



[www.cofebishopstoke.com](http://www.cofebishopstoke.com)

*Showing and Sharing God's Love*

**August 2024**

**And a very special welcome if it's your first time here!**

- You are very welcome to stay for refreshments at the end of the service if you can.
- If you would like to know about other things that happen in our church life, please see our website – [www.cofebishopstoke.com](http://www.cofebishopstoke.com)
- During one of the songs in our service a collection is normally made. If you are able to use one of the Gift Aid envelopes, it really does make a difference and is most appreciated. At St Mary's we are also able to take card donations following the service. If you would like to find out about regular, tax-efficient giving, please let us know or take a look at <https://www.cofebishopstoke.com/giving-to-our-church>.

**Contact phone numbers**

<b>Revd Richard Wise</b> (Rector)	023 8061 2192 email. <a href="mailto:rwise@talktalk.net">rwise@talktalk.net</a>
<b>Margaret Ward</b> (LLM)	07778 691302
<b>Cherry Challis</b> (Church Warden)	023 8061 4114
<b>Ann Brown</b> (Pastoral Care)	023 8061 3893
<b>Joan Cook</b> (Pastoral Care)	023 8060 2150

## SUNDAY 4 AUGUST

### Service

10.45 am Parish Communion (St Mary's)

### Bible readings

**2 Samuel 11.26 – 12.14** (p.314) **Psalm 51.1-13**  
**John 6.24-35** (p.1070)

### Collects (Prayers for this week)

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,  
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;  
and that they may obtain their petitions  
make them to ask such things as shall please you;  
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.**

Lord of heaven and earth,  
as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer,  
give us patience and courage never to lose hope,  
but always to bring our prayers before you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## SUNDAY 11 AUGUST

### Services

8 am Communion – BCP (St Mary's)

*We are very pleased to welcome Revd Clive Beard to preside at this service.*

10.45 am Worship for all ages (St Mary's)

## **Bible readings**

**[Psalm 130] 2 Samuel 18.5-9,15, 31-33 (p.323)**

**John 6.35,41-51 (p.1070)**

## **Collects (Prayers for this week)**

O God, who declarest thy almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant unto us such a measure of thy grace that we, running the way of thy commandments, may obtain thy gracious promises and be made partakers of thy heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

God of glory,  
the end of our searching,  
help us to lay aside  
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,  
and to give all that we have  
to gain the pearl beyond all price,  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **SUNDAY 18 AUGUST**

### **Services**

9.15 am Communion (St Paul's)

*We are very pleased to welcome the Rt Revd Geoff Annas, Acting Bishop of Southampton, to preside at this service.*

10.45 am Worship for all ages (St Mary's)

## **Bible readings**

[Psalm 111] 1 Kings 2.10-12; 3.3-14 (p.336) John 6.51-58 (p.1071)

## **Collects (Prayers for this week)**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray  
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:  
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,  
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid  
and giving us those good things  
which we are not worthy to ask  
but through the merits and mediation  
of 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.**

God of constant mercy,  
who sent your Son to save us:  
remind us of your goodness,  
increase your grace within us,  
that our thankfulness may grow,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **SUNDAY 25 AUGUST**

### **Services**

8 am Communion – BCP (St Mary's)

*We are very pleased to welcome Revd Tom Young to preside at this service.*

10.45 am Worship for all ages (St Mary's)

## Bible readings

[Psalm 84] 1 Kings 8.1,6,10-11 (p.336) John 6.56-69 (p.1071)

## Collects (Prayers for this week)

Almighty God,  
who hast called thy Church to witness  
that thou wast in Christ reconciling the world to thyself:  
help us so to proclaim the good news of thy love,  
that all who hear it may be drawn unto thee;  
through him who was lifted up on the cross,  
and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Almighty God,  
you search us and know us:  
may we rely on you in strength  
and rest on you in weakness,  
now and in all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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## Items for prayer...

- **the unwell** – Robert, Tom, David, Pauline, Edna, Joy, Maggie, Fiona, Kevin, Chris, Margaret, David, Ingrid, Shane, Julia, Amelia, Margaret, Finn, David, Karen, Joan, Tracy, Maureen, Liz, Charlotte, Janet & Michael, Brenda, Tommy
- **we commend David Brown** (not Ann's husband!) **to God**, and pray for his family and friends
- **our parish** – week beginning:
  - 4<sup>th</sup> East Drive, Summers Close
  - 11<sup>th</sup> Bracken Crescent, Fox Close, Stag Close Lynx Close, Squirrel Close, Alan Drayton Way
  - 18<sup>th</sup> Glebe Meadow, Stoke Park Wood and the Cemetery, other play areas and open spaces
  - 25<sup>th</sup> Stoke Park Road, Stoke Park Drive, Colchester Avenue

- **St Mary's Urgent Repairs** – thanksgiving for donations and fundraising events so far; for some grant funding
- **peace** – in all places where there is conflict between peoples or military occupation, including Israel-Palestine, Ukraine & Russia, Myanmar, Sudan
- **the ecological and climate emergency** – for those suffering most from this; for the decisions and actions of world leaders; for each of us to do what we can to make a difference for the better

### **Summer Prayer for our ministry and mission...**

**Mondays** – those who are lonely, upset or unwell; that they may discover the love and comfort offered by Jesus; that some would find one of our services helpful

**Tuesdays** – the school summer holiday; for children and young people for whom the holidays are not a good time; for safety, enjoyment and refreshment for all

**Wednesdays** – Open the Book; all the children who have been in our assemblies over the past year; for them to remember and think about the stories and their meanings

**Thursdays** – the youngest children of our parish; those who attend Tots & Tinies or one of the pre-schools; for them to have the opportunity to hear about Jesus while they are still young

**Fridays** – families with children who come to Church Together; for more people to try out this service, whatever their age

**Saturdays** – all the young people aged 11-20 in our parish; those who come to Unshakeable youth; for the leaders and the growth of the group; for young people to grow in / come to faith

**Sundays** – our Messy Church; for the leaders and young leaders; for those who come; for more to come along and for people to feel able to invite others

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING?**

Mon	2.30 pm	Prayer Healing Fellowship (St Paul's)
Wed	8 pm	Compline / Night Prayer (Zoom)
Thurs	9.30 am	Holy Communion / Morning Prayer (St Paul's)

**Praying for Peace** Hiroshima and Nagasaki memorial days are on August 6 & 9. In advance of those days, on Sunday 4 August, St Mary's will be open from 4 – 6 pm for anyone to come in and reflect or pray for peace in the world today. You will be able to light a candle for peace and, if you wish, make an origami crane for a piece of art which has been commissioned by Christian CND for the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the atomic bombings next year. You can find out more about this project at [www.christiancnd.org.uk/1000-cranes/](http://www.christiancnd.org.uk/1000-cranes/) If you can't make it on 4 August but would like to make a crane, you are welcome to bring it to church over the next few weeks – it will be much appreciated!

## **A Prayer of Remembrance**

Written by Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York



Most merciful God,  
whose peace and justice pass all understanding,  
we pray for all people whose lives and livelihoods are damaged by war,  
for nations where present and future are torn apart by violence,  
and today we pray especially for the communities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki  
shattered by the horrors of nuclear conflict.  
Comfort those who mourn,  
heal the broken-hearted,  
give hope to the despairing,  
strengthen the vulnerable and  
enable us to build a world without nuclear weapons and where peace  
prevails.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.

**St Mary's Urgent Repairs Fund** Thank you so much for all your giving and fundraising so far for this. We have now raised over £14,800.

**Your contact details** If you come to church regularly but have never completed a Church Contact Consent form, we would really encourage you to do so. There are copies at the back of each church. It would be particularly helpful for us to get our data up to date over the next couple of weeks, ready to send a letter to everyone soon.

**Wheelchair available** If you or someone you know would value a second-hand wheelchair, please let Richard know and he will give you more details.

**Looking ahead...**

**Café @ St Mary's will take place on:**

September 14  
October 19  
November 23 – 'Christmas' café  
*All 10 am – 12.30 pm*

**Cream Teas will take place on:**

September 21  
November 16  
*All 2.30 – 4.30 pm*

**Other dates for your diaries:**

September 6 – History Society presentation: 'Old  
Bishopstoke Schools'  
September 27 – Barn Dance  
November 15 – Quiz  
*All at St Mary's at 7 pm; all proceeds to the Urgent Repairs*



**Safeguarding in our church** If you have any concerns about a child / young person or vulnerable adult in our church, please contact our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Margaret Ward, on 07778 691302 or by emailing [cofebishopstokesafeguarding@gmail.com](mailto:cofebishopstokesafeguarding@gmail.com). You can find out more about Safeguarding and other people who may be contacted on the posters at the back of each church or [on our website](#).



## **Eco Actions for August - In your Wardrobe**



Could you manage to do some of these this month – where relevant? They could soon become habits – good ones! Some might save you money, but even more important, they will all really help in caring for the world and its people.

1. All clothing and shoes have an environmental impact. Buy fewer, but longer lasting, products if you can. A pair of shoes has an average carbon footprint of 11.5kg CO<sub>2</sub>e, and a pair of trousers 3kg CO<sub>2</sub>e.
2. Buy clothing that is easy to wash and dry. About half of the environmental impact of a garment's life is the energy needed to wash it in your washing machine and tumble dryer. Don't wash clothes too often – is it really dirty?!
3. Extend the life of your clothing and shoes by looking after them and mending. Wear them, use them, until they fall apart; then donate or recycle rather than binning old clothes and shoes.
4. Set yourself a clothing challenge. Can you replenish your wardrobe for a year from second hand shops? (You may wish to exclude underwear!)

**Please follow us on social media if you can – and like or share some of our posts! It will help us spread the word about what we're doing as a church.**

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CofEBishopstoke/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/CofEBishopstokeMessyChurch/>

X (formerly Twitter) <https://x.com/CofEBishopstoke>

**Eastleigh Basics Bank** are always very grateful for our support, and at the moment, due to the rise in the cost of living, the need is greater than ever. Donations of food can be made at many local supermarkets, the Basics Bank in Wells Place, or brought to church. You can see the most up-to-date list on their [website](#) as well as the supermarkets which receive donations. Many thanks for whatever you are able to give.

**Church compost bins** We have compost bins in St Mary's churchyard (near the hedge on the east side of the church) and at St Paul's (at the front on the left-hand side of the car park). You are very welcome to put the following items in them: cut flowers, vegetable peelings, fruit cores and peel / skin, nettles, compostable cups. Please do not put plastic, dog poo, hedge cuttings, grass cuttings, horsetail weed or other food waste in the bin. If you have any queries, please contact Jenny on [compostjen@gmail.com](mailto:compostjen@gmail.com) Many thanks.

**Online giving to our church** If you would like to give a one-off or regular gift online to St Mary's & St Paul's, our bank details are:

Account name: Bishopstoke PCC  
Sort Code: 40-46-39  
Account no.: 91780646

If you would like us to claim Gift Aid, you can download our Gift Aid declaration form from [this page](#) on our website. If you can't print it off, just let us know and we'll get a copy to you. We really encourage you

to Gift Aid donations if you can – if you need any help with this, please contact our Gift Aid Secretary, Natasha Redfern, on 07739 322584.

**Parish Giving Scheme** This enables you to give a regular or one-off gift to our church. If you wish to Gift Aid your donations, this can be done without filling in an additional form. You can also give anonymously (if you wish), whilst still enabling us to claim Gift Aid. To join the scheme, please go to our page at [PGS](#).

Many thanks for whatever you are able to give or already give!