

The Moat



**The magazine for St. Mary's Parish Church
and the local community of Hobs Moat**



May 2020

Price : 50p

St Mary's Church, Hobs Moat

Priest in Charge – Rev Linda Granner

St Mary's House, 30 Hobs Meadow, Solihull, B92 8PN

☎ 0121 743 4955

✉ vicar@stmaryschurchhobsmoat.org

Unavailable on Fridays

Churchwardens

Greg Dodd

☎ 706 4859

Marina Downing

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Pastoral Ministry Team

Jean Davies

☎ 705 6558

Worship on Sundays

8:00 am : Holy Communion

10:00 am : Parish Communion (All Age Worship on 1st Sunday)

6.30 pm : Wholeness and Healing Service (On 3rd Sunday)

Midweek Worship

1st Tuesday of the month - 11.00 am : “Reflections” Service

Every Thursday - 9:30 am : Holy Communion in the Chapel

Enquiries

Arrangements for weddings, baptisms and funerals or to hire the Church Hall can be made by phoning on 0121 743 4955 or by emailing vicar@stmaryschurchhobsmoat.org.

Any future articles can be emailed to: stmarysmag@googlemail.com

Website: www.stmaryschurchhobsmoat.org



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Focal Point...

The feast of Pentecost is on 31st May. On the fiftieth day after Easter God sends his Holy Spirit to empower the Church for the mission Christ has entrusted to it. It's often referred to as the 'birthday of the Church'. This was the occasion we read about in the Acts of the Apostles when all the disciples who were gathered together in Jerusalem received the Holy Spirit. From then onwards those disciples spread far and wide from Jerusalem sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.



We won't know for some time whether we will be able to gather on this Pentecost or whether we will have to celebrate it in the same way as we have just celebrated Easter.

However, I am sure that we are all in contact with others, by phone, Skype, internet or calling down the garden path to thank someone for delivering to us. We still have the opportunity to tell others about God's love for each one of us, and to remember that he loves us all even when we are unable to gather together.

With every blessing as we continue through this difficult time in our lives,

Linda.

Thought for the Month

Choose a suitable time for reflection and frequently consider the loving kindness of God.

Thomas Kempis



Church Mice



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The Moat Players

As we said last month, it was with great regret that due to the current outbreak of the Coronavirus; the committee have made the tough decision to cancel the remainder of this season, meaning that our show planned for June will no longer be staged. The committee are now in discussions to plan next year's season, and all

being well, we are able to announce that we will open the season with a pantomime to be staged on December 10th, 11th & 12th, the title of which is yet to be decided.

During these challenging times, the group have continued to meet on Sunday evenings (one of our usual rehearsal evenings) via the Zoom app, and have held some fun quiz evenings. Many thanks to those who have organised these evenings, as we try to find new ways of keeping in touch with one another. Stay safe everyone 😊.

We are always looking for new members, so if you are interested in joining one of Solihull's longest running amateur drama groups, drop us a line at hello@moatplayers.co.uk, and we will let you know when we are able to meet up again. If you use either Facebook or Twitter, you can keep right up to date with the group's activities by Liking us on Facebook or Following us on Twitter, or by visiting our website - www.moatplayers.co.uk .

St. Mary's Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Due to the current restrictions brought about by the coronavirus, the APCM that had been planned for Sunday 26th April had to be cancelled. At this meeting, one of the items would have been to elect a new PCC. David, Bishop of Birmingham, has given us authorisation to postpone our APCM until the end of October, and hopes that all current members of the PCC will continue in their current roles until such time that the postponed meeting takes place.



21st May - Ascension Day: 40 Days with the Risen Christ

40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. These are the 40 days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to His disciples, following His death and resurrection. (*Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; and John 20.*)



The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those 40 days. Jesus was seen by numerous of His disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged His disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent Him, He was now going to send them - to all corners of the earth, as His witnesses.

Surely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records the story with great poignancy: 'When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, He lifted up His hands - and blessed them.'

As Christmas began the story of Jesus' life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with His return to His Father in heaven. Jesus' last act on earth was to bless His disciples. He and they had a bond as close as could be: they had just lived through three tumultuous years of public ministry and miracles - persecution and death - and resurrection!

Just as we part from our nearest and dearest by still looking at them with love and memories in our eyes, so exactly did Jesus: 'While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven.' (Luke 24:50-1) He was not forsaking them, but merely going on ahead to a kingdom which would also be theirs one day: 'I am ascending to my Father and to your Father, to my God and your God...' (John 20:17)

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history. Imagine being one of the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus, and have Him look on you with love. No wonder then that Luke goes on: 'they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.' (Luke 24:52,53)

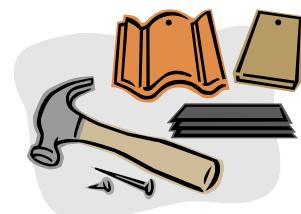
No wonder they praised God! They knew they would see Jesus again one day! 'I am going to prepare a place for you... I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.' (John 14:2,3) In the meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel to every nation on earth.

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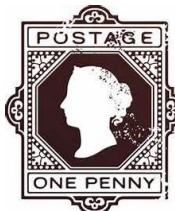


A Message from the Editor

Due to the current social distancing measures that are currently in place, this month's magazine is slightly smaller than usual due to events and activities being cancelled. Please be advised that we have published the Parish

Diary at the back of the magazine as usual, but we are expecting for all activities to not take place, but we have published just in case the situation changes over the coming weeks.

Stay safe, Andy



Stamps

Well, this self-isolation has given me more time to catch up with things and one thing which I've been able to finish is preparing all the stamps which you have so kindly donated, ready to send to the R.N.I.B. The stamps had to be sorted into 'UK' and 'Foreign' and I confess I have enjoyed looking through all the stamps as I did this.

I've never been a stamp collector but these have shown me a great number of interesting and lovely stamps, some of them full of history as shown by the Special Issue collections. For instance, do you remember the stamp referring to the TV serial 'Rising Damp'? or the pictures of Charlotte Bronte who wrote Jane Eyre? There was a picture of a lovely Shire Horse on one stamp, a splendid Welsh Black Bull on another, and other stamps showing the 12 Days of Christmas. I wonder how many remember the composite stamp celebrating the Queen's 60th Birthday.

Thank you to everyone for the huge response in donating all the stamps. I have sent the stamps off and we await the re-opening of the Church again when we shall be able to add more stamps to the box from all the letters we've received during the Shut-Down!

Juanita

"Cathedral of the Month" - May

Truro Cathedral

The Diocese of Truro was established in 1876 and its first bishop, Bishop Edward White Benson, was consecrated at St Paul's Cathedral in 1877.

Truro was not the only candidate for the siting of a new cathedral. Lostwithiel had been the home of the Dukes of Cornwall; Launceston had once been the administrative capital of Cornwall, as had Bodmin. St. Germans, the site of the original seat of Cornwall, also put forward a claim but was deemed to be too far east. The vicar of St Columb even offered his large church! Eventually, Truro was chosen, and St Mary's parish church became the new cathedral.



However, St Mary's was never going to be large enough and planning started for a new cathedral. The leading architect John Loughborough Pearson, who had experience of cathedrals elsewhere, was commissioned to design the new Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Work began in 1880.

The project was ambitious. Truro would be the first Anglican cathedral to be built on a new site since Salisbury Cathedral in 1220. For over 650 years no one had attempted to emulate the great cathedral builders of the medieval era. As well as this, it was initially uncertain if there would be enough money to complete such a project.

The construction of the cathedral actually took thirty years. Foundation stones were laid on 20th May 1880 by the Duke of Cornwall, later King Edward VII, and work started immediately. There was an eleven year pause for further fund-raising between 1887 and 1898, but when work re-commenced things went ahead well. The central tower was finished by 1905 and the building was completed with the opening of the two western towers in 1910.

Today, Truro Cathedral is seen as a triumph of Gothic Revival Architecture and its magnificent spires can be seen soaring above the city's skyline, and, are at their best when silhouetted by the bright blue Cornish sky.

© Truro Cathedral Website

31st May - Day of Pentecost: Whit Sunday

Pentecost took place on the well-established Jewish festival of Firstfruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was seven weeks after Easter, or 50 days including Easter.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told His disciples that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for His disciples, but He knew they could not



do the work themselves. They would need His help.

And so, they waited in Jerusalem, praying together with His other followers, for many days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues, to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the disciples and followers of Jesus. The Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian Church that morning, proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course, Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, He could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of His Holy Spirit.

75th Anniversary of VE Day

When VE Day dawns on 8th May 2020 it will be 75 years since the guns fell silent at the end of the war in Europe. Years of carnage and destruction had come to an end and millions of people took to the streets and pubs to celebrate peace, mourn their loved-ones and to hope for the future, but not forgetting those still in conflict until 15th August when it was announced that Japan had surrendered unconditionally to the Allies, effectively ending World War II.

The 75th anniversary will provide our nation, and our friends around the world, with an opportunity to reflect on the enormous



VE DAY

75TH ANNIVERSARY

A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION

sacrifice, courage and determination of people from all walks of life who saw us through this dark and terrifying period. To commemorate this important time, we at St. Mary's had planned to hold a Garden Party to celebrate this anniversary on the afternoon of Saturday 9th May, but due to the current social distancing restrictions, this event has had to be cancelled. Even though we will not be able to meet up in person and celebrate, it is still important for us all to remember the enormous sacrifices that were made at home and abroad and to joyously celebrate as people did 75 years ago, the arrival of peace in Europe, but from the safety of our homes.

Saint Mary's Church, Hobs Moat, Solihull

PRAYER DIARY

MAY 2020

Lord God, through our prayers help us to purify our desires & our worship; help us in all things to seek your purpose for us. Amen.

May 1 Pray for Wellsford Ave., Harvard Road, & Melton Ave.
For all who care for the sick, the lonely and the homeless.

May 2 Pray for Beamans Close, Lyndon Rd., Campden Green
For Schools in the parish, Governors, Staff and pupils.

May 3 Easter 4.
Pray for Daylesford Rd., Eastbury Dr., Blaythorn Ave.
For those who dust and clean St Mary's Church.

May 4 Pray for Dallimore Close, Norbury Grove, Cloudsley Grove
For all who are in employment & those unemployed.

May 5 For all organisations who use our Hall each week.
Pray for Ulleries Rd., Burford Close, Colesbourne Rd.

May 6 Pray for Elkstone Close, Brackleys Way & Moordown Ave.
For those who are housebound especially Church members.

May 7 Pray for Windrush Close, Hobs Moat Rd, Hobs Meadow & Evenlode Rd.

For the witness of St Mary's Church to all who pass by.

May 8 Pray for Westcote Close, Winchcombe Rd., Broadwell Rd.

For the staff and work of Lyndon Clinic.

For Linda our Priest in Charge.

May 9 Pray for Castle Lane, Greyfort Cres., & Arundel Cres.

For our servers and those who assist at Communion.

May 10 Easter 5.

Pray for Dene Court Rd., Knightsbridge Rd., The Dell

For all who have disabilities which restrict their lives.

May 11 Pray for Onslow Cres., Summerfield Rd., Kimberley Rd.

May 12 Pray for Highwood Av., Oakham Way, Gosford Walk

For those who work at Land Rover Factory and all who travel through the Parish to work each day.

May 13 Pray for Berwood Grove, Rodney Rd., Dursley Close

For those who prepare "The Moat" Parish Magazine

Editor, Printers, Assembly Team, Distributors and Readers

May 14 Pray for Dovehouse Lane, Dovecote Close, Redfern Close

For the elderly & their pets who help them.

May 15 Pray for Castle Close, Faulkner Rd., Trinity Close

For Shop keepers and their assistants

For the Pastoral Team who visit the sick.

May 16 Pray for Cranhill Close & Rodney Close

For those who wash and clean the altar linen at St Mary's.

May 17 Easter 6.

Pray for Old Lode Lane, Jillcot Rd., Jeremy Grove

For those who beautify St Mary's Church with flowers.

May 18 Pray for Ebrington Ave., Glenside Av., Windsor Drive.

Pray for all Doctors & Specialists & all who care for the sick and lonely.

**May 19 Pray for Merevale Rd., Odensil Green, Tanhouse Farm Rd.
Doctors & Staff at Hobs Moat Medical Centre and Meadowside
Surgery.**

**May 20 For all sick people especially those in hospital.
Pray for Mayswood Rd., Linsey Rd., Cophams Close
For Sidesmen & women who welcome all who come to St Mary's
services.**

**May 21 Ascension Day.
Pray for Arlescote Rd., Frankton Close, Leafield Rd.
For God's blessing on all mothers, fathers and single parents**

**May 22 Pray for Charingworth Rd, Leam Cresc., Lammas Close.
For those who serve coffee after our 10am services.**

May 23 Pray for Evenlode Close, Lode Lane, Hillhampton Close.

**May 24 Sunday after Ascension Day.
Pray for Kelham Place, Kempsey Close, Farmstead Rd.
For those who advertise in 'The Moat' Parish magazine.**

**May 25 Pray for St Mary's officials – Greg & Marina our Churchwardens,
Marina our PCC secretary, Vernon our Treasurer.
Pray for Highcroft Close, Norgrove Rd. Woodhall Croft.**

**May 26 Pray for Meadow centre and its staff, for congregation members
living outside the Parish, and all who use the Fitness Centre and Ice
Rink.**

**May 27 Pray for members of PCC committees: Children, Mission and
Outreach, Buildings, Social and Fundraising.**

**May 28 Pray for HBCT; Hobs Moat URC, Lyndon Methodist, St Thomas
More RC, Sheldon Community Church, St Giles, Sheldon, St
Nicholas, Elmdon and St Mary's, Hobs Moat, Redeemed Christian
Church of God and Hermon Mar Thoma Church**

**May 29 Pray for all children, especially those who are ill treated, Cubs and
Beavers who meet in our Hall.**

May 30 Pray for the Emergency Services' Police, Fire and Ambulance.

May 31 Pentecost.

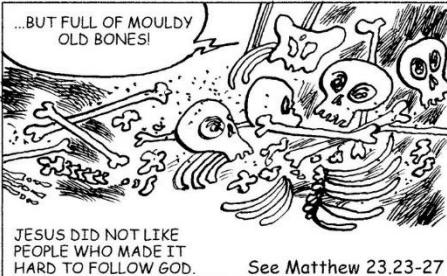
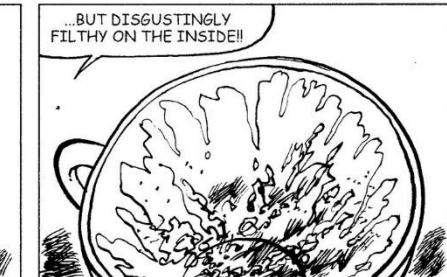
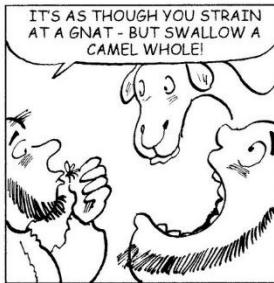
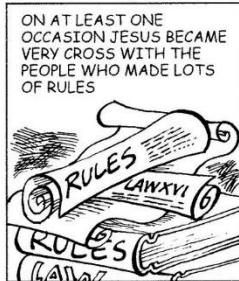
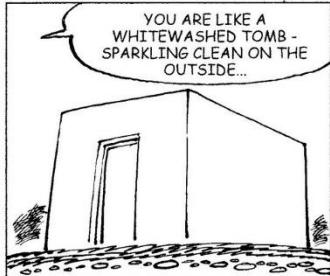
Pray for vocations to the Priesthood and other ministries within the Church.



If you have items, subjects or topics for inclusion in St. Mary's Monthly PRAYER DIARY, please send them to Revd. Linda Granner, either by Telephone 0121 743 4955 or Email: vicar@stmaryschurchhobsmoat.org



"Some tough talking"



See Matthew 23.23-27

Hobs Moat Library

Coronavirus

On Friday 20th March, the Government gave additional advice to reduce social interaction between people in order to reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). In light of this, all Solihull Library sites are now closed to the public until further notice.



We are sorry for this interruption in services and are doing our best to limit the impact this may have on our customers with the following:

- There will be no charges for overdue materials for the time being
- Any cards due to expire before 30th June will be extended so membership will not lapse
- Loans will be extended until 30th June
- Allowing new members online membership to access a full range of online resources and eBooks
- Visit our website for access to E-Audio, books, magazines and newspapers



"Oh I could tell you where self-help is, but that'd sort of defeat the purpose, wouldn't it."

If you need to contact the library service please email libraryarts@solihull.gov.uk or call 0121 704 6965.

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Olton Tavern Bowling Club

In my article for April's edition, I had written that the Club and it's members were eagerly looking forward to the start of the bowling season. The green was opened for an internal club competition with 27 members entering. This was an excellent turnout for a pre season competition and showed the interest within the club. However, a few days later the impact of the Coronavirus meant that all organised bowling was suspended until further notice and the green was closed to our members. The main aim now is for all of us to stay safe and hopefully the situation will improve and we will be able to play bowls again later in the year.

Steve Myatt - Secretary

St. Mary's Market and Car Boot Sale



Due to the current restrictions regarding the coronavirus, all of our planned St. Mary's Market & Car Boot Sales have been cancelled until further notice.

We are hoping that these will be able to return in the near future.

THE | WALL

A National Landmark of Hope

to remind the generation of God's goodness

The Wall of Answered Prayer A National Landmark of Hope

A piece of architectural sculpture built on the outskirts of Birmingham about Jesus. Made of a million bricks with each one representing an answered prayer. With the land now secured we will begin building in 2020. We have three aims:

Preserve the Christian Heritage of our nation

God has faithfully and powerfully moved throughout the history of the UK, whether by answering the prayers of St Augustine in the 6th Century, to the millions of people who queued up outside churches to pray for the men on the beaches of Dunkirk. We want to celebrate and remember all the prayers God has answered throughout our nation's history.

Ignite a faith for prayer on a national level

Imagine everyone in the country having free access to a database of a million answered prayers. They can type in whatever storm or situation of life that they're going through, and they'll be able to see first-hand the God who has done it before, and is more than faithful enough to do it again. Their faith will be lifted and encouraged.

Reveal Christ to the nation

Around 500,000 journeys will travel past this monument every week, and we estimate that 150-200,000 people will visit this site annually.

We hope that as people interrogate the answered prayers and comprehend the colossal nature of what they are witnessing, they will personally encounter the God who answers.

For more information, please visit www.thewall.org.uk where you will be able to find out more information about how to make a donation and how to be involved in this monumental piece of public art.

Mouse Makes

How many other words can you find using the letters from:

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT?

Which symbol goes with which fruit?

The word search grid contains the following words:

U	O															
N	T	R	V													
G	R	A	C	E	G	O	D									
B	T	H	E	L	P	E	A	C								
T	P	A	I	T	E	N	C									
J	G	T	R	U	S	T	R	J								
C	R	L	O	R	D	L	E	E								
A	K	I	N	D	N	E	S	S								
L	O	V	E	H	O	N	T	U								
M	J	E	R	O	D	E	K	S								
G	O	D	N	E	S	S	S	S								
C	A	Y	M	O	E	L	S	S								
O	B	L	E	S	S	I	S	S								
N	F	R	U	I	T	G	P	S								
D	T	Y	H	O	L	Y	H	I								
A	S	E	L	F	C	O	N	T	R	O						
A	U	C	O	N	S	I	D	R	E	A	T	O				
E	B	N	I	T	E	R	G	I	T	Y	O	D	Y			
B	I	C	O	M	P	A	S	S	I	N	C	A	R	E		
A	T	O	L	E	R	A	N	C	E	Y	A	C	Y	A	N	H
Y	G	E	N	E	R	O	S	T	D	T	R	R	N	S		
F	A	I	T	H	F	U	L	N	E	S	S	Y	D	Y		
G	O	D	W	I	L	L	P	P	S	E	R	V	E	V		

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control."

If we live by the Spirit, let us also behave in accordance with the Spirit"

Read Galatians 5:13-26

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St Mary's Diary for May

"The Moat"

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May 2020

Please note that these are the events which are due to have taken place during May, and we have included them as we do not know when the current restrictions will be listed.

Stay Safe

Sunday	3 rd		EASTER 4
		8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.00 am	All Age Worship
Tuesday	5 th	11.30 am	“Reflections” Service
Wednesday	6 th	1.00 pm	Knit & Natter Group in the Chapel
Thursday	7 th	9.30 am	Holy Communion in the Chapel
Sunday	10 th		EASTER 5
		8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.00 am	Parish Communion
Tuesday	12 th	3.00 pm	Kingsford Court Holy Communion
Wednesday	13 th	1.00 pm	Knit & Natter Group in the Chapel
Thursday	14 th	9.30 am	Holy Communion in the Chapel
Sunday	17 th		EASTER 6
		8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.00 am	Parish Communion
		6.30 pm	Wholeness & Healing Service
Wednesday	20 th	1.00 pm	Knit & Natter Group in the Chapel
Thursday	21 st		ASCENSION DAY
		9.30 am	Holy Communion in the Chapel
Sunday	24 th		SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY
		8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.00 am	Parish Communion
Wednesday	27 th	1.00 pm	Knit & Natter Group in the Chapel
Thursday	28 th	9.30 am	Holy Communion in the Chapel
Sunday	31 st		PENTECOST
		8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.00 am	Parish Communion

Bible Readings for the Month



May:

3rd May. Acts 2: 42-end; 1 Peter 2: 19-end; John 10: 1-10.

10th May. Acts 7: 55-end; 1 Peter 2: 2-10; John 14: 1-14.

17th May. Acts 17: 22-31; 1 Peter 3: 13-end; John 14: 15-21.

24th May. Acts 1: 6-14; 1 Peter 4: 12-14, 5: 6-11; John 17: 1-11.

31st May. Acts 2: 1-21; 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-13; John 20: 19-23.

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St Marys Hob Meadow,
Solihull, B92 8PN

Tuesday:

St Marys Hob Meadow,
Solihull, B92 8PN
& St George & St Teresa's,
Station Road, Dorridge,
B93 8EY

Wednesday:

Dorridge Village Hall, Grange
Road, Dorridge, B93 8QA

Thursday & Friday:

Layca Community Centre,
Stretton Road, Shirley,
B90 2PZ

9.30-10.45 & 10.45-12.00
Monday - Friday
Plus afternoons from
1-2.30pm Tuesdays at
St Marys & Thursdays at the
Layca Centre

www.Tickety-Boo.uk.com

Call: 07817 033 292



Priest-In-Charge

The Revd Linda Granner

743 4955

✉ vicar@stmaryschurchhobsmoat.org

Church Wardens

Greg Dodd

706 4859

Marina Downing

779 6866

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The Moat, Next Issue...

Do you have an idea for an article for the next issue of The Moat?

Any ideas for future editions will be gratefully received and considered. They can either be put in the box at the back of Church, or emailed to stmarysmag@googlemail.com.

The final date for submissions of articles for the June issue of The Moat is Monday 11th May 2020.



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