



# The Benefice of St Mary's Bocking & Panfield Church

Sunday 18th February 2024

The First Sunday of Lent

Staying in Contact



The Very Revd Rod Reid - Incumbent (*usual rest day Monday*)

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or on Facebook, search for 'St Mary's Church, Bocking', or 'Panfield Church'

## Forthcoming Services

## Hymns

### **St Mary's, Bocking**

Sunday 18th February	8am	Said Mass
	10am	Sung Mass
Wednesday 21st February	9.30am	Said Mass
Sunday 25th February	8am	Said Mass
	10am	Sung Mass

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73

How shall I sing  
that majesty

B

### **Panfield Church**

Sunday 18th February	6pm	BCP Evensong
Tuesday 20th February	5pm	Office Hour/Evening Prayer
Sunday 25th February	11am	Holy Communion

## Gospel Acclamation

*Man does not live on bread  
alone, but on every word that  
comes from the mouth of God*

## NOTICES

**Charity of the Month** - In February, the monies donated at tea and coffee after the main service at St Mary's will go to Farleigh Hospice. Last month £100 was raised for Dean Rogers Million Penny Fund.

**Stepping Stones** - Our next sessions of Stepping Stones will run through Lent, beginning on February 27th at 7pm, please note the new start date! The remaining sessions will be March 5th, March 19th and March 26th. All welcome. More details on each session is available at the back of the church.

**Lent Soup** - Just to let you know that on Sunday March 3rd following the 10am service at St Mary's there will be a Lent Soup Lunch in the Church Hall. A signup sheet to help with numbers is at the back.

**Quiz Night** - The next Friends event will be a Quiz Night in the Church Hall with Fish & Chip supper, Saturday March 16th, 6.30 for 7pm. Tickets available now.

**Friendly Friday Cafe** - We are pleased to say that the Friendly Friday Café is back in the Church Hall from 12noon onwards, and now running each Friday up to, and including Friday March 22nd.

**Stargazing Evening** - On Friday March 1st from 7-9pm our friends from the North Essex Astronomical Society will be running a free stargazing session in the church grounds. All are welcome.

**World Day of Prayer** - The local World Day of Prayer service will take place at Braintree Baptist Church on Friday March 1st at 10.30am, the service created by the women of Palestine. All welcome.

**Bring and Buy** - We would love your support for the upcoming Bring and Buy sale which will follow the main church service at St Mary's on Sunday March 17th in the Church Hall. If you have items for it, or want to know more, please speak to Caron Francis.

**Prayers** - We keep in our prayers Barry and Janice Goody, Jean Goodwin, Sue, Roger, Frances, Jo Meech, and Tony & Ann. We remember our care homes Millard House, Larchwood, Fern Lodge, Aspen Grange, Braintree Mews, St Mary's Court and The New Deanery, and the following, whose anniversary of their passing falls this week Thomas Rose, Ruby Butcher, Freda Jeffrey, Alice Fuller, Margaret Bloomfield, Ruth Warren, Marjorie Crumbleholme, Vera Deere, Margaret Witchell, Ada Yeldham, Pat Glyde, Miriam Butler, Katie Abbott, and Cecil Ponder.

## The Collect for the First Sunday of Lent

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.

## ***Epistle Reading - 1 Peter 3:18-end***

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

## ***Gospel Reading - Mark 1:9-15***

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.' And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

## Post Communion Prayer

Lord God,  
you have renewed us  
with the living bread from heaven;  
by it you nourish our faith,  
increase our hope, and strengthen our love:  
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread,  
and enable us to live by every word  
that proceeds from out of your mouth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.