



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. ✠

SECOND 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:

Tue	Feria	10:30am	Low Mass	S Mary's	Local Schools
Wed	S Ambrose	(10:00am	Low Mass	Holy Cross MF)	
Thu	Immaculate Conception BVM	2:00pm	Hilborough Juniors Service	S Saviour's	
Sat	Our Lady of Lourdes	10:30am	Low Mass	S Saviour's	The Sick

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 2nd 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 2nd 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 recorded music, piano and today Tim Burleigh will lead the 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 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 last week and all who worked so hard again this year. The amount raised was £1,436.78. This is an incredible success so very well done indeed!

Recent Friends of S Mary's Events: Many thanks to those who have supported other recent events too – well done as always!

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

*O people of Zion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.*

COLLECT

Almighty and merciful God,
may no earthly undertaking hinder those
who set out in haste to meet your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING Isaiah 11:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,
a scion thrusts from his roots:
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,
a spirit of wisdom and insight,
a spirit of counsel and power,
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)
He does not judge by appearances,
he gives no verdict on hearsay,
but judges the wretched with integrity,
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.
His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless;
his sentences bring death to the wicked.

Integrity is the loincloth round his waist,
faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb,
the panther lies down with the kid,
calf and lion cub feed together
with a little boy to lead them.
The cow and the bear make friends,
their young lie down together.
The lion eats straw like the ox.
The infant plays over the cobra's hole;
into the viper's lair
the young child puts his hand.
They do no hurt, no harm,
on all my holy mountain,
for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters swell the sea.

That day, the root of Jesse
shall stand as a signal to the peoples.
It will be sought out by the nations
and its home will be glorious.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 71

RESPONSE: *In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon falls.*

- O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. **R.**
- In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon falls.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds. **R.**
- For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. **R.**
- May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 15:4-9

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

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
**Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight,
and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.**
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 3:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand." This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, "Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father,' because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble prayers and offerings, and, since we have no merits to plead our cause, come, we pray, to our rescue with the protection of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, through our partaking in this mystery, you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth and hold firm to the things of heaven. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**