

Sunday 12th March 2023

No. 1011 / 542

S MARY THE VIRGIN, SUNDON

&

S SAVIOUR, LUTON



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. ✠

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

9:15 Solemn Mass; Ordinary Form/Extraordinary Responses (Missa Simplicior (no Glo)/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 etc:

Wed	Feria	10:30am	Low Mass	S Saviour's	Home Communicants
Sat	S Cyril of Jerusalem	10:30am	Low Mass	S Saviour's	The Recently Bereaved

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: Today is the Thirs Sunday of Lent. During Lent the Gloria is not sung, and the Alleluia before the Holy Gospel is replaced by the Lenten acclamation.

S. Mary's PCC: will need to reschedule a meeting as the recent meeting had to be cancelled.

S Saviour's PCC: Could members of the PCC remain behind for a short meeting after Mass this morning to quickly pass a financial resolution (this is further to last week's brief meeting). It will be very quick because after that there will be a short lesson for our First Communion candidate!

S Mary's Lent Lunches: If anyone would like to host a Lent Lunch this year please let us know: it is simply soup, bread and possibly a little cheese...it is not a Savoy Grill brunch, in case anyone is worried! I hope we will have one on March 21st – perhaps we could arrange this after the 9:15 Mass today.

Bags for Schools: will be collected in mid-April. Please deliver your suitable items (no bric-a-brac, uniforms, bedding etc) to the vicarage over the next few months. Many thanks!

S Mary's Roof: Scaffolding is now inside S Mary's so there will for the time being be no Low Masses in the week at S Mary's. Thanks to all those who have helped with this over the past weeks and months. Please take extra care whilst the scaffolding is up: for the time being Holy Communion will be brought to the nave rather than distributed at the altar rail.

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

Next Sunday is Laetare Sunday: which is also known as Mothering Sunday and as per usual there will be the distribution of posies at both Solemn Masses.

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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

*When I prove my holiness among you,
I will gather you from all the foreign lands;
and I will pour clean water upon you
and cleanse you from all your impurities,
and I will give you a new spirit, says the Lord.*

COLLECT

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy... **Amen.**

FIRST READING Exodus 17:3-7

A reading from the book of Exodus.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. "Why did you bring us out of Egypt?" they said. "Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?" Moses appealed to the Lord. "How am I to deal with this people?" he said. "A little more and they will stone me!" The Lord said to Moses, "Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink." This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, "Is the Lord with us, or not?"

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 94

RESPONSE: *O that today you would listen to his voice:
"Harden not your hearts."*

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
"Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work." **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

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

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!
Lord, you are really the saviour of the world;
give me the living water, so that I may never get thirsty.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!*

GOSPEL John 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42

(a longer version may be read: John 4:5-42)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?" – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

"If you only knew what God is offering
and who it is that is saying to you:
Give me a drink,
you would have been the one to ask,
and he would have given you living water."

"You have no bucket, sir," she answered "and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?" Jesus replied:

"Whoever drinks this water
will get thirsty again;
but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give
will never be thirsty again:
the water that I shall give
will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life."

"Sir," said the woman "give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship." Jesus said:

"Believe me, woman, the hour is coming
when you will worship the Father
neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.
You worship what you do not know;
we worship what we do know;
for salvation comes from the Jews.

But the hour will come – in fact it is here already –
when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth:
that is the kind of worshipper
the Father wants.
God is spirit,
and those who worship
must worship in spirit and truth."

The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything." "I who am speaking to you," said Jesus, "I am he."

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, "Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings, and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins, may take care to forgive our neighbour... **Amen.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord,
the water I shall give will become in him
a spring welling up to eternal life.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As we receive the pledge
of things yet hidden in heaven
and are nourished while still on earth
with the Bread that comes from on high,
we humbly entreat you, O Lord,
that what is being brought about in us in mystery
may come to true completion... **Amen.**