



St Mary's News and Notices Fifth Sunday of Lent 22 March 2026

Passiontide Sunday 22 March 2026
10.00am Holy Communion
Priest Reverend Anita Raggett



Help Needed on Good Friday

Good Friday Coffee/Tea/Hot Cross Buns Are you able to bring some buttered Hot Cross Buns or help to serve tea/coffee after the Good Friday 10.30am service. Please sign the list at the back of church.

Big Clean Coming Soon – Next weekend Can you help please?

Our next Big Clean will be on **Saturday 28th March 9.00am – 11.30am**, 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.



Giving to St Mary's - !!!!!Urgent action needed if you give by Standing Order!!!!

Firstly, thank you to everyone who has been a regular giver to St Mary's. Your donations are vital to the Church particularly at a time when we need to demonstrate to the Diocese that we can afford to pay our parish share, in order to be allowed to recruit a full time Rector, and at the same time find some resources to plan a programme of work to deal with the exterior dilapidation of the building.

If you currently donate by means of a Bank Standing Order, we now need you to take urgent action. Lloyds Bank has decided to close our account. It will be closed in the next few days and so your March payment may be returned to you. We have appealed to Lloyds, but they have determined that we have too many Trustees despite this being a requirement set by the Diocese!

We have an account with Barclays. We need to ask you to **cancel your regular payment to the Lloyds account and to make a new standing order (or regular faster payment) to Barclays.**

These are the details you need:

Account Name: Parochial Church Council of Lymm

Sort Code: 20-01-96

Account Number: 90703893

If you have any problems let me know and we will help to sort them out. David our Treasurer will be watching anxiously over the coming days as you will understand that our cash flow will be at risk while the transfers are made.

On the positive side this is giving an opportunity for us to review and update our banking arrangements, and I know you will use it as another opportunity to reflect prayerfully on your giving. Thank you so much.

Liz France (Gift Aid Secretary and Warden)

Bring and Buy Plant Sale in Church Hall Garden Sunday 19 April 2.00pm to 4.30pm

The gardening group is happy to announce a "Bring and Buy" plant sale, at the Church Hall Garden, Crouchley Lane, **Sunday 19 April 2.00pm to 4.30pm**. Light refreshments will be available as well. All donations will go to the Church Hall Garden fund.

It is an excellent chance to see the garden moving from Spring to Summer.

If you have any plants you would like to donate for sale, please drop them off at the Church Hall Garden between 2.00pm and 4.30pm on **Saturday 18th**.

The gate will be open!

Please label them and put the price on them.



The gardening team look forward to seeing you on the 19th.

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 are now 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**

Decorating the Church for Easter

We are asking for your help once again in decorating St Mary's for Easter.



Easter baskets are available at the back of church. You are kindly requested to take one of the baskets and return it filled with spring flowers and seasonal greenery. There are 2 sizes to choose from and detailed instructions are



included. Please return the basket to church on **Saturday 4th April** between 10.30am and 11.00am.

Thank you for helping us make our Easter decorations so joyful.

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.

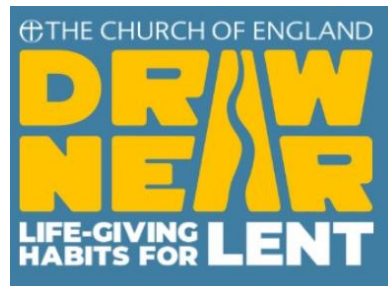
Lymm and District Chorus present
Olivet to Calvary
Music by J.H. Maunder
Words by Shapcott Wensley
7.30pm Wednesday 1st April 2026
St Mary's Church, Lymm WA13 0AL
Soloists: Tenor : Phillip Cartwright
Baritone : Paul Chamberlain
Soprano : Karen Drury
Conductor: Catherine Ardern
Accompanist: John Stott
Free Admission:
Retiring collection - in support of St Mary's Church
Lymmchorus.wordpress.com

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.

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

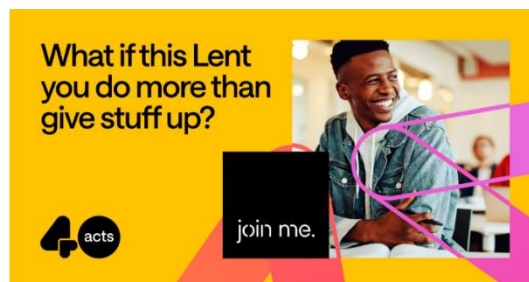
This year's Lent course is from the Church of England and is called 'Draw Near' life giving Habits for Lent. We will be meeting in the Fellowship Room on **Monday afternoons at 2pm** from the first Monday in Lent for anyone who wishes to join us. Everyone is welcome to join us for any week or all the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



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 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.

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 March/April 2026

Passiontide Sunday 22 March 2026	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Anita Raggett	
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: Sustainable water usage in your garden

As the warm spring days are here, many of us are turning our thoughts to gardening, but we know that climate change is making water an ever more important issue for gardeners. We need to learn how to cope with water shortages and extreme rainfall, store water and use it wisely.

Why is water management so important?

As well as hotter temperatures, climate change brings the challenge of gardening with a more uneven distribution of water. We expect winters to become warmer and wetter, and summers to become hotter and drier. This means extreme weather events such as droughts and floods are likely to become more frequent.



With this in mind, it's increasingly important to know how to manage water in your garden, from how to save water and water more efficiently, to storing excess winter water to help see you through summer droughts, to designing and planting a garden with both water use and water-related impacts in mind. The RHS can help with everything you need to know about managing water in your garden.

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/gardening-for-the-environment/water>

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
- For all those affected by the warfare in the Middle East
- 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**

St Mary's Church Lymm

Easter Services

29 March Palm Sunday

9.55am Blessing of Palms at Church Hall,
Crouchley Lane & Procession to Church

02 April Maundy Thursday

6.30pm Holy Communion (& Foot Washing)

03 April Good Friday

10.30am All Age Reflective Service

Hot Cross Buns and Easter Garden making

12noon Churches Together at Lymm Cross

05 April Easter Sunday

7.00am Sunrise Service at Lymm Dam

10.00am Easter Holy Communion



You are invited to
Celebrate the Joy of
Easter with us
Everyone welcome