



St Mary's News and Notices

First Sunday of Lent 22 February 2026

First Sunday of Lent
22 February 2026 10.00am Holy Communion

The Reverend Christina Westwell will preach and preside at our 10.00am service

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
A service for everyone!

Friday 6 March

I will give you rest, come

7pm
on
Friday 6th March
Lymm United Reformed Church

Open to everyone!

For more information contact
Sue Eadon 07802 921 891

Nigeria 2026

INFORMED PRAYER PRAYERFUL ACTION
24-7 365 Days a year Prayer movement Ecumenical International Women-led
wwdp.org.uk Registered Charity Number 232242

World Day of Prayer – Friday 06 March 2026

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.

All are welcome to come to the service at 7.00pm on Friday, 6th March at Lymm United Reformed Church.

The 2026 World Day of Prayer materials have been written by women from Nigeria, who bring us a powerful invitation drawn from Matthew 11:28-30. At a time when people worldwide are carrying heavy burdens, our Nigerian sisters offer profound insights into finding rest in God.

Lymm and District Chorus – Concert for Holy Week

Lymm and District Chorus will be performing Maunder's Passion cantata Olivet to Calvary at 7.30pm on **Wednesday, 1st April** at St Mary's. A moving and solemn but beautiful piece to give us time for reflection during Holy Week. Make a date in your diary to come along.

Lymm and District Chorus present

Olivet to Calvary

Music by J.H. Maunder
Words by Shapcott Wensley

7.30pm Wednesday 1st April 2026
St Mary's Church, Lymm WA13 0AL

Soloists: Tenor : Philip Cartwright
Baritone : Paul Chamberlain
Soprano : Karen Drury

Conductor: Catherine Ardern
Accompanist: John Stott

Free Admission:
Retiring collection - in support of St Mary's Church

Lymmchorus.wordpress.com

Godly Play at St Mary's – 08 March

Next Godly Play is 8th March 2026

Godly Play!

STORY TELLING WITH FIGURES

WONDERING

RESPONDING

at St Mary's Lymm

Ages 5-14

The next Godly Play session will be at 10.00am on Sunday 8th March. We will be enjoying the story of The Parable of the Good Shepherd. Please invite any children or families you know who might like to give Godly Play a try.

Lent Course 2026 – Draw Near – Life giving habits for Lent

This year's Lent course is from the Church of England and is called 'Draw Near' life giving Habits for Lent. We will be meeting in the Fellowship Room on **Monday afternoons at 2pm** from the first Monday in Lent for anyone who wishes to join us. Everyone is welcome to join us for any week or all the Lent Course, please come along when you can.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

DRAW NEAR

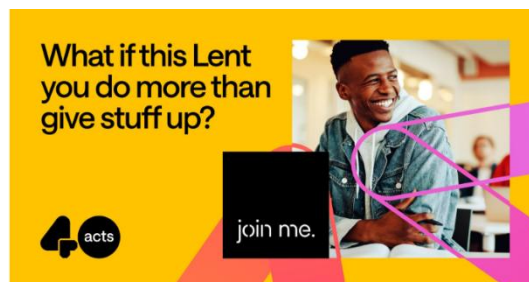
LIFE-GIVING HABITS FOR LENT

We have a small booklet with daily readings and thoughts for you to use at home and this will form the springboard for our weekly get togethers.

We'll meet in the Fellowship Room at 2.00pm -3.30pm for a relaxed time of discussion and reflection, with the famous St Mary's refreshments.

Join us on **Mondays 23rd February, 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th March**. Please see Derek Buckthorpe or Ian Bunday for a booklet and to express an interest.

'Draw Near' offers us the opportunity to strengthen our habits and patterns which help us grow as disciples of Christ day by day, especially as we prepare to celebrate the great mystery of God's saving love at Easter.



Each week a different contributor explores a different aspect of Christian discipleship -

worshipping together, **praying, exploring the Bible**, sharing **communion**, offering **service** and **sharing the good news** with others. There is also a special version for children.

The course has a supporting book 'Dancing to the Heartbeat of God' which includes a foreword and afterword by the Archbishop of Canterbury-designate, Dame Sarah Mullaly, and an introduction by the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell. It offers a confident and hopeful vision of faith lived out in everyday life.

You can also sign up to the Everyday Faith App which will carry reflections based on the booklet.

Easter Lilies



At the end of Lent we look forward to celebrating the Resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday with a wonderful display of spring flowers and lilies. We are now accepting donations towards these flowers. There is an opportunity for this gift to be in memory of a departed loved one, in which case their names(s) will be included on the Scroll of Remembrance, which will be on display beside the Memorial Book during Easter.

Envelopes will be available at the back of church. Please give your donation to Sue Walton, Vanessa Lees or Carol Roberts. If you require further information, please speak to Sue (756520) or Vanessa (757471). **Thank you**

Date of Annual Parochial Church Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting

These annual meetings will be held this year on **Sunday 17th May 2026** at 11.00am immediately after the 10.00am service. Please make a note in your diaries to attend these important meetings where elections are held for positions of church wardens, PCC members, and the Annual report will be discussed.

Big Clean – Save the Date

Our next Big Clean will be on **Saturday 28th March 9.00am – 11.30pm**, to get our church building ready for Easter. We need as many pairs of hands as possible on that day to brush away the winter dust and make our church sparkle again. Please do lend a hand if you can – an hour or two really helps us to achieve a lot.



St Mary's Prayer Circle - A gentle reminder

The St Mary's Prayer Circle still exists, and we are praying regularly for several people but have had no new requests since July 2025. Whilst we would love to think that we and all our friends and relations are well, we know that for many that is not the case.

The Prayer Circle is a group of members of our church family who commit to praying for any person or situation where there is concern and a need for prayer. The requests remain confidential and are not included in public intercessions.

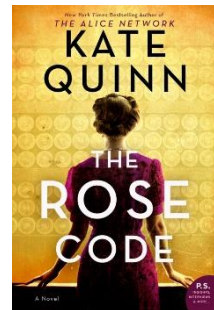
Please do remember, we would be very happy to pray for anyone who needs it. To make a request please email me or speak to me, Jill Wasey. My details appear at the bottom of the weekly sheet every week.



St Mary's Bookworms

Our St Mary's Bookworms meet again on Tuesday, 3rd March at 8.00pm at 81 Mardale Crescent. All new readers are very welcome to join us for a very informal discussion of a book we have all read together.

The book for this month is *The Rose Code* by Kate Quinn. A beautiful blue-blooded debutante, a tart-tongued London shopgirl, and a shy crossword-solving spinster join the war against Nazi Germany as codebreakers of Bletchley Park, only to find that the real puzzle lies inside the Park itself as a traitor sets them against each other in a betrayal reaching past the end of the war.



Coffee/Tea - new rota out for March and April

Thank you to all those who are enabling us to have tea and coffee after every service now. A new rota is now available to sign up for March and April. Please help if you can. If you've never done it before, we can show you what to do – please just ask. The more people who can help, the fewer times it comes round for everyone. Enjoy your coffee and tea!

Prayer during our Church Vacancy

To help us in our worship during our Church Vacancy a special prayer has been developed which we hope everyone will be willing to use and to pray daily, at our services on Sunday or whenever we meet as a group. It is important that we ask for God's help in everything we do and especially as we go forward working together to bring a new Rector to St Mary's. We all have a part to play in what is happening and we can all influence the outcome. With God's help we will succeed in getting the right person to help us grow in faith and to lead us forward in whatever God puts before us. **Derek and Ian.**

Vacancy Prayer




O God our Father, send your Holy Spirit to our Church of St Mary's Lymm, to fill us with vision, energy, and love. Help us to bring new life to our community and fellowship, and in unity and expectation, remain ever faithful to your calling.

Guide with your heavenly wisdom those involved in bringing a new minister to this Church that whomever we receive may be a wise and gentle shepherd. We pray that

the minister of your choice will hear your call and respond in faith, ready to serve us with joy, and to lead us by example in loving obedience to your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Services February/March 2026

1 st Sunday of Lent 22 February 2026	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Christina Westwell	
2 nd Sunday of Lent 01 March 2026	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Keith Hine	12.00pm Holy Baptism Reverend Keith Hine
3 rd Sunday of Lent 08 March 2026	10.00am Holy Communion (with Godly Play in FR) Priest Reverend Anita Raggett	
Mothering Sunday 15 March 2026	 10.00am Mothering Sunday Family Service	6.30pm Said Holy Communion Reverend Keith Hine
Passiontide Sunday 22 March 2026	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Christina Westwell	
Palm Sunday 29 March 2026	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Chris Moore	
Maundy Thursday 02 April 2026	Chester Cathedral Service TBC	6.30pm Holy Communion with Foot Washing Reverend Keith Hine
Good Friday 03 April 2026	10.30am Reflective Service	12.00 noon Churches Together Service at the Cross
Easter Sunday 05 April 2026	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Chris Moore	7.00am Sunrise Service at Lymm Dam (CTLD)
2 nd Sunday of Easter 12 April 2026	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Keith Hine	
3 rd Sunday of Easter 19 April 2026	10.00am Holy Communion (with Godly Play in FR) Priest Reverend Anita Raggett	
4 th Sunday of Easter 26 April 2026	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Christina Westwell	

Green Tips – Books – borrow don't buy if you can

It's worth finding out about **Borrow Box** – a digital library <https://www.borrowbox.com/> It's an app which changes the way you borrow books from your local library.

Library Visitor? Borrowing books from the library is a great way to share resources and therefore be eco-friendly. If you haven't been to the library for a while why not call in next time you are in the village?

Lymm Library Opening Times

Monday	10.00 – 5.00pm
Tuesday	10.00 – 5.00pm
Wednesday	1.00 – 5.00pm
Thursday	10.00 – 6.00pm
Friday	1.00 – 5.00pm
Saturday	10.00 – 1.00pm
Sunday	Closed

*Unstaffed on Mondays & Fridays between 1.00pm-5.00pm. During unstaffed hours books can be issued and returned via self-service machine.

Please Pray

- For our Churchwardens, Lay Readers, visiting clergy and all involved in running our church during our period of vacancy
- For the humanitarian effort bringing help to many in Gaza
- All those suffering as a result of conflict in Ukraine
- Remember in prayer those in the Book of Remembrance for today and the next week
- For those being prayed for by St Mary's Prayer Circle

Contact Details

Website - www.stmaryslymm.org

Rector: Vacancy

Lay Readers: Derek Buckthorpe 01925 752810 Ian Bunday 01925 755286

Church Wardens: Elizabeth France 07956 408300 George Bainton 01925 757732

PCC Secretary: Derek Buckthorpe 01925 752810

PCC Treasurer: David Young 01925 759919

Choir Director / Organist: Susan Gadd 07398 399121

Church Hall Secretary: Kath Hough Telephone: 01925 754435

Pastoral Care Team: Derek Buckthorpe 01925 752810, Pauline Buckthorpe 01925 752810 Ian Bunday 01925 755286

St Mary's Prayer Circle – Co-ordinator for Prayer Requests Jill Wasey 01925 754265 email jhwasey@yahoo.co.uk Members - Susan Brooks 01925 755735 Derek Buckthorpe 01925 752810, Pauline Buckthorpe 01925 752810 Ian Bunday 01925 755286 Vanessa Lees 01925 757471, Angela Roberts, Jill Wasey

Church Wi-Fi Wifi name = St Marys Church Wifi code = Welcome2Everyone **FIRE EXITS VIA THE MAIN ENTRANCE, THE DISABLED ENTRANCE BY THE TOILETS AND THE EXTERNAL DOOR VIA THE FELLOWSHIP ROOM**