



Both Churches are under the Episcopal Care of the Bishop of Richborough:

And are served by a Priest of the Society of the Holy Cross. ✝

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

9:15 – Solemn Mass – Ordinary Form/Extraordinary Responses (Missa Simplicior / Credo vi) S Mary's Pro Populo

11:15 – Solemn Mass – Ordinary Form (K:xi;(no Gl:x); S&B:Pro Defunctis; A:xiv / Credo iii) S Saviour's Pro Populo

Weekday Masses:

Mon	Feria	10:30am	Low Mass	S Mary's	Recently Bereaved
		1:00pm	Interment of Ashes	S Mary's	
Tue	Feria	10:30am	Low Mass	S Mary's	Local Schools

Confessions may be heard after any Low Mass, or by Appointment.

Masses for both churches are live-streamed on the facebook page: facebook st mary the virgin sundon.

Welcome to S Mary's and S Saviour's: Welcome to S Mary's and S Saviour's today. There will as usual be tea and coffee served at the back of both churches and we hope you will be able to stay.

Today is the First Sunday In Advent: During Advent we don't sing the Gloria.

Advent is the beginning of the Church Year and is one of the most joyful seasons of the year. The first Advent candle will be lit at the beginning of both parish masses. At S Saviour's Laurence is not with us for a few weeks so we will have a melange of recorded music, piano and unaccompanied singing.

S Mary's Coffee Mornings: Many thanks to those who organise the coffee mornings – at present we never know whether we can have them until the actual day depending on the weather!

PCC Meetings: The PCC of S Mary's cancelled their recent meeting on the death of H M the Late Queen, so a new date will need to be arranged at a convenient time.

S Saviour's Porch: I am pleased to say that we are now again able to enter church through the front door! From time to time rough sleepers are setting up in the porch but local agencies are moving them elsewhere and ideally to somewhere a little more suitable.

S Mary's Roof: We hope that today we shall see some sunshine which should enable us to be able to have a Parish Mass today. The roof is in hand and all is being done to get this sorted – we all owe a great debt of thanks to James who has been working tirelessly in many ways during this very difficult time. We will get it sorted and we will be water tight – although it is taking far longer than any of us anticipated.

S Mary's Christmass Fayre: Many thanks to all those who came along yesterday and all who worked so hard again this year. The amount raised will be revealed this morning!

Christmas 2022: This year Christmass Day takes place on a Sunday – which means that as well as having the Christmass Eve Masses at 6:00pm (S Saviour's) and 11:30pm (S Mary's) the Masses on Christmass Day will of course be the normal 9:15am at S Mary's and 11:15 at S Saviour's. The possibility of the annual lessons and carols service which usually takes place before Christmass on the 4th Sunday in Advent is dependent this year on the situation with the roof at S Mary's! We very much hope that a break in the rain may make it possible!

Statues of the Holy Infant of Prague: Both S Saviour's and S Mary's have a statue of the Infant of Prague. I have sourced some small prayer cards from the Church of Our Lady of Victories in Prague where the famous statue is housed. Please take one of the prayer cards and use it in your prayers for the parishes and our work, both at home and when visiting the statue in our churches. Many thanks.

Parish Priest: Fr Yenda Smejkal, SSC, St Mary's Vicarage, 1 Selina Close, Sundon Park, Luton, LU33AW. Tel: 01582 583076; yenda.smejkal@virgin.net Assistant Priest: Fr Digby Anderson, Ph.D. www.stmarys-sundon.info [facebook: st mary the virgin, sundon](https://www.facebook.com/stmarythevirgin.sundon) Please take this newsheet away with you!

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.*

COLLECT

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ
with righteous deeds at his coming,
so that, gathered at his right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come
the mountain of the Temple of the Lord
shall tower above the mountains
and be lifted higher than the hills.

All the nations will stream to it,
peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the Temple of the God of Jacob
that he may teach us his ways
so that we may walk in his paths;
since the Law will go out from Zion,
and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.”

He will wield authority over the nations
and adjudicate between many peoples;
these will hammer their swords into ploughshares,
their spears into sickles.

Nation will not lift sword against nation,
there will be no more training for war.

O House of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 121

RESPONSE: *I rejoiced when I heard them say:
“Let us go to God’s house.”*

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say:
“Let us go to God’s house.”
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**
2. It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.
For Israel’s law it is,
there to praise the Lord’s name.
There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David. **R.**
3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
“Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!” **R.**

4. For love of my brethren and friends
I say: “Peace upon you!”
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good. **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

You know “the time” has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 24:37-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: “As it was in Noah’s day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

“So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make,
gathered from among your gifts to us,
and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below,
gain for us the prize of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*The Lord will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its increase.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May these mysteries, O Lord,
in which we have participated,
profit us, we pray,
for even now, as we walk amid passing things,
you teach us by them to love the things of heaven
and hold fast to what endures.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.