

St Mary's & St Luke's Weekly Information Sheet

Sunday 12th March 2023 – Third Sunday of Lent

This sheet is also available online at www.stmaryswistaston.blog

*Worship & Prayer in church & online for Sunday and the coming week
Holy communion will be distributed at Communion Rail with 'Priest intinction'*

In Church Worship

Sunday 12th March 2023 – Third Sunday of Lent

9am at St Luke's – a Service of Holy Communion

10.40am at St Mary's – a Service of All Age Worship

Exodus 17.1-7 & John 4.5-42

All readings are taken from New International Version – UK edition

**Every Wednesday - Holy Communion at St Mary's at 10am
Followed by refreshments**

Next Sunday 19th March 2023 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mothering Sunday

9am at St Luke's – a Service of Morning Prayer

10.40am at St Mary's – a Service of All Holy Communion

Exodus 2.1-10 & John 19.25-27

Online Worship

The 10:40am service is streamed from St Mary's each Sunday

[YouTube.com/StMarysWistaston1](https://www.youtube.com/StMarysWistaston1) & Facebook: bit.ly/facebookstmarys

You can also join in by phone: just before 10:40am Call: 0203 051 2874
Meeting ID: 838 7878 9259 Participant ID (if asked): # Passcode: 567119

Morning Prayer

on Zoom bit.ly/930mp, 9:30am on Monday & Thursday



To view/download this Weekly Sheet and Sunday Service Sheets then simply scan the QR code to the left with your smartphone camera or go to this address.

bit.ly/stmarysresources

We are doing this to try to save paper and printing costs and so reducing the amount of waste we have each week.

First Reading: Exodus 17.1-7

A reading from the Book of Exodus

The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, travelling from place to place as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So they quarrelled with Moses and said, 'Give us water to drink.'

Moses replied, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?'

But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?' Then Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me.'

The LORD answered Moses, 'Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.' So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarrelled and because they tested the LORD saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'

This the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Collect

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gospel Reading: John 4.5-42

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you O Lord.

So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Will you give me a drink?' (His

disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?' (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.'

'Sir,' the woman said, 'you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water?'

Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?' Jesus answered, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.' He told her, 'Go, call your husband and come back.'

'I have no husband,' she replied. Jesus said to her, 'You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.' 'Sir,' the woman said, 'I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.' 'Woman,' Jesus replied, 'believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.'

You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.' The woman said, 'I know that Messiah' (called Christ) 'is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.' Then Jesus declared, 'I, the one speaking to you – I am he.' Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, 'What do you want?' or 'Why are you talking with her?' Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, 'Come, see a man who told me everything I've ever done. Could this be the Messiah?' They came out of the town and made their way towards him.

Meanwhile his disciples urged him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you know nothing about. Then his disciples said to each other, 'Could someone have brought him food?' 'My food,' said Jesus, 'is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Don't you have a saying, "It's still four months until harvest"? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the one who reaps

draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying "One sows and another reaps" is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labour.' Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I've ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. And because of his words many more became believers. They said to the woman, 'We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

News & Information

NO LENT Group this Tuesday, Friday's group at St Luke's will take place at 10am.

Lent Lunches are on 15th March in the Church Hall at 12 noon - selection of soups & 29 March- Ploughman's Lunch priced at £4.50. Thanks, Chris.

Bell Tower & Church Open Day Saturday 18th March. Access will be avble between 10am - noon & 2pm to 3-30pm. There will be an opportunity to ascend into the ringing room. Competent bell ringers will explain the art of campanology & give demonstrations. Potential or lapsed bell ringers very welcome. Refreshments avble, If you are able to help please let Revd Mike know.

The Bible Study meeting is on 21st March, the next Prayer Group meeting date is TBC both meet at 56 Bowness Road, Jenny Varty 01270 567618.

Ladies Afternoon Group: We will next meet at our Lent Service at St Mary's Church at 2 pm on 23rd March followed by tea/coffee and biscuits in the hall afterwards. Looking forward to seeing you all. Frances

Thanks to those who have volunteered to clean at St Mary's, we need some more people to join in. There is a cleaning kit and vacuums available and a key safe so as you can clean at a time that suits you.

Scout's Easter Bingo at St Mary's Church Hall Saturday 18th March at 6pm- 8 Games of Bingo for £5 - please come & support the South West Cheshire World Scout Jamboree fundraiser event.

Help us get March off to a great start for St Mary's by signing up to support us for FREE on #easyfundraising. Raise donations whenever you shop online over 7,000 brands incl John Lewis, eBay, Argos, M&S & more. Once you've raised your first £5, easyfundraising will double it! Sign up today - it will make a BIG difference to us this year: bit.ly/stmaryseasyfundraising

Prayer for Ukraine Blog: bit.ly/weprayforukraine