

# **Spring Newsletter**

## **April - May 2024**



**St Mary's, Rushden &  
St Peter's, Newton Bromswold**

# Who's Who

**Rector: Rev Tom King**  
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telephone:  
07732 805443

**Assistant Priests:**  
**Rev Dr Linnet Smith**  
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**Rev Dr Glyn Ackerley**  
3 Catlin Way, Rushden, NN10 9FN

01933 311706

07595 171748

**Readers:** Tony Smith

**Hall Bookings:** Pam & Paul Bailey  
7 Kenilworth Close, Rushden, NN10 0QH

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**St Mary's Church Office**  
Tues--Thurs: 10.00-12noon:  
Samantha Nagel, Pam Bailey, Kathy MacKenzie

01933 412235

**email:** stmaryschurchoffice@btinternet.com

**website:** www.stmaryschurchrushden.org

**facebook:** stmaryschurchrushden



**Newton Bromswold Churchwardens**  
Bob Lines, 25 Church Lane, Newton Bromswold, NN10 0SR:  
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01933 315864

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**Newton Bromswold website:** www.newtonchurch.co.uk

*Items for the*  
**June/July Newsletter**  
*should be sent by*  
**Sunday 12 May**  
*to*  
**St Mary's Church Office**



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## Tom King writes . . .

Hello everyone,

I hope that you have had a joyful Easter and know the richness of new life in Christ this year. As we know, the Resurrection displays the strength and certainty of our hope – God is with us, and we are invited into eternal life that begins now. Jesus' return to life from death allows us as Christians to face all uncertainties of life with peace and surety.



Yet we must remember, as we live this new life before God in Jesus, that to walk in the way of Jesus, the way of the Cross and Resurrection, we are not called to a life free from struggle or temptation. We will endure the hardships of the world the same as anyone else – possibly more, that God may be glorified through us. We will experience the highs and lows, joys and sorrows, that are common to all humanity. Yet we do not grieve or face trials without hope; Jesus has overcome the world.

Once Jesus had risen from the dead, he commissioned his followers to tell everyone everywhere about how God's love has overcome sin and death, and to lead others in following Jesus once they meet him for themselves. This witness, and sending out, involves a great deal of self-sacrifice on behalf of others, as Jesus did. Yet Jesus clearly promises that his followers would receive the very power of God himself to join in with what God is doing.

We are empowered by the Holy Spirit of God to fulfil God's life and purposes in the world, just as Jesus was and is. The Spirit of God brings hope instead of despair, faith in good times and bad, compassion in the face of need, light and truth instead of darkness and evil, selflessness not selfishness, and power to overcome spiritual forces that work against us. May we all grow in Christlikeness now, allowing God to shine through us to all those who need his purposes and his grace.

Blessings,  
Tom

# Royal Naval Association Standard

On Sunday 14 January our 11:15am service had the addition of the dedication of a new Royal Naval Association Standard, and laying up of the old. We were joined by members of other branches, area 6 chairman Jeff Appleby, and retired national chairman Keith Ridley.

The service was led by the Rev Dr Linnet Smith, opening with Sailors' hymn, "Eternal Father strong to save", as the standards processed to the chancel steps. The New standard was carried by Terry Perkins, and the old standard was carried by Paul Mills. Also the area 6 standard, St. Neots Huntingdon, Welwyn Garden City, the Riders, the Royal British Legion, and the RAF association were also carried.

All nine then dipped in salute to the National Anthem, under the instruction of the area 6 standard bearer. A shipmate read from Psalm 107, "others went out on the sea in the ships". This was followed by the dedication and laying up ceremony: This was 41 years since the old standard was dedicated.

Following the service a reception was held at the Windmill Club where our branch chairman Michael Thompson thanked Rev Smith, standard bearers and visitors for attending.

It is a tribute to Rushden people, that so far inland, we have such an active Royal Naval Association.

The Royal Naval Association is for camaraderie of old seafarers and their welfare, plus raising money for naval welfare charities. We now welcome non seafarers, who empathise with seafarers.



*Captain  
David Hawker*

# St Mary's News

## Summary of PCC meeting held on Monday 5 February 2024 in the Lower Vestry Hall.

**Apologies-** James W, Glyn A, Carolyn W, James Mellor, Kate W, Jennie B,  
**Present-** Tom K, Peter Co, Marion B, Linnet S, Helen S, Paula W, Martin Co, Helen A, Louise S, Tony S, Lynne P, Bob B, Jean & Gerald B.

Tom K opened with a prayer and started the discussion by asking how do we move forward? What changes need to take place over the next few years? What do we expect? There was a discussion on how we deliver the services at the 9:30 worship and the 11:15 morning prayer. The general feeling was that we currently do not need to merge these services for all Sundays. The planning of one service takes a lot more time. We discussed discipleship and how that would look in our services and teaching and how we welcome new members to the church. We have noticed an increase in new people coming from Bumps & Babes who are bringing in small children. Tom distributed a leaflet on five marks of mission to the PCC members. We discussed the 5 marks, TELL-TEACH-TEND TRANSFORM- TREASURE- on how this can be incorporated in the church.

## Finance

For 2023 a deficit of £45,194 was reported. The 2024 budget forecasts a deficit of £47,611. This was discussed with the members who raised concern over two years with large deficits. The non restricted reserves currently have sufficient funds to cover this deficit. The net income has reduced from the original budget in 2023 which was caused by a reduction in Gift Aid donations. The parish share has been reduced for 2024. We agreed that we would approve this budget subject to the creation of a financial plan on how we can reduce the deficit in the future. The plan will be presented at the next PCC meeting.

## APCM

The date for APCM is Sunday 12 May. Michael Gaul will perform the Audit of the report and accounts. There was talk that we may hold an election for the church wardens as this doesn't have to take place at the same time as the APCM. The PCC away day will be taking Place on Saturday 4 May 2024 and will be held in the Boathouse Rushden Lakes. Bishop John will be presenting the teaching. The start and finish times are to be agreed. We discussed the idea of reintroducing the use of the common cup for the administration

Continued over...



## Flower Rotas

### *Behind the Communion Table*

#### April

- 7 Julie West  
14 Marion Bates  
21 Barbara Coxon  
28 Ann Firm (on behalf of Ruby Willmer)

#### May

- 5 Jude Curtis  
12 Mary Hadley  
19 Ellen Inwood  
26 Susan Collins (arranged by Ann Harris)

### *Memorial Chapel*

#### April

- 28 Mrs Julie West

#### May

- 19 Mrs Kelland and Mr Cradick  
(in memory of Mrs Cradick)

*If you would like to give flowers in memory of loved ones please contact Brenda Dixon: 01933 358982*

of the wine at the communion service. This had been stopped due to COVID. We need to check who is licensed to administer the wine.

**Fabric – Electric supply in the church.** There are concerns that the current wiring in the church may not be up modern safety standards.

**The children's cupboard is in the vestry hall.** Helen confirmed that the filing cabinets will be removed and there will be industrial strength

## THE REGISTERS

### Funerals

**Wednesday 31 January**

Richard James Denny [87]

**Tuesday 6 February**

Terence Alexander Cummine  
Pickard [60]

**Wednesday 21 February**

Pearl Christine Ann Horne [78]

**Thursday 14 March**

Ruby Florence Claudia Willmer [99]

### THANKSGIVING

**Friday 15 March**

Gregory David Ward Smith [62]

shelving fitted inside the cupboard. This will increase the storage capacity for children's crafts and toys.

**Internet access.** The church seems to have two providers of Internet access one from BT and the other from Daisy. This was to be investigated.

Associate standard flag we are due to receive, and to be put into the Memorial Chapel. As this cannot be fixed to the wall we will be looking to buy a flag stand.

**Council of Churches** The meeting took place on the 30 January 2024 with the following key points: The Good Friday open air service will be

taking place in the grounds of St Mary's Church at 11:00 am. There will be tea and coffee served from 10:30 am that day. The membership subscription remains at £30. Any Other Business, Tom advised that he had 2 tickets to attend Bishop Debbie's Installation as the 39<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Peterborough at the cathedral on Sunday 3rd March 2024.

PCC meetings to resume monthly. Next PCC meeting was held **Monday March 18 2024 at 7pm**

**Rushden and Newton Bromswold WI** opened its doors in 1945 as Newton Bromswold and Court Estate WI. In the last 3 to 5 years it has become increasingly difficult to keep membership numbers up due to ageing, illness and the pandemic, Unfortunately the decision has been made to cease as a WI. We would like to thank members past and present for their support over the years.

Maybe one day in the future a new WI group will be created, thank you once again from the serving committee.

**The Ladies Group** will next meet on Wednesday 10 April at 2.15pm

### **Children's Society News**

Entries for John's Winter Quiz '**All Abroad**' close on 30 April 2024. Available from Pam Bailey (Church Office), Mary Hadley and Joy Holloway. Thank you for your support.



*Monthly event for dads, stepdads, granddads or male carers and their younger children [0-6 yrs] with a range of toys including bouncy castle, sit-on cars and ball pool.*

**Saturdays 20 April & 18 May**

9.30am - 12noon

St Mary's Church Hall

**Adults £5: children free**

**Just turn up!**

### **Congratulations are due to ....**

Dorothy Jones who celebrates her Ninetieth birthday on 7 April. Love and best wishes from all of us at St Mary's.

### **Richard Denny**

My family and I have found great comfort from all the cards, messages and flowers on the sad loss of Richard. Thank you all, God Bless - Jan Denny.

### **Note for your Diary**

Afternoon Concert on Saturday 15 June at St Mary's, Rushden our resident organists Ian Runnells and Lizzie Peacock will be playing popular music on organ and harp. Details to follow.

# Newton News

**Christingle** raised £85 for The Children's Society. Thank you to everyone who supported Christingle.



The  
Children's  
Society

**Newton Bromswold Open Gardens** will be held on Sunday 9 June from 2pm to 5pm. Entry fee is Family Ticket for 2 adults and 2 children £5 and Adult £3. Refreshments will be available in the Village Hall. Proceeds to Friends of Newton Church.

**Village Fete** will be held on Saturday 6 July starting at 2pm. The Mission Band will be playing and Simon will be playing the Church Organ. There will be the usual stalls and games. Afternoon Teas will be served.

## FLOWERS

### April

- 7 Mrs Turner
- 14 Mrs Burt
- 21 Helen Lines
- 28 June Clarke

### May

- 5 Sarah
- 12 Julie Allen
- 19 Helen Mayes
- 26 Helen Rees-Bidder

If you would like to help at the Fete, please contact Helen Lines 01933 315864.

### Cowslip and Fritillary

Easter Monday - 1 April and Sunday 14 April from 2pm to 4pm  
Plants for sale and afternoon tea





## The Season of Lent

**T**he season of Lent is a time when we can acknowledge the pain and hurt that we encounter in the world around us on a daily basis, to recognise the times of difficulty and uncertainty and to find Jesus in those dark places, as we remember his own struggles and temptations in the desert. Our world is broken in so many ways and we can often feel helpless and full of despair. Sitting with that pain is not comfortable and yet when we do so, we can encounter healing and hope.

This year's Archbishops Lent book has offered resources drawn from Black Spirituality to help us find new wisdom even in times of struggle and trial. And this discipline of travelling with Jesus through Lent and the events of Holy Week both prepare us and give us fresh insight into the glory of the resurrection. As we wake on Easter Sunday, we can rejoice again that Christ is risen indeed – hallelujah.

I am delighted to now be ministering among you and I look forward to hearing your stories and getting to know you. I

hope I will be able to meet you in person in due course and I am excited to hear about the hope of the risen Christ in your communities.

The joy of Easter brings confidence in our belief that God does transform our hearts and lives and that his kingdom stretches to every corner. I pray that over the coming weeks and months, we all have new stories to tell of Christ at work in the lives of those around us.



+ Debbie

+Debbie  
Bishop of Peterborough

**Diocese of Peterborough - Magazine Resource - March 2024**

Produced by the Diocesan Office, The Palace, Peterborough, PE1 1YB

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[www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk](http://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk)

# Mission Matters

“Not God’s Plan.....”

Imagine a place where the climate is harsh and people are still cultivating as their ancestors did, without animals or machinery. There is a season before the harvest when they go hungry. There is no clean water, no sanitation, much illness but little health care, a high rate of infant mortality, and little chance of education or of a better life. This describes the West African village which was once my home. Countless other communities around the world are also suffering extreme poverty. As followers of Jesus, we know that poverty is not God’s plan. Tearfund, “The Evangelical Alliance Relief Fund”, believes that the Lord cares about every aspect of our lives, and that our faith must be translated into take action. It has developed a programme called, “Church and Community Transformation”, which is Bible-based, and to which the local church is central. As God’s truth is taught, people become motivated to see their situation differently and to have hope.

This can best be illustrated by the words of Djerabe Paul from Chad, “The first thing that changes is that we remove from our minds the idea that we are condemned by God to be poor. Through study of the Bible, we finally realise that what we were thinking about ourselves is not true. At first we think we cannot do anything to change - but once we begin to think about what we can do to improve, we start to use all of the resources God has given us in our own locations to change.”

Tearfund’s website gives encouraging illustrations of positive results from this programme, and a fuller explanation of it. It is inspiring reading! Do check it out.



PS. Eventually, in my own village, American missionaries helped the locals sink a standpipe, which vastly improved the water situation.

Sue Eagles, for the Mission Committee

Please visit the website at [learn.tearfund.org](http://learn.tearfund.org)  
Scroll down to ‘Church and Community’

# Royal British Legion News

## Saturday 18 May –The Veteran’s Big Band commencing 3pm at Park Road Baptist Church

The Veterans’ Big Band is made up of musicians drawn from the Royal Marines Band Service, various Army Bands, and the Royal Air Force Music Service. Their mission is to promote music of the Big Band era, performed by these talented musicians as well as showcase their skills and highlight the various Armed Forces Music Services that can be a positive career choice for young musicians just starting out. Tickets cost £15 and can be obtained from fellow Royal British Legion Branch Member Jim Doran by calling him on **07460 599284** or emailing him at [vicepresident@rafarushden.org.uk](mailto:vicepresident@rafarushden.org.uk) Whilst this will be a dedicated fundraising event for the RAF’s Wings Appeal, our local RAF Association have decided to split profits three ways evenly to the Royal British Legion, Royal Naval Association and Royal Air Forces Association. We need Ushers, Refreshments Assistants and Bucket Holders for donations.



## Crafts and Coffee/Tea



In March we made some lovely Easter Crafts.

If you would like to join us our next meeting is **Tuesday 2 April 10am to 12noon** where we will be making 'Little Bags'. Also our meeting on **Tuesday 7 May 10am to 12noon** will be 'Cross Magnets'. For further information contact Lynne: 353655 or [lynne@lateralflow.co.uk](mailto:lynne@lateralflow.co.uk)



# Belfry Gossip

January of each year sees many local Annual General Meetings including the Wellingborough Branch AGM which many of us attended, and included ringing (on the heaviest local bells, the tenor at All Hallows being 28cwt). The bells have gone mostly unringed for quite a few years due to insufficient ringers, making them even harder to ring, but now have several new recruits which is great news. Ringing was followed by a thoughtful service which acknowledged the role of the bells and bellringers in worship and faith; then into the church hall for a hot meal (a pleasant surprise on a chilly evening when a cold buffet was expected!). The meeting included our Jim becoming a member of the local branch, after many years with Guilsborough Branch. Last year saw a discussion about us accommodating Thrapston Branch which did not have enough ringers, but that situation has changed and at this time it remains a viable Branch on its own.



The following Friday we had our tower AGM, kindly hosted by Sarah and Jim - thank you. We included discussions of planned activities and special ringing for the coming year (watch this space!), and electing the officers. We ended the evening with a light buffet and socialising.

We've mentioned that it's the 100th Anniversary of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild and it was our branch turn to host an event - we had a splendid barn dance with a great turnout. Cathy did a wonderful job of coordinating (and too many tasks to mention them all); she served a delicious ploughman's for all and made many many metres of bespoke fabric bunting which looked splendid, and will decorate lots more events to come. Cathy still has a busy year ahead, with guild centenary events to organise throughout, thank you for your great effort so far.

Our aims for the coming year include new methods each bi-month to keep us learning; and before the service on each 5th Sunday of the month, you might hear a longer stint of ringing... we will attempt an 1/8th peal which lasts 20-25 minutes continuous ringing (and takes good concentration and stamina!). We hope you enjoy listening!

*Tintinnabulum*

## Why don't you join Neighbourhood Watch? – it's Free!



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To join go to: <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/area/northamptonshire> and click on 'Join us' to complete a simple form. You will receive an automatic email asking you to verify your email address.



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### ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING - SUNDAY 12 MAY

In preparation for the APCM could  
groups please organise and send  
their reports to the Office by

**SUNDAY 14 APRIL.**

There will be a joint service at  
10.30am followed by a shared  
lunch before

the APCM at 1.30pm.

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We know how important a defibrillator can be, if someone has a cardiac arrest it is vital to act quickly. By using a defibrillator before an ambulance arrives, you can significantly increase someone's chance of survival.

There are several defibrillators located around Rushden, the closest defibrillator to St Mary's Church is at Tesco Express located opposite the church, NN10 9JR.

Other locations of the closest defibrillators are;

The Athletic Club, Newton Road – NN10 0HF

Salvation Army, Church Street – NN10 9YT

If you find someone is unresponsive and not breathing normally, ask a helper to call 999 or 112 and ask for an ambulance while you start CPR. Ask a helper to find and bring a defibrillator, if available.



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# Church Diary - April 2024

- 1 **Monday:** Easter Bank Holiday Monday  
**Monday: Cowslip and Fritillary Day** at Newton Bromswold 2-4pm, Plants for sale and afternoon tea.
- 2 **Tuesday: 10.00-12noon - Crafts & Coffee/Tea** in the Church Hall - Making Little Bags, contact details on p11.
- 4 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** at St Mary's Church Hall, all welcome!
- 10 **Wednesday: 2.15pm - Ladies Group** - Meet in the Church Hall
- 10 **Wednesday: 7-8pm - Choir Practice** in Church
- 11 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Church Hall  
**Thursday: 7.30pm - Prayer, Praise & Presence**
- 14 **Sunday: Cowslip and Fritillary Day** at Newton Bromswold 2-4pm  
**DEADLINE FOR APCM REPORTS**
- 15 **Monday: 10-12.30am - Bumps and Babes and Beans Club** in Church where we light a candle, and have a short bible story, colouring and some fun songs. We then move to the church hall, where the children (and parents) can take part in craft activities or play with toys, whilst enjoying a drink, biscuit and a chat. Come and join us. £1.50 per family. We also serve beans on toast afterwards 11.30am-12.30pm.
- 15 **Monday: 6-7.30pm - Ignite Kids Club** School years 1 to 6. Play games, crafts, cooking, trips out and more. £1.50 per session, plus extra for tuck. Contact Paula: 07505 381389
- 18 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Church Hall
- 20 **Saturday: 9.30am-12noon - Who Let The Dads Out?** - Monthly event for dads, stepdads, grandads, male carers and their younger children [0-6yrs]. Adults £5: children free.
- 21 **Sunday: 11.30am-1pm Deep Youth Group** School years 7 to 13. Meet in the Lower Hall to meet people, eat food, play fun games and learn about Jesus. Contact Helen: 07495 304974
- 22 **Monday: 10-12.30am - Bumps and Babes and Beans Club**
- 24 **Wednesday: 7-8pm - Choir Practice**
- 25 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Church Hall
- 29 **Monday: 10-12.30am - Bumps and Babes and Beans Club**  
**Monday: 6-7.30pm - Ignite Kids Club**

# Church Diary - May 2024

- 2 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** at St Mary's Church Hall, all welcome!
- 5 **Sunday: 11.30am-1pm - Deep** The Youth Group Deep will meet every first and third Sundays of the month in the Lower Hall for school years 7 to 13. Meet people, eat food, play fun games and learn about Jesus. For further information please contact Helen: 07495 304974.
- 6 **Monday: 10-12.30am - Bumps and Babes and Beans Club** in Church where we light a candle, and have a short bible story, colouring and some fun songs. We then move to the main church hall, where the children (and parents) can take part in craft activities or play with toys, whilst enjoying a drink, biscuit and a chat. Come and join us. £1.50 per family. We also serve beans on toast afterwards 11.30am-12.30pm.
- 7 **Tuesday: 10.00-12noon - Crafts & Coffee/Tea** in the Church Hall - Making Easter crafts, contact details on p11.
- 8 **Wednesday: 2.15pm - Ladies Group** - Meet in the Church Hall  
**Wednesday: 7-8pm - Choir Practice**
- 9 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Church Hall  
**Thursday: 7.30pm - Prayer, Praise & Presence**
- 12 **Sunday: 11.30am-2.30pm - APCM and Bring & Share Lunch**
- 13 **Monday: 10-11.30am - Bumps and Babes** in Church  
**Monday: 5.30-9pm - Bellringers 3 Hour Peal Attempt**  
**Monday: 6-7.30pm - Ignite Kids Club** On the 2nd and 4th Mondays for School years 1-6 are invited to come and play games, crafts, cooking, trips out and more. £1.50 per session, plus extra for tuck. Further information please contact Paula 07505 381389.
- 16 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Church Hall
- 18 **Saturday: 9.30am-12noon - Who Let The Dads Out?** - Monthly event for dads, stepdads, grandads, male carers and their younger children [0-6yrs]. Adults £5; children free.
- 19 **Sunday: 11.30am-1pm - Deep Youth Group**
- 20 **Monday: 10-12.30am - Bumps and Babes and Beans Club**
- 22 **Wednesday: 7-8pm - Choir Practice**
- 23 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Church Hall
- 27 **Monday: 10-11.30am - Bumps and Babes and Ignite Kids Club** - Meet at Hall Park for a Bug Hunt
- 30 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Church Hall

# Services for April 2024

St Mary's  
Rushden

St Peter's  
Newton Bromswold

## Sunday 7 April - Second Sunday of Easter

9.30am	Holy Communion	10.00am	Family Service
11.15am	Morning Prayer		

## Sunday 14 April - Third Sunday of Easter

9.30am	Worship & Word	10.00am	Family Service
11.15am	Morning Prayer		

## Sunday 21 April - Fourth Sunday of Easter

9.30pm	Worship & Word	10.00pm	Family Service
11.15am	Holy Communion		

## Sunday 28 April - Fifth Sunday of Easter

9.30am	Worship & Word	10.00am	Family Communion
11.15am	Morning Prayer		

## Midweek Services in St Mary's Church

Thursdays - April 4, 11, 18, 25  
at 10.30am - Holy Communion [BCP]

*If you would like to continue to receive this Newsletter in place of Grapevine then talk to St Mary's Church Office and your copy will be delivered as before unless you normally collect it yourself. For those receiving their copy by post there will be a small charge of £5 per year: if this applies to you, a note will be included with this edition*

**Non-subscription copies of this Newsletter are routinely made available at the back of church. If you would like to contribute towards their printing costs please put whatever seems appropriate into the old Grapevine slot by the Hymn Books in St Mary's Church.**

# Services for May 2024

**St Mary's**  
Rushden

**St Peter's**  
Newton Bromswold

## Sunday 5 May - Sixth Sunday of Easter

9.30am	Holy Communion	10.00am	Family Service
11.15am	Morning Prayer		

## Sunday 12 May - Seventh Sunday of Easter

10.30am	Joint Service - followed by Bring and share lunch.	10.00am	Family Service
1.30pm	APCM meeting		

## Sunday 19 May - Pentecost

9.30am	Worship and Word	10.00am	Family Service
11.15am	Holy Communion		

## Sunday 26 May - Trinity Sunday

9.30am	Worship & Word	10.00am	Family Communion
11.15am	Morning Prayer		

*Midweek Services in St Mary's Church*  
Thursdays 10.30am on May 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30  
- Holy Communion [BCP]

## Live-Streaming

St Mary's Sunday Services at 9.30 will continue to be live-streamed  
and can also be found later on YouTube:  
<http://www.youtube.com/user/stmarysrushden>.