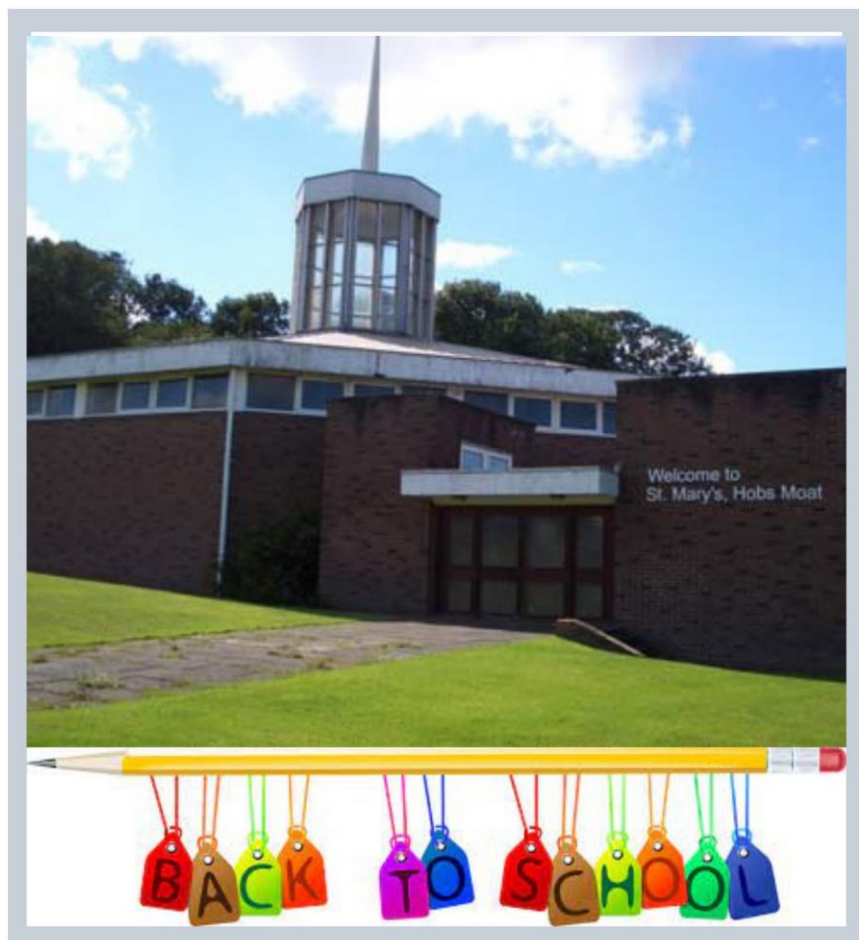


The Moat



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



September 2022

Price : 50p

St Mary's Church, Hobs Moat

Priest in Charge – Vacant

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

☎ 0121 743 4955

💻 stmaryshobsmoat@gmail.com

Churchwardens

Greg Dodd

☎ 706 4859

Marina Downing

☎ 779 6866

Pastoral Ministry Team

Jean Davies

☎ 705 6558

Worship on Sundays

8:00 am : Holy Communion - **Not currently taking place**

10:00 am : Parish Communion or All Age Worship

Midweek Worship

1st Tuesday of the month - 11.00 am : “Reflections” Service - **Not currently taking place**

Every Thursday - 9:30 am : Morning Prayer in the Chapel

Enquiries

For arrangements for weddings, baptisms and funerals, please contact Rev. Sue Shewring on 0121 448 1846

To make a Church Hall booking enquiry please email:

stmaryshobsmoat@gmail.com

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

Website: www.stmaryschurchhobsmoat.org



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Focal Point...

September is upon us; I do hope you had a good summer break. It's time for the children to return to school, some maybe for the first time. Young people are preparing to go to colleges and universities with a mixture of excitement and trepidation. September is a good time to start something new, a new hobby or join a group of likeminded people be it a choir, evening class, or take up some voluntary work. The local library has plenty of information of interesting things to get involved in.



The highlight of the summer has to have been the Commonwealth Games. Birmingham came alive with all sorts of people from across the world, there was a wonderful atmosphere of friendliness and togetherness, not to mention the excellent sportsmanship of all the athletes, and the work of the wonderful volunteers. What a wonderful legacy the games have left on Birmingham, let's try and build on it.

14th September in the church calendar is Holy Cross Day when we remember and give thanks to Jesus for dying on the cross for us on Good Friday, so that we may have life, and have it more abundantly. There are several saints' days this month, that are all in different ways inviting us to enter into a lasting relationship with Jesus, which will lead us into eternal life.

I leave with you the prayer for Holy Cross Day.

Almighty God who in the passion of your blessed Son

Made an instrument of painful death to be the means of life

Grant us so to glory in the Cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer for his sake

Who is alive and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit

One God now and for ever, Amen



Every blessing to you all, Jan Turner

Thought for the Day

God does not want to be at the top of our list of important things. He wants to be at the centre of them all, since they all revolve around him anyway

Ron Di Cianni



Thought for the Month

Think about it: it is easy to see God's beauty in a glorious sunset or in ocean waves crashing on a beach. But can you find the holiness in a struggle for life?

Harold. S. Kushner

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"Finally, we're still waiting for someone from last week's Parent & Toddler Group to come and claim this lost property..."

Car Boot Sale

Our next St. Mary's Market & Car Boot Sale of 2022 takes place on Saturday 10th September between 9.00 am and 1.00 pm. This is the perfect opportunity for you to have a spring clean of your house, and to sell some of your unwanted goods. As always, tea and coffee will be available, as well as bacon sandwiches. No need to book a space for the day, just turn up as we have plenty of room. We look forward to seeing you there 😊.



The Top 10 Hymn Countdown Continues

No. 4 : Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

"Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" is a hymn with words taken from a longer poem, "The Brewing of Soma" by American Quaker poet John Greenleaf Whittier. The adaptation was made by Garrett Horder in his 1884 Congregational Hymns.



In the United Kingdom, the hymn is usually sung to the tune "Repton" by Hubert Parry. In the US, the prevalent tune is "Rest" by Frederick Charles Maker.

"The Brewing of Soma" is the Whittier poem (1872) from which the hymn is taken. Soma was a sacred ritual drink in Vedic religion, going back to Proto-Indo-Iranian times (ca. 2000 BC), possibly with hallucinogenic properties.

The storyline is of Vedic priests brewing and drinking Soma in an attempt to experience divinity. It describes the whole population getting drunk on Soma. It compares this to some Christians' use of "music, incense, vigils drear, and trance, to bring the skies more near, or lift men up to heaven!" But all in vain - it is mere intoxication.

Whittier ends by describing the true method for contact with the

divine, as practised by Quakers: sober lives dedicated to doing God's will, seeking silence and selflessness in order to hear the "still, small voice", described in I Kings 19:11-13 as the authentic voice of God, rather than earthquake, wind or fire.

Hubert Parry originally wrote the music for what became Repton in 1888 for the contralto aria 'Long since in Egypt's plenteous land' in his oratorio Judith. In 1924 George Gilbert Stocks, director of music at Repton School, set it to 'Dear Lord and Father of mankind' in a supplement of tunes for use in the school chapel. Despite the need to repeat the last line of words, Repton provides an inspired matching of lyrics and tune. By this time, Rest, by Frederick Maker (matching the metrical pattern without repetition), was already well established with the lyrics in the United States.

THE FINAL COUNTDOWN

As we get towards the end of our countdown of the nation's favourite hymns, can you guess what the Top 3 will be? Find out what No. 3 will be in the October edition of The Moat.



The Moat Players

We are back after our summer break where we held our Annual General Meeting where we elected a new committee and heard about the exciting plans for the coming year. We have already started rehearsing this year's pantomime, "Adventure in Pantoland", where the folk of Land

of Make Believe have had their memories wiped, and with the help of Fairy Honeysuckle, they "try out" the characters in 6 different pantos, one per scene, in their quest to find where they belong. It is still not too late to get involved, so pop along to one of our rehearsals at 7.30pm on a Sunday or Thursday evening at St. Mary's Church Hall.

Holy Cross Day Celebrations Around the World

According to Christian tradition, the True Cross was discovered in 326 by Saint Helena, the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great, during a pilgrimage she made to Jerusalem. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre was then built at the site of the discovery, by order of Helena and Constantine. The church was dedicated nine years later, with a portion of the cross. One-third remained in Jerusalem, one-third was brought to Rome and deposited in the Sessorian basilica Santa Croce in Gerusalemme (Holy Cross in Jerusalem), and one-third was taken to Constantinople to make the city impregnable.



The date of the feast marks the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in 335. This was a two-day festival: although the actual consecration of the church was on 13th September, the cross itself was brought outside the church on 14th September so that the clergy and faithful could pray before the True Cross, and all could come forward to venerate it.

Historically in Western Christianity, the Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday of the calendar week after the one in which the feast day occurs are designated as one of each year's four sets of Ember days. Until 1969, these ember days were a part of the liturgical calendar of the Roman Catholic Church. Organization of these celebrations in the ordinary form is now left to the decision of episcopal conferences in view of local conditions and customs. The ember days are still observed in the calendar of the Roman Rite's Extraordinary Form, the Anglican Ordinariate, and Western Orthodoxy.

The Church of the East

The Church of the East celebrates the finding of the Cross on 13th September, and considers it to be a major feast. The Assyrian Church considers the Sign of the Cross to be the sacrament by which all of the other sacraments are sealed and perfected. (The Church's traditional list of sacraments does not include marriage.) Saranaya (Syriac) hold a shara every year in cities like Chicago, Illinois, and Modesto, California, and other parts of the world. The shara in Modesto is held every Sunday

prior to 13 September at East La Loma Park, where they sacrifice lambs in remembrance of the Feast Of the Cross. People gather to feast, sing and dance to celebrate the joyous event.

Eastern Orthodoxy

In Byzantine liturgical observance, the Universal Exaltation (also called Elevation in Eastern Orthodox tradition) of the Precious and Life-creating Cross commemorates both the finding of the True Cross in 326 and its recovery from the Persians in 628, and is one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the church year. 14th September is always a fast day and the eating of meat, dairy products and fish is prohibited. The Feast of the Exaltation has a one-day forefeast and an eight-day afterfeast. The Saturday and Sunday before and after 14th September are also commemorated with special Epistle and Gospel readings about the Cross at the Divine Liturgy.

On the eve of the feast before small vespers the priest, having prepared a tray with the cross placed on a bed of fresh basil leaves or flowers, covered with an aër (liturgical veil), places it on the table of prothesis; after that service, the priest carries the tray on his head preceded by lighted candles and the deacon incensing the cross, processes to the holy table (altar), in the centre whereof he lays the tray, in the place of the Gospel Book, the latter being set upright at the back of the altar. Those portions of the vespers and matins which in sundry local customs take place before the Icon of the Feast (e.g., the chanting of the Polyeleos and the Matins Gospel instead take place in front of the Holy Table. The bringing out of the cross and the exaltation ceremony occur at matins.

The cross remains in the centre of the temple throughout the afterfeast, and the faithful venerate it whenever they enter or leave the church. Finally, on the leave-taking (apodosis) of the feast, the priest and deacon will incense around the cross, there will be a final veneration of the cross, and then they will solemnly bring the cross back into the sanctuary through the Holy Doors. This same pattern of bringing out the cross, veneration, and returning the cross at the end of the celebration is repeated at a number of the lesser times.

Oriental Orthodoxy

Armenian Apostolic Church

The Armenian Apostolic Church observes a five-day fast, called the Fast

of the Holy Cross from 10th September through 14th September, in preparation for the Feast of the Holy Church in view of the Holy Cross, which they celebrate on 15th September. 16th September is observed as the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Khachverats in Armenian), a feast which continues for several days thereafter. It is counted as one of the five major feasts of the Armenian Church, and the most important of the four feasts of the Holy Cross. According to Armenian tradition, the first one to "exalt" the Cross was the Apostle James of Jerusalem, the "Brother of the Lord". On the Sunday nearest 14th September, the liturgy is marked with an antasdan service (blessing of the fields) during which the processional cross is adorned with basil (a symbol of royalty) and the four corners of the church are blessed as a sign of the sanctification of the world.

On the Sunday nearest 28th September (always two weeks after the Exaltation) the Armenian Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Cross of Varak (Varaka Khach) commemorating the third century placement of an authentic relic of the cross in Armenian soil at Varagavank. This is a cross feast unique to the Armenian Church.

On the Sunday closest to 26th October, the Armenian Church celebrates the Discovery of the Holy Cross (Kyood Khach), commemorating the finding of the True Cross by Saint Helena (327 AD).

Coptic Orthodox Church

The Coptic Orthodox Church commemorates the Appearance of the True Cross on 17th Thout according to the Coptic calendar. This corresponds to 14th September on the Julian Calendar (or, in years following a Coptic leap year, one day later) which will correspond to 27th September on the Gregorian Calendar until AD 2099.

Orthodox Tewahedo Churches

The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church and the Eritrean Orthodox Tewahedo Church (along with Evangelical Protestants) commemorate the finding of the true cross on 17th Mäskäräm of the Ethiopian Calendar. This is the same date as observed by the Coptic Orthodox Church. The eve of this day is popularly called Demera (meaning "Bonfire") in Amharic.

The Ethiopian Patriarch lights a large bonfire in Meskel Square, Addis Ababa's greatest open arena, and smaller bonfires are lit by individuals and local parishes throughout the country. Thousands attend the

colourful and vibrant ceremony of religious chantings around the bonfire in Meskel Square, which owes its name to the ceremony, for meskel means "cross" in Ge'ez. According to tradition, the bonfire commemorates how the Empress Helena used the smoke of a bonfire to determine where to search for the true cross in Jerusalem, or how, by a series of bonfires, she signalled to her son Constantine in Constantinople her success in finding it.

Malankara Syrian Orthodox Church

In the Malankara Syrian Orthodox Church, a special offering called panchasarayumanda is made on this day, in particular at the Akaparambu Mor Sabor-Mor Aphroth Church in the Ernakulam District, Kerala.

Saint Mary's Church, Hobs Moat, Solihull

PRAYER DIARY

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.

SEPTEMBER 2022

Sept 1 Morning Prayer 9.30am

Pray for Wellsford Ave., Harvard Road, & Melton Ave.

For all who care for the sick, the lonely and the homeless.

Sept 2 Pray for Beamans Close, Lyndon Rd., Campden Green

For Schools in the parish, Governors, Staff and pupils.

Sept 3 Pray for Daylesford Rd., Eastbury Dr., Blaythorn Ave.

For those who dust and clean St Mary's Church.

Sept 4 Parish Communion 10.00am

Pray for Dallimore Close, Norbury Grove, Cloudsley Grove

For all who are in employment & those unemployed.

Sept 5 For all organisations who use our Hall each week.

Pray for Ullerries Rd., Burford Close, Colesbourne Rd.

- Sept 6 Pray for Elkstone Close, Brackleys Way & Moordown Ave.
For those who are housebound especially Church members.**
- Sept 7 Pray for Windrush Close, Hobs Meadow, Hobs Moat Rd & Evenlode Rd.
For the witness of St Mary's Church to all who pass by.**
- Sept 8 Morning Prayer 9.30am
Pray for Westcote Close, Winchcombe Rd, Broadwell Rd.
For the staff and work of Lyndon Clinic.
For Sue and other visiting clergy who take services for us.**
- Sept 9 Pray for Castle Lane, Greyfort Cres., & Arundel Cres.
For our servers and those who assist at Communion.**
- Sept 10 Pray for Dene Court Rd., Knightsbridge Rd., The Dell
For all who have disabilities which restrict their lives.**
- Sept 11 All Age Worship and Scout Parade 10.00am
Pray for Onslow Cres., Summerfield Rd., Kimberley Rd.
For all who contribute to the music for our worship.**
- Sept 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.**
- Sept 13 Pray for Berwood Grove, Rodney Rd., Dursley Close
For those who prepare "The Moat" Parish Magazine
Editor, Printers, Assembly Team, Distributors and Readers**
- Sept 14 Pray for Dovehouse Lane, Dovecote Close, Redfern Close
For the elderly & their pets who help them.**
- Sept 15 Morning Prayer 9.30am
Pray for Castle Close, Faulkner Rd., Trinity Close
For Shop keepers and their assistants
For the Pastoral Team who visit the sick.**

- Sept 16 Pray for Cranhill Close & Rodney Close**
For those who wash and clean the altar linen at St Mary's.
- Sept 17 Pray for Old Lode Lane, Jillcot Rd., Jeremy Grove**
For those who beautify St Mary's Church with flowers.
- Sept 18 Parish Communion 10.00am**
Pray for Ebrington Ave., Glenside Av., Windsor Drive.
Pray for all Doctors & Specialists & all who care for the sick and lonely.
- Sept 19 Pray for Merevale Rd., Odensil Green, Tanhouse Farm Rd.**
Doctors & Staff at Hobs Moat Medical Centre and Meadowside Surgery.
- Sept 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.
- Sept 21 Pray for Arlescote Rd., Frankton Close, Leafield Rd.**
For God's blessing on all mothers, fathers, single parents and grandparents.
- Sept 22 Holy Communion 9.30am**
Pray for Charingworth Rd, Leam Cresc., Lammas Close.
For those who serve coffee after our 10am services.
- Sept 23 Pray for Evenlode Close, Lode Lane, Hillhampton Close.**
For those who are sick at home and in hospital.
For Lyndon Residents Association.
- Sept 24 Pray for Kelham Place, Kempsey Close, Farmstead Rd.**
For those who advertise in 'The Moat' Parish magazine.
- Sept 25 Parish Communion 10.00am**
Pray for St Mary's officials – Greg & Marina our Churchwardens, Marina our PCC secretary, Vernon our Treasurer.
Pray for Highcroft Close, Norgrave Rd. Woodhall Croft.

**Sept 26 Pray for congregation members living outside the Parish,
all who use the Fitness Centre & Ice Rink.**

**Sept 27 Pray for members of the PCC.
For Parkview Day Centre.**

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

**Sept 29 Morning Prayer 9.30am
Pray for all children, especially those who are vulnerable.
Cubs and Beavers who meet in our hall.**

**Sept 30 Pray for the Emergency Services' Police, Fire and Ambulance.
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 by Email: stmaryshobsmoat@gmail.com**

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What's on at Hobs Moat Library in September

U3A Poetry Group

Come along to the U3A Poetry Group to share poems and discuss. Date for the next meeting is Monday 12th September 2022 from 10.00am - 12.00pm. Please contact library for more details.

Hobs Moat Striders & Strollers

Date for the next meetings is Friday 9th & 23rd September (10.15am for a 10.30am departure). These free walks in the Hobs Moat area are led by trained volunteers. No need to book, just turn up on the day. Refreshments are provided afterwards. The walk last up to an hour. The walk is suitable for everyone but if you are unsure, please come along and find out more details. The volunteers will be able to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Reading Café

Come along to our Reading Café for a comfortable, informal, and enjoyable morning. The café runs 10.30am-12.00pm. Date for the next meeting is Friday 16th September.

Knit & Natter

Date for the next meeting is Tuesday 27th September. 10.30am-12.00pm. Everyone is welcome.

Craft & Chat

Drop in for a friendly chat, try some crafts and be creative. These sessions taking place every Tuesday from 10.30am - 12.00pm

Literary Litter Pickers

Run by volunteers from within the community for the benefit of the community. Join the litter pickers for an hour with refreshments afterwards. Next meeting is Tuesday 27th September. 10.00am - 11.00am. Meet at Hobs Moat Library.

Family History Explorers

Using Ancestry and Find My Past volunteers are on hand to help you trace family members. New starters and established groups meet monthly. Takes place every Saturday from 10.00am - 12.00pm. Please enquire at the library for dates.

Little Hobbits

Stories, rhymes and colouring for under 5's. Re-starts 8th September

Every Thursday 10.15am - 10.45pm (Term Time Only). Booking essential

Animal Antics

Animal stories and colouring for 2.5 years plus. Date for the next meeting is Tuesday 6th September from 10.30am - 11.00am. Booking essential

For further information please contact staff at:

Hobs Moat Library, Ulleries Road, Solihull. B92 8EB Tel: 0121 743 4592



Hi, I'm Bruce Brant and I'm a Community Development Worker who covers Hobs Moat area.

Part of my role is to find out and promote all the great community activities that are happening in your area.

I've met some lovely people who are doing great work in the community, I have also had some great conversations with people who are keen to become more involved, such as set up a new group or activity, others who may want to volunteer their time to help, such as welcoming new people into groups, help with making coffee and tea's and becoming involved in any way possible

I have been able to offer my support to help people to set up and develop their group, such as, signposting to funding opportunities, connecting to likewise Groups, training and promotion.

I have seen at first hand the benefits to a variety of people that become more involved in their community, not only does it provide lots of things for you to do it also helps those who may be lonely and isolated be able to go to groups. There is great reward in being part of a local Community with shared interests and being able to help those people that may be vulnerable in any way. I have an extensive knowledge of people and organisations that can help Communities make the best of where they live.

If you are interested in being more involved in your community or would like to share any local knowledge or ideas, please contact me on: Email - bbrant@solihull.gov.uk or find me on Facebook as cdtwest

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Puzzle Corner

A very big thank you to Juanita who has provided the puzzles for Puzzle Corner over the past couple of years or so. She has kept our brain cells working with some really interesting and diverse puzzles. So, for her final farewell, below are the answers to the last edition's puzzle:



1) Ringo Starr, 2) God proclaimed it a rest day, 3) 343, 4) The 7th something that we're in (at the time of the quiz) was the 7th month (or July, whichever answer you have), 5) The school term, 6) The Battle of the Boyne, 7) Archie Harrison Mountbatten-Windsor, Harry & Megan's son.



We heard how much you enjoyed Juanita's mini sudoku a couple of months ago, so this month we have a full 9 x 9 sudoku puzzle to keep you busy.

	3			2			6	
7	9			8		2		
8								
		5					2	
		8	2		3	9		
	6					7		
								9
		1		4			6	8
6			1				5	

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Look out in next month's edition for the solution to this puzzle.

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Mt. 13: 3-8, Mk 4: 1-9, Lk 8: 4-8

crowds of people now came to hear Jesus, so
he used stories to teach them; those who really
wanted to learn would work out the meaning.

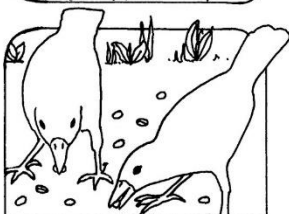
A farmer went out to
sow a field of corn.



Some seed fell on
the path

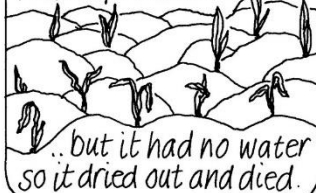


Some fell among
thorn plants and

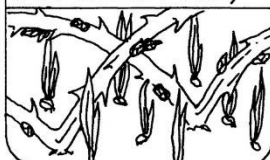


The seed on the path
was eaten by birds

The seed that fell on the
rocks sprouted...



The seed that fell
among the thorns grew
well to start with,



then it was outgrown
by the thorn plants.



But in the good soil the
seed grew well and gave
a fantastic harvest!

Jesus explained to his
disciples what it meant.



Some people don't even
listen to what he says.

For some it is the best
thing ever!



But soon they move onto
another 'best thing.'

Some listen gladly...



but then worries and
busyness take over.

But some hear what Jesus
says and learn from it,



and that
makes all the difference!

Theatretrain Solihull

Theatretrain Solihull runs classes in singing, dancing, and acting for children aged 4-18yrs at Ulverley Primary School every Saturday in term time including half terms.

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PARISH DIARY

Please note that the format of our services may change at short notice due to availability of clergy during this period of interregnum.



St Mary's Diary for September

Thursday	1 st	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday	4 th	10.00 am	TRINITY 12 Parish Communion
Monday	5 th	7.00 pm	P.C.C. Meeting
Wednesday	7 th	1.00 pm	Knit & Natter
Thursday	8 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
Saturday	10 th	9.00 am	St.Mary's Market & Car Boot Sale
Sunday	11 th	10.00 am	TRINITY 13 All Age Worship and Scout Parade
Wednesday	14 th	1.00 pm	Knit & Natter
Thursday	15 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday	18 th	10.00 am	TRINITY 14 Parish Communion
Wednesday	21 st	1.00 pm	Knit & Natter
Thursday	22 nd	9.30 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	25 th	10.00 am	TRINITY 15 Parish Communion
Wednesday	28 th	1.00 pm	Knit & Natter
Thursday	29 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer



Priest-In-Charge	Vacant	☎ 743 4955
Church Wardens	Greg Dodd	☎ 706 4859
	Marina Downing	☎ 779 6866
PCC Secretary	Marina Downing	☎ 779 6866
PCC Treasurer	Vernon Ford	☎ 707 3583
St Mary's Parochial Church Council	Janet Turner	☎ 743 4955
	Juanita Watson	☎ 706 3819
	Jean Davies	☎ 705 6558
	Andy Knight	☎ 07570 122977
	Janet Bott	☎ 706 6899
	David Abrahams	
	Rev. Sue Shewring	☎ 448 1846
Magazine Editor	Andy Knight	✉ stmarysmag@ googlemail.com



The Moat, Next Issue...

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

Any articles for future editions of The Moat 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 October edition of The Moat is Monday 12th September 2022.



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“The Moat”

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