



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. ✠

FOURTH 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 O Radix Jesse

10:30am Requiem Mass

S Mary's

RIP: Mary Middleton

Tue O Clavis David

10:30am Low Mass

S Mary's

Home Communicants

Sat CHRISTMASS EVE

6:00PM VIGIL MASS OF CHRISTMASS – S SAVIOURS

11:30PM SOLEMN MIDNIGHT MASS – S MARY'S

Sun CHRISTMASS DAY

9:15AM SOLEMN MASS – S MARY'S

11:15AM SOLEMN MASS – S SAVIOUR'S

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 4th Sunday in Advent: During Advent we don't sing the Gloria.

At 3pm this afternoon there will be the annual service of lessons and carols with Benediction at S Mary's, which will be followed by minced pies for which we hope you will all be able to stay.

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 although the recent inclement weather may not have helped!.

S Saviour's Gates: the gates at the back of church are now in place and we now await the front gates.

Next Sunday the Christmass Day : As Christmas Day is on a Sunday this year we shall have the normal Sunday parish masses – although for convenience these may be Low Masses depending on circumstance!

Inclement Weather: Please take extra care in the snow and ice – pavements can be slippery and please wrap up warm!

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

*Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.*

COLLECT

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,
your grace into our hearts,
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son
was made known by the message of an Angel,
may by his Passion and Cross
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING Isaiah 7:10-14

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, "Ask the Lord your God for a sign
for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights
above." "No," Ahaz answered "I will not put the Lord to the test."

Then Isaiah said:

"Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men
without trying the patience of my God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.
It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call Emmanuel,
a name which means 'God-is-with-us'."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 23

RESPONSE: Let the Lord enter!

He is the king of glory.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **R.**
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **R.**
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 1:1-7

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

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an
apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God
promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human
nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ
our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that

was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his
resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and
our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan
nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and
by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's
beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,
a name which means "God-is-with-us".*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 1:18-24

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was
betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she
was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband
Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity,
decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do
this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and
said "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as
your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the
Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him
Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their
sins." Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord
through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means "God-is-with-us". When Joseph woke up he
did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife
to his home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the Holy Spirit, O Lord,
sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar,
just as he filled with his power
the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having received this pledge of eternal redemption,
we pray, almighty God,
that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer,
so we may press forward all the more eagerly
to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son's Nativity.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**