

# St Mary the Virgin, Rickmansworth

The Church of England and The Methodist Church in Partnership

Serving the whole community



September 2018

Dear Friends and Neighbours across Rickmansworth,

We're glad to bring you news of what is happening over the coming weeks and months, and look forward to welcoming you at St Mary's if you are able to join us.

Many people drop into the church during the week as we are open each day. This might be for space to think, reflect or pray, or to look around and learn something of the history of the building. There are some useful information leaflets available (in church and on the website) - whether to explore the building or to encourage you along the journey of life. St Mary's is the local Parish Church for Rickmansworth, and is here for everyone.



With good wishes from us all,

The Reverend Deborah Snowball  
Vicar of Rickmansworth

## Back to Church Sunday

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September, 8am and 10am

If you've never been to church and wonder what it's all about, or if you've been a 'regular' in the past and have lost touch a bit, come and join us on this Sunday when people all over the world are particularly invited to come along to their local church and discover what they get up to.

We welcome visitors and newcomers pretty much every Sunday at St Mary's, but a good number of people are always a bit worried about coming in to unfamiliar surroundings. On this particular Sunday we try to encourage people to come along and meet us as we are - and we offer a warm welcome, so we can meet you - just as you are. Do come - we'd really like to meet you!

Our main Sunday Service is at 10 o'clock - and, if you have children, we have a Sunday School for those over 3 years old, as well as a play area for younger children.

## Harvest Festival Service and Gift Collections

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October, 10am

You are warmly invited to bring along gifts that celebrate the fruits and gifts of the earth - food (tins, biscuits, dried goods) and garden/allotment produce. Everything we receive is given away: directly to people who are in need and who live locally, as well as to other organisations that undertake distribution.

## Hearty Harvest Lunch and Quiz

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October, 12.30pm

A delicious lunch which will include homemade hotpots, delicious breads and cheeses, with apple crumble to follow (hopefully made with local fresh produce!) There'll be a Family Friendly Harvest Quiz too. Tickets: Ad: £6, Chn under 12: £3, Fam: (2 ad and up to 4 chn: £15). Tickets available from the Church Office. Ticket sales open until Sunday 30 September. All profits will go to our Harvest Charity, *Give Peas a Chance*. (Search on-line: *Harvest Appeal St Albans* for further details.)



## Keeping in touch with you so you can keep in touch with us!

Our **website** is updated regularly, offering the most up to date information available: [www.stmarysrickmansworth.org.uk](http://www.stmarysrickmansworth.org.uk)



As well as the printed version of our Church Magazine - **LINK** - available from the back of church, you can view it online. You can also subscribe to receive LINK electronically - visit our website for details. The Church also has its own **Twitter** account: @StMarysRickyLEP where you can pick up reminders about forthcoming activities, events and Services. Deborah, our Vicar, also has an account: @RickyVicar.

## Annual Bereavement Service

2.30pm, Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

You are warmly invited to attend our Annual Bereavement Service at which we remember those whom we love but see no longer.

During the Service, candles are lit in memory of those who have died, and after the Service there is time to reflect and reminisce over tea and cake. All are welcome to attend.



## Remembrance Sunday Service

2.30pm Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November

This year marks the 100th Anniversary of the end of the First World War. Incorporated into this year's Rickmansworth Town Service of Remembrance will be the extinguishing of the Candle of Remembrance that has been alight in church for the past four years. It was lit on the 100th Anniversary of the outbreak of War, and so it is fitting that this living flame is extinguished as we remember those who fell in that War.



There will be a Parade through the Town at 2pm, and all are welcome to watch this, as well as attend the Service in church. The Two Minute Silence, which forms part of the Service, will be kept by the War Memorial.

## St Mary's Church of England (VA) Primary School



St Mary's is a welcoming and inclusive school - founded on Christian values which serve to give the children, staff and parents a clear sense of identity and belonging.

The school community reflects the local area, with many children coming from within the local parish or those neighbouring ones. As a Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School, all children and families are welcomed - those who follow the Christian faith, those who practise another faith, as well as those of no faith. The approach to Religious Education, and the creation of a distinctive Christian ethos which permeates the whole of school life, ensures children grow up to be reflective, well-rounded and appreciative individuals.

St Mary's offers places to children of Nursery age to Year 6, and has much to offer local children, including a purpose-made library, gardening and vegetable area, and prayer garden. These are all aimed at enriching a child's spiritual, moral, cultural and social experiences.

For further information, visit the School website: [www.stmarys698.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stmarys698.herts.sch.uk).



A new venture at St Mary's is *The Teapot Club* which meets on the third Wednesday of each month for tea and a chat. Everyone is welcome. The dates of meetings through the Autumn are: 19<sup>th</sup> September, 17<sup>th</sup> October, 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2-3pm, in Church.

## Activities for families, children and young people

Little Angels



Our **Baby and Toddler Group**, Little Angels, meets at Cloisters Hall, The Cloisters, on Thursday mornings during Term Time between 9.30-11.30am. There are craft, play, and musical activities - with a cost of £1.50 per 'family group' per session. You don't need to book - everyone is welcome. Just bring along your 'little angel' and come and join in the fun!

We have a **Family Service** on the first Sunday of the month which is for everyone, but offers a more relaxed approach, with children in mind. On the other Sundays of the month during term-time **Children's Church** meets in the Church Centre at 10am for songs and prayers: Sunbeams: 3-5s, Junior Church: 5-11s. Together they explore Bible stories and their meaning, through play, stories and craft activities



**X Team** (our Youth Group) meets on the second and fourth Sunday evenings of the month during Term-time from 7-9pm in the Church Centre. Year 7 upwards. We have games, cook, watch films, go bowling... and seem to eat a lot of pizza! We also spend some time learning about being a Christian today.

## Contact details for St Mary's

St Mary's Church, Church Office, Church St, Rickmansworth WD3 1JB

☎ 01923 721002

💻 [www.stmarysrickmansworth.org.uk](http://www.stmarysrickmansworth.org.uk)

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