor and oppressed, the down trodden, those despised for their social class, not the rich & successful who God sent his Son into the world, to comfort and care for.

Let us thank God, for Mary.

*Ian Newman*

St Mary's  
Fordingbridge  
SP6 1BB

St Mary's  
Breamore  
SP6 2DF

Holy Ascension  
Hyde  
SP6 2QJ

St Giles  
Godshill  
SP6 2JJ

St Boniface  
Woodgreen  
SP6 2AJ

St Mary's  
Hale  
SP6 2RF

Sandleheath  
Uniting Church  
SP6 IPT

*We welcome all, especially visitors and those attending for the first time. If you need gluten free wafers at Communion, please speak to someone at the door before the service.*  
**Please take this newsletter home with you for the week ahead. God Bless**

**Readings for this week**  
**12th September 2021 - Trinity 15**  
**St Mary's Fordingbridge Patronal Festival**

**COLLECT:**

Almighty God,  
you looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
and chose her to be the mother of your only Son:  
grant that we who are redeemed by his blood  
may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom;  
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.**

**PSALM 45:10-17** *(For Morning Prayer)*

10. Hear, O daughter; consider and incline your ear;  
forget your own people and your father's house.
11. So shall the king have pleasure in your beauty;  
he is your lord, so do him honour.
12. The people of Tyre shall bring you gifts;  
the richest of the people shall seek your favour.
13. The king's daughter is all glorious within;  
her clothing is embroidered cloth of gold.
14. She shall be brought to the king in raiment of needlework;  
after her the virgins that are her companions.
15. With joy and gladness shall they be brought  
and enter into the palace of the king.
16. 'Instead of your fathers you shall have sons  
whom you shall make princes over all the land.

17. 'I will make your name to be remembered through all generations;  
therefore shall the peoples praise you for ever and ever.'

## **A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians**

*Galatians 4:4-7*

*The birth of God's Son opens the way for all of us to claim our status as children of  
God.*

<sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. <sup>6</sup> And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' <sup>7</sup> So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

*At the end, the Reader says:*

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **THE GOSPEL READING**

*Please stand and turn to face the Gospel Reader*

*When the Gospel is announced, the Reader says:*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Luke*.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**(Glory be to thee, O Lord.)**

*Luke 1:46-55*

*Mary rejoices in God's saving work.*

Mary said: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour :

he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

**From this day all generations will call me blessed :**

**the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him :  
from generation to generation.

**He has shown strength with his arm :  
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,**

Casting down the mighty from their thrones : and lifting up the lowly.

**He has filled the hungry with good things :  
and sent the rich away empty.**

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel :  
to remember his promise of mercy,

**The promise made to our ancestors :  
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

*At the end, the Reader says:*  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(At the end, the Reader says:*  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise be to thee, O Christ.)**

*(c) New Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible.*

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

God most high,  
your handmaid bore the Word made flesh:  
we thank you that in this sacrament of our redemption  
you visit us with your Holy Spirit  
and overshadow us by your power;  
strengthen us to walk with Mary the joyful path of obedience  
and so to bring forth the fruits of holiness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**AMEN.**

**OUT & ABOUT: Monday**, Morning Prayer and meeting with Tom in the morning, followed by Diocesan Meeting in Winchester in the afternoon, and leading Evensong in the Cathedral on the way back. **Tuesday-Wednesday**, on a residential course in Salisbury on 'Working with the Newly Ordained' **Thursday**, Hyde School Service in the morning, meetings during the day, and Staff Team Meal in the evening.

**REVIEW OF OUR ON-LINE OFFERING:** We think it's time to have a review of our on-line offering – TftDs, Saturday Conversations, and Sunday Services – and perhaps other things. We've arranged a meeting (by Zoom, appropriately) to discuss this on Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 7.00p.m. Anyone is welcome to come – but if, not, could you let me know your thoughts on what we are currently doing, and what we might do in the future.

In particular, would you like to continue as a contributor to TftD – or would you like to become one? We are still getting a very regular following on-line, live and afterwards, and people still feel they are being fed by it. But what is sustainable, and what is desirable?

*Zoom Meeting ID: 871 2936 1945 and Passcode: 096122 and direct link in Partners email. Telephone: 0131 460 1196*

**HOLY ASCENSION HYDE PET SERVICE** : All are welcome to our Pet Service this Sunday at 4pm, in Hyde Church Centre. Bring your family and your pets, or pet photos, or toy representatives of your pets. Enjoy a friendly service, with songs, blessings and tea.

**OMEGA GROUP** : is meeting on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>, at Hyde Club (tbc) SP6 2QH, 6.00-7.00. This is an informal group, discussing the big questions of theology and ethics – it's open to everyone, no prior training needed! All welcome.

**CONFIRMATION:** There is going to be a Confirmation at Christchurch Priory on Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, at 2.00p.m. Anyone who is interested in being confirmed, is asked to be in touch with Gary as soon as possible – there is still plenty of time for preparation. Do ask if you are interested or want to find out more. Gary.

**EMERGENCY PRAYER CHAIN** *Please send all requests for prayer to [prayer@avonvalleychurches.org.uk](mailto:prayer@avonvalleychurches.org.uk). If you feel able to commit to regular prayer for those on the list and wish to become a prayer partner, please email the above address.*



**JIGSAW JAMBOREE HELP NEEDED!** Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October and Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October between 10am and 4pm. We need lots of people to help!! There will be 3 two-hour time slots each day to cover anything from helping put puzzles out, taking payment, serving refreshments and washing up. Some kind people have already offered, thank you so much. **If you are able to help in any way** please let Judith Dowsett know asap (01425 650335, j.dowsett7@btinternet.com). A rota will be drawn up by Jean and Judith to cover everything that is needed.

**And Jean needs cakes please!** The usual favourites of traybakes, lemon drizzle, coffee walnut and so on will be very gratefully received. Jean will put a cake donation list up in St Mary's Fordingbridge for you to sign up or contact her direct (01202 822187, jean.groves539@btinternet.com) with your offers of delicious cakes.

**Please continue to donate puzzles in boxes, bring to the Hall on Tuesday 14 or 21 Sept, 1-3pm.** Thank you all so much with your support of this major and much needed fundraiser for St Mary's Fordingbridge. **Please tell your friends and neighbours to come and buy!** Judith, Viv and Jean.

**TALENTS CREAM TEA** : all are welcome on Thursday 16th September, 2.30pm to 5.30pm at 7 Bowerwood Road, Fordingbridge SP6 1BJ for cream team. Cost £3 for cream tea/cake. All proceeds for upkeep of St Mary's Fordingbridge. Contact Di Evans on 01425 291958 to confirm attendance.

**BREAMORE HARVEST LUNCH – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.** This will be held in the Hulse Hall at Breamore following the Harvest Festival Service, with coffee from 11.15am and lunch at 12noon. Everyone is welcome to attend, and although there is no charge (donations will be welcome) to assist with catering please let Mary Melbourne know that you would like to join us either by calling 07710 288361 or email mary.awdford@btopenworld.com.

**FROGHAM CHAPEL** : extends a very warm welcome to all as it recommences services on Services on Sunday 19th September at 11am.

**PROPERTIES TO RENT** : If anyone knows of a property available to rent for a Fordingbridge family, please contact Ann Beynon via email AnnBeynon53@gmail.com **AND** if anyone knows of a suitable house-share in the Fordingbridge area, please contact Rhian Bond via email rhian\_bond@yahoo.co.uk Many thanks

**ACCESS TO ON-LINE WORSHIP** : All our online services are available on our **telephone line**, 01425 543305, charged at your normal local rate. If you want to listen to live or recorded worship (and to hear Gary's cheerful greeting!), it's usually easier to put your phone onto speakerphone, so you can sit back and enjoy.

**AFGHANISTAN is 2nd on Open Doors annual ranking** of countries where Christians face the most extreme persecution. We are witnessing the decimation of the country and people of Afghanistan. The Taliban has a hit list of known Christians that they are targeting to hunt down and kill. Let's pray for them. And also let us thank God that persecution grows the church, and that there is news that many many Afghans are turning to Christ and finding that He is the Way, the Truth and the Life. There are some new Open Doors Prayer leaflets in the porch. Pat Bloomfield

**CHURCH OFFICE** : will be closed Wednesday 15th and Friday 17th September.

**REFLECTION** : *'Remembering our past involves something like letting light into more and more of the corners and byways of our identity; what returns in memory is now set in a larger landscape. We have learned; we have grown. The past is never over; but it is not everything.'*

A 'big' birthday recently caused me to reflect on these words of Archbishop Rowan Williams. Another author writes in similar vein: *'The past isn't dead. It isn't even past.'* We all carry with us a cluster of significant memories and experiences, joyful and painful, which influence our lives in the present. Perhaps birthdays are occasions to recognize what has been most significant in shaping our lives.

Each year the church celebrates three birthdays - Christ himself, John the Baptist and the Blessed Virgin Mary. Her festival is September 8<sup>th</sup> and St Mary's Fordingbridge celebrates its Patronal on the Sunday closest to this date. The Blessed Virgin Mary is also remembered at Candlemas, March 25th, Aug 15th, and Dec 8<sup>th</sup> so what do we particularly remember at her birth? Perhaps it can cause us to celebrate a life that teaches us that in all the joys and sorrows of human life we too can be bearers of God's life within us. The past is never over but it is not everything and does not determine the future or restrict God's grace in the future. The words of the Christmas carol refer to Mary but can also be true of us:

*'Behold the great Creator makes  
Himself a house of clay'*

*Nigel Coates*

# This Week - 12th September 2021 - Trinity 15

Online/live streamed services via Facebook, Website or Faith Online  
and available afterwards on YouTube "Avon Valley Churches"

<b>Sunday 12 Sept</b>	<b>8.15am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Hyde</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Breamore</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Patronal Sung Communion + streamed</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Morning Service</b>	<b>Woodgreen</b>
	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service</b>	<b>Sandleheath</b>
	<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Pet service, Church Centre</b>	<b>Hyde</b>
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Evensong</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>

Mon to Fri	10.00am	Thought for the Day
------------	---------	---------------------

Mon 13	9.00am	Morning Prayer (Meeting ID: 157 284 292, Password: 764200)	On-line (Zoom)
Tue 14		Hyde LCC Meeting	Hyde
Wed 15	9.00am	Morning Prayer (details as Monday)	On-line (Zoom)
	10.00am	Bible Study, Heather Cottage	Rockford Common
Thur 16	7.30pm	Bellringing	Fordingbridge
Fri 17	12noon	Wedding - Lindsay Sims & Martin Reeder	Hale
Sat 18	10.00am	The Saturday Conversation	On-line

<b>Sunday 19 Sept</b>	<b>8.15am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Mattins + streamed</b>	<b>Breamore</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Morning Service</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Morning Service</b>	<b>Hale</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Morning Service</b>	<b>Hyde</b>
	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service</b>	<b>Sandleheath</b>
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Omega Group (Hyde Club TBC)</b>	<b>Hyde</b>

## CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED TO VISITORS

Contact : Gail Newell or Jackie Rowe, Parish Administrators  
Email : [Office@AvonValleyChurches.org.uk](mailto:Office@AvonValleyChurches.org.uk) or call 01425 653163  
Website : [www.AvonValleyChurches.org.uk](http://www.AvonValleyChurches.org.uk)