



The Society

under the patronage of Saint Wilfrid and Saint Hilda

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. ✠

GAUDETE / THIRD 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	Our Lady of Guadalupe	10:30am	Low Mass	S Mary's	People of Latin America
		11:00am	Interment of ashes	S Mary's	
Tue	S Lucy	10:30am	Low Mass	S Mary's	Local Schools
Sat	O Sapientia	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 Gaudete Sunday: During Advent we don't sing the Gloria.

This is one of only two Sundays in the year when rose pink vestments are worn, and also the rose candle on the advent crown is lit. At S Saviour's Laurence is not with us for a few weeks so we will have recorded music and piano.

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 we are now surrounded by the necessary scaffolding. We should very soon be water tight.

S Mary's Friends: Many thanks to all those who came along recently to the cheese and wine evening. £90 was raised. Very well done and many thanks!

Next week is the 4th Sunday in Advent: The Annual service of Lessons and Carols takes place in the afternoon at S Mary's. Also once the church is water tight, the Christmass tree can be put up!

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.

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 newssheet away with you!

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.*

COLLECT

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. 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 35:1-6. 10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,
let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;
they shall see the glory of the Lord,
the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands,
steady all trembling knees
and say to all faint hearts,
"Courage! Do not be afraid.

"Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;
for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy,
everlasting joy on their faces;
joy and gladness will go with them
and sorrow and lament be ended.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 145

RESPONSE: Come, Lord, and save us.

Or **Alleluia!**

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. **R.**
3. It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**

SECOND READING James 5:7-10

A reading from the letter of St James.

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.

He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 11:2-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?" Jesus answered, "Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me."

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray,
be offered to you unceasingly,
to complete what was begun in sacred mystery
and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.

Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We implore your mercy, Lord,
that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults
and prepare us for the coming feasts.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.