

Dear friends,

- 1) This Sunday, on 13th September John Hughesdon will be leading a Service of The Word at 10.30am and Jo Fageant will be providing our intercessions. Just a reminder that face coverings are required in church by law, unless there are health reasons for not wearing one.
- 2) Next week, 20th September, Rev Joy Mawdesley will be leading a Service of Holy Communion and Jill Wilson will be providing our intercessions.
- 3) HARVEST . Our Harvest festival in on Sunday 27th September. We will have to sing "We plough the fields and scaaaaaatter" at home. More about our harvest gifts later.
- 4) **NEWS** for those attending St Mary's Services or Prayer afternoons..
Message from Rev Joy Mawdesley: **Change in the law from Monday 14th September**
You will be aware that a change of law comes into effect from this coming Monday which means that we must not meet socially with people from other households in groups of more than six. This applies indoors and outdoors. The Church of England has clarified with the government that we can continue to gather for worship in the same way, but we are expecting further guidance as regards other activities in the life of our church and what this change in law might mean for them. However, the changes do mean that after the service, we must be very mindful of social distancing and spread out around the premises and have conversations in groups no larger than six. Please continue to pray for the life of the church – both across the nation and here at St Mary's as we continue to navigate through these strange times.
- 5) Last Sunday was our Patronal Festival and also the Blessing of the Lady Well



It was so good to see Brian N back visible in the background supporting his Church warden's stave. We have missed you Brian! The photo gives a misleading impression that only a few attended but there were more standing behind our photographer Robin Read.

6) WEDNESDAY PRAYERS. Do take the opportunity come to St Mary's on Wednesdays any time between 2 and 4pm for a time of private prayer. You can come and go when you like. There are prayer resources around the church and someone will lead us in prayer at 3pm to attend church again. This is a good opportunity to come for a short informal time. Marion Burke has kindly taken over as host from Rev Pam McKellen.

7) THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK. This week our "Thought" is by Rev Margaret Yates and it will be our last, at least for the time being. But Janice's Sabbath Sustenance, and Pew News will keep going.

Reading Margaret's TFTW I am reminded of this beautiful piece which I recommend that you listen to :Click on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=936BapRFHaQ>

8) JO FAGEANT: Jo is home! She would like everyone to know that her surgery went well, she is pleased to be home but is rather weary. She needs to self-isolate for the time being in case she needs to return to hospital. She thanks everyone for their good wishes and prayers.

JENNIFER is home! Apparently, while Jennifer may have started at Basingstoke hospital, she then moved to Andover before coming home, which is why we could not track her down. But she has a plaster on her arm from the thumb to above the elbow. But Jennifer sounds like her usual bubbly self!

May we continue to hold Jo and Jennifer in our prayers, and include others in our congregation who are unwell.

9) FLU JABS . Day Lewis have jabs available for over 65's. Just turn up, no booking required.. (but there is often a little queue there.)

10) “WE DO NOT BUY OR SELL AT THE DOOR”. If anyone would like one of these stickers for your front door, I have 2 going spare if anyone would like one. Mavis H

Best Wishes, Mavis.

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