



St Mary's News and Notices Sunday after Ascension 17 May 2026

Sunday after Ascension 17 May 2026
10.00am Holy Communion Service
Reverend Anita Raggett

Thy Kingdom Come

Thy Kingdom Come is a prayer movement initiated by the Church of England inviting Christians to pray from Ascension Day to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus. It's a global prayer movement encouraging us to pray for our families, friends, neighbours and work colleagues that the Holy Spirit might work in their lives. We are encouraged to pray for 5 individuals who have not yet said 'yes' to God.



There are some resources at the back of Church if anyone would like to join in with this. Please feel free to take them if you wish. As well as a prayer Journal there are resources for young people and a booklet written by the Archbishop of Canterbury Sarah Mullally.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/thy-kingdom-come>

Vacancy Update – from our Churchwardens

We promised to keep you updated as the process for filling our vacancy progresses. Candidates will be interviewed by a panel comprising the Archdeacon: The Ven Dr Michael Gilbertson, the Rural Dean: Rev'd Michael Ridley, George and Liz on 19 May in Church.

Godly Play at St Mary's – 17 May

The next Godly Play session will be at 10.00am on Sunday 17th May. We will be exploring the story of Holy Baptism. Please invite any children or families you know who might like to give Godly Play a try.



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, Deanery Synod members, and the Annual report will be discussed.

The Agendas and Annual Report were sent to you by email on 15th April. If you require a copy in paper form, please print at home and bring along to the meeting. Only a small, limited number of additional copies will be available at the meeting.

Nominations for Churchwarden, PCC members and Deanery Synod members

At the Annual Parish Meeting, there will be an opportunity to elect our two Churchwardens. Candidates for these roles must be nominated and seconded in writing in advance of the meeting. Nominations must be handed to a churchwarden in the absence of the Rector.

There will also be **three vacancies for the PCC**, who will be elected at the APCM on the same day. Candidates must be a lay person, must be an actual communicant, aged over 16, and unless they are under 18 have been entered on the electoral roll for at least six months before they may be elected to the PCC. Nomination forms are available from the PCC Secretary, Derek Buckthorpe. Please note that you should only nominate someone having sought their consent beforehand. All nominations must also be seconded. Proposers and seconders must be on the electoral roll of the parish. If you would like to find out more about this, please have a word with Derek or one of the churchwardens.

There will be **two vacancies for Deanery Synod** this time. Representatives of Deanery Synod will also be ex-Officio on the PCC. The above also applies with regard to eligibility in that candidates must be a lay person, must be an actual communicant, aged over 16, and unless they are under 18 have been entered on the electoral roll for at least six months before they may be elected. Nomination forms are available from the PCC Secretary, Derek Buckthorpe. Please note that you should only nominate someone having sought their consent beforehand. All nominations must also be seconded. Proposers and seconders must be on the electoral roll of the parish. If you would like to find out more about this, please have a word with Derek or one of the churchwardens.

We are at an exciting time in the life of our church as we look forward to appointing a new Rector in the not-too-distant future. Our Churchwardens and members of our PCC will play an important part in helping to shape the future direction of our church working with our new Rector. We need a broad range of perspectives and visions for the future amongst our PCC, so could this be the time for YOU to come forward and join in? You're never too old or too young to be part of the journey.

Revision of Electoral Roll

The Revision for this year is now completed. The revised Roll is displayed at the back of church for 14 days. Only those on the revised Electoral Roll will be eligible to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting.

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 May/June 2026

Sunday after Ascension 17 May 2026	10.00am Holy Communion (with Godly Play in FR) Priest Reverend Anita Raggett
Pentecost 24 May 2026	10.00am Holy Communion with Holy Baptism Priest Reverend Chris Moore
Trinity 31 May 2026	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Christina Westwell
1 st Sunday after Trinity 07 June 2026	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Anita Raggett
2 nd Sunday after Trinity 14 June 2026	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Keith Hine
3 rd Sunday after Trinity 21 June 2026	10.00am Holy Communion (with Godly Play in FR) Priest Reverend Peter Mackriell
4 th Sunday after Trinity 28 June 2026	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Ven Dr Michael Gilbertson, Archdeacon of Chester

Green Tips: Saving Petrol

Although the ever-increasing price of petrol or diesel is something beyond our control, there are some surprisingly simple ways to save fuel - rewarding your wallet and the environment.

Buying a more fuel efficient car is one way, but not everybody has the money for a new car. Here are some ways in which we can all save fuel:



1. Maintain your vehicle

Regular maintenance and servicing improves the efficiency of your vehicle, and therefore can improve your fuel consumption. It's particularly important to check your tyre pressures and make sure they are inflated correctly.

2. Speed: know when to accelerate

The higher your speed and the more you accelerate, the more fuel your car uses. Excessive speed is by far and away the biggest factor reducing your car's fuel economy. Typically, cars are most efficient at 45-50mph.

3. Highest gear possible within the speed limit

While accelerating gently is good for economical driving, there is a balance. Constantly accelerating gradually isn't the best way to save fuel. Instead, the best advice is to get up through the gears to your desired speed relatively quickly.

4. Anticipate: try not to lose momentum

Keeping the car moving at the right speed is essential to fuel economy. Obviously, this depends on traffic conditions and what's happening on the road ahead, but slowing down and having to accelerate again naturally uses more fuel.

Try to anticipate what's going to happen in front of you by looking well ahead. This way you'll see the traffic lights on red meaning you can ease back on the accelerator or slow down naturally and potentially keep moving as opposed to coming to a stop.

5. Does cruise control use more fuel?

Cruise control only aids fuel economy when driving on a constant flat surface, hence why it is usually best reserved for motorway driving.

6. Don't get dragged down

Don't leave your roof bars and roof box on because they create wind resistance and cause your car to use more fuel through the 'drag' effect. This is increased the faster you drive.

7. Does the AC use fuel?

Yes, it does. Don't use your air conditioning unless you really have to as it uses engine power and therefore increases fuel consumption.

8. Combine journeys: a warm engine is more efficient

Consider making one round trip rather than several short trips. Once the engine is warm it will operate at its most efficient whereas several cold starts will increase fuel consumption even though the total mileage could be the same

9. Lighten the load

While this isn't going to make the biggest difference to your mpg figures it stands to reason that the heavier a vehicle is, the more fuel it will use. For that reason, don't keep unnecessary items in your boot as they all add weight to your vehicle, which is not going to help your fuel economy in the long run.

10. Use the technology

Stop-start is a feature found in almost every petrol and diesel car made in the last few years. It's also a controversial one, with many drivers finding it annoying and disabling it. But, used correctly, stop-start really can save you fuel.

Please Pray

- For our Churchwardens, Lay Readers, visiting clergy and all involved in running our church during our period of vacancy
- For those with responsibility for appointing our new rector
- For our Annual Church Meetings
- For those being prayed for by St Mary's Prayer Circle
- For all those affected by the warfare in the Middle East and for a lasting peace there
- All those suffering as a result of conflict in Ukraine

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**