



## **14<sup>th</sup> August 2022: Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Season:** Ordinary Time. **Feast Day:** Today we celebrate Mary, mother of Jesus. The 15<sup>th</sup> August is traditionally the Feast of the Assumption, when we celebrate Mary's entry into heaven. Her other feast days are 25<sup>th</sup> March – the Annunciation and 8<sup>th</sup> September – her birthday. At St John's we join with many other Anglicans and it is celebrated as a Major Festival in many churches, including the Anglican Church. **Liturgical Colour:** White

**Why?** White symbolizes purity, light, glory, and joy.

### **9.30am Parish Eucharist**

President and preacher: Bishop Stephen Venner

Deacon: David Nye

New Testament Reading: Galatians 4.4-17

Reader: John Jones

Gospel: Luke 1. 46-55

Intercessions: Stuart Burnett

Music Setting: Mass of St Thomas (Thorne)

Hymns: - 315, 653, 312, 313, 462, 394

### **10.30am Refreshments in the Church Hall**

#### **CHILDREN AT ST JOHN'S**

All children are very welcome at St John's, and this might help:

- Please don't be afraid to sit at the front – children can see what is going on better.
- There are books, toys and colouring at the back of church
- Please make use of the church as you need to, or if you need to go outside, don't feel bad.
- Join us in the hall for refreshments after the service.
- We are starting up a Junior Church, monthly.
- Next Junior Church is 11<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

If you would like to help out with either Junior Church or Mini Church please get in touch – [junior.church@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:junior.church@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk).

## GIVING AT ST JOHN'S

At St John's we rely on the enormous generosity of our congregation to support our ministry, so that we might live God's love to our Parish. If you are in a position to support us, there are a number of ways you can give, either as a one-off or on a regular basis:

- Collection plate – both cash and contactless either before or after the service
- Set up a direct debit
- Join our Parish Giving Scheme

Envelopes to donate for the collection where gift aid can be claimed are available. For more information contact Andrew Poppleton on [andrew.poppleton@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:andrew.poppleton@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk).

## SUNDAY READINGS AND PRAYERS

### THE COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who stooped to raise fallen humanity  
through the child-bearing of blessed Mary:  
grant that we, who have seen your glory  
revealed in our human nature  
and your love made perfect in our weakness,  
may daily be renewed in your image  
and conformed to the pattern of your Son  
Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

### NEW TESTAMENT: Galatians 4.4-17

<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.

<sup>8</sup>Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to beings that by nature are not gods. <sup>9</sup>Now, however, that you have come to know God,

or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and beggarly elemental spirits? How can you want to be enslaved to them again? <sup>10</sup>You are observing special days, and months, and seasons, and years. <sup>11</sup>I am afraid that my work for you may have been wasted.

<sup>12</sup>Friends, I beg you, become as I am, for I also have become as you are. You have done me no wrong. <sup>13</sup>You know that it was because of a physical infirmity that I first announced the gospel to you; <sup>14</sup>though my condition put you to the test, you did not scorn or despise me, but welcomed me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>What has become of the goodwill you felt? For I testify that, had it been possible, you would have torn out your eyes and given them to me. <sup>16</sup>Have I now become your enemy by telling you the truth? <sup>17</sup>They make much of you, but for no good purpose; they want to exclude you, so that you may make much of them.

### **GOSPEL READING:** Luke 1. 46-55

46 And Mary said,

‘My soul magnifies the Lord,

<sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

<sup>48</sup> for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

<sup>49</sup> for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

<sup>50</sup> His mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.

<sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

<sup>52</sup> He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly;

<sup>53</sup> he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.

<sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,

<sup>55</sup> according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.’

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God most high,  
whose 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**

## IMPORTANT PARISH CONTACTS

Revd Tim Vickers, Vicar of St John's (usual day off Friday)  
[vicar@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk) 01582 469343

Churchwardens, Jane Donati and Heather Nye  
[wardens@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:wardens@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk)

Parish Office, - Anna Chambers  
[parish.office@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:parish.office@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk) 01582 712776

Safeguarding, Jane Donati [safeguarding@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk)

## IN OUR PRAYERS

**In our Parish for the sick:** Alan Webster, Iain Macdonald, Rosalyn Gamero, George Middleton, Sophie Crowley and all whose names are entered on our St Luke's Cell Prayer List.

**For the dearly departed:** Elizabeth Noble, Susan Roberts, Shaun McBride, Patricia Long

**In their year's mind:** Aileen Morley, John Borthwick (14<sup>th</sup>), Hannah Elliott, Katherine Rowlandson, David Warltier, Violet Venning (15<sup>th</sup>), Ethel May Rolt, Sarah Nash, Ada Cox, Stanley King, Alan Stephenson (16<sup>th</sup>), Doris Anderson, Emily Keech (17<sup>th</sup>), Henry Hill, Elizabeth Harvard-Watts (18<sup>th</sup>), Charles Harrison, Alan Grenville Finch, Sheila Williams (19<sup>th</sup>)

For the homes and families in

|           |                                     |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| Sunday    | Poynings Close, Prospect Lane       |
| Monday    | Queens Road, Ranleigh Walk          |
| Tuesday   | Ravenscroft, Redbourn Lane          |
| Wednesday | Rowan Way, St John's Road           |
| Thursday  | St Michael's Close, St Paul's Close |
| Friday    | Sandhurst Court, Sherwoods Rise     |
| Saturday  | Sibley Avenue, Southdown Road       |

**If you know anyone who might like a visit from the church, please speak with a member of the Pastoral Visiting Team, which includes Anne Edwards, Bryan Coventry, David and Heather Nye, and the Vicar. Or contact via the Parish Office.**

## NOTICES\*

*\* deadline for news items midday on Wednesday via  
newsletter@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk*

**Vision Morning update.** Thanks to all who comes to our vision morning on 30<sup>th</sup> July. We reflect on where we are, who we are and what next. You'll see some of our workings in the Hall. If you would like to be part of a small working group to move this important aspect of church life forward, please speak to the Vicar.

**Parish Magazine.** We are in need of 3 more deliverers for our parish magazine, they will be dropped to your door and will only be for around half a street of houses. We also need 1 distributor, they are responsible for putting together the bundles and dropping to around 6 deliverers. Please speak to Anna in the office if you can help.

**Visiting clergy holiday cover.** As the Vicar takes sometime off over summer, we are pleased to welcome Bishop Stephen Venner (today, 14<sup>th</sup> August) and Revd Geoff Laycock (21<sup>st</sup> August) as they Preside and preach for us. We extend to them a very warm St John's welcome!

**August e-newsletters.** A reminder that there will not be a weekly e-newsletter during August but all the information you might need, can be found on online in the calendar entry, or in the August e-newsletters. Pewsheets will be available in Church for those who would like them.

## COMING UP

**Bike 'n Hike, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September.** Whether you would like to take part in the event or be part of the welcoming team at the St John's stop please speak to Anna in the office. Those taking part are sponsored to visit beautiful historic churches across Beds and Herts, on foot, by bike or other means. Money raised is split between the local church and the Trust, to give as grants to repair church buildings. It is a great day out and we get the chance to show how lovely and welcoming St John's is.

**Quiz Night, 7pm for 7.30pm Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September.** Tickets now on sale for a Quiz Night with Quizmaster Paul Bedding! £20 per ticket, which includes Fish and Chip dinner (but bring your own drinks). There will also be a raffle! All proceed to the new Parish Centre. To buy a ticket get in touch via the Parish Office.

**Tales of a Country Parish, 7.30pm 29<sup>th</sup> September.** Join us for an exciting evening to hear Colin Heber-Percy discuss his book 'Tales of a Country Parish' religious writings, interlaced with amusing and touching vignettes from his Wiltshire parish. He'll discuss this along with music. Refreshments will be served, with a chance to buy the book and have it signed!

## OTHER

**New Treasurer.** We are very pleased that Jon Pitman has agreed to be our PCC Treasurer. It will take a few weeks for Jon to get up to speed with the church accounts, but we thank Jon for taking on this important role in the life of the church.

**New Preschool!** We are very pleased to say that Fusion preschool (formerly Southdown Methodists) will be coming to St John's hall from September. You may have noticed an increase in people and items in the hall and this is why. Over the summer their items will be sorted. They are doing wonderful work in our garden and will be a great addition to our community, please join us in welcoming them. If you need use of the hall and are unsure of their hours, please contact the office.

**Harpenden Learning for Leisure** in Southdown have a full programme of varied courses for the Autumn and Spring terms 2022/23. Liz Sergeant will be delivering 'Making Sense of Modern Art' and would love to see friendly faces! No prior art knowledge needed. Other courses include: music appreciation, garden history and London in Literature. Early bird discount for bookings made before the end of July. Further details on <http://www.harpendenlearningforleisure.org.uk>

## PARISH DIARY

|           |         |                          |
|-----------|---------|--------------------------|
| Wednesday | 10.30am | Prayer During the Day    |
| Thursday  | 1pm     | Funeral of Shaun McBride |

## NEXT SUNDAY

8am and 9.30am services Parish Eucharist 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity  
*NT: Hebrews 12. 18 – end Gospel: Luke 13. 10-17*

### **Weekday Morning and Evening Prayer (in the Lady Chapel)**

Morning Prayer: 9.30 am, Monday to Thursday

Evening Prayer: 5pm Monday to Thursday

Wednesday Prayer During the Day, 10.30am in the Lady Chapel

### **Sign up to our Newsletter:**

We also send out a weekly newsletter. If you would like to receive it, please get in touch:

<https://stjohnsharpenden.org.uk/about-us/newsletter/>

For arrangement of baptisms, weddings & funerals contact the Parish Office or talk to the vicar after the service



St John's Church, 5 St John's Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 1DJ



## ***St John's Visitors***

Could you or someone you know do with a visit from  
someone at St John's?

We offer loving, sensitive and confidential support to  
everyone who needs it, not just Church members.

If this sounds like you, or someone you know, please get  
in touch with our parish office  
[parish.office@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:parish.office@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk)

*'If we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is completed in us'.  
(1 John 4:12)*

