Enquiries about Marriages & Baptisms

If you have an enquiry about a Baptism or Wedding please come to the church on the first and third Tuesday evenings of the month between 7:00 and 8:00 pm (see website for dates) to meet with one of the clergy who will be pleased to discuss your plans with you and make arrangements. Or contact Christina our Parish Administrator any Wednesday or Thursday between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm. Revd Paul and Revd Jacky look forward to meeting you.

If you have an enquiry regarding a funeral or are concerned about a loved one please always telephone the vicarage in the first instance 01702 343470.
“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” John 13:34-37

In the 1990s when my children were growing up there was a TV advert for a well–known washing powder that featured Kriss Akabusi telling us that if we wanted to succeed we had to have PMA, Positive Mental Attitude. “To perform like Linford you’ve got to think like Linford”.

I cannot say the advert particularly influenced the brand of washing powder I used but it did prove to be very useful in helping me guide my children through the everyday obstacles of life and how to approach their relationships with other people. For our own attitude towards life has a profound effect on the quality of our life.

In a former life I was a “tax man”. At that time the culture in the Department I was in was to assume people trading in alcohol and tobacco were all dishonest until they proved themselves to be otherwise. Within some officers this engendered quite an officious and aggressive approach to their work which in turn created an uncooperative and hostile attitude from the traders they were monitoring. The results of these attitudes were rarely positive or uplifting for either officer or trader. As Winston Churchill said “Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference” and that is true in all our relationships whether with colleague, friend, family or stranger.
As we move towards Christmas and the additional stresses this season so often puts on our relationships and how we behave towards others I feel as Christians it is a good time to really give ourselves a good large dose of positive mental attitude. And if I may adapt what Kriss Akabusi said in that washing powder advert “To perform like Jesus you’ve got to think like Jesus”.

So dear friends I commend to you the words Paul wrote to the Colossians:

*Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.*

I wish you all a harmonious Christmas filled with love and friendship.

God bless and keep you.  

Revd Jacky

Junior Church is a provision for children between 5 and 11 years old during our 9:30am Sunday Holy Communion Service. The children have the opportunity to participate in songs, stories, games and activities inspired by the Bible and teachings of Jesus. This is a fantastic opportunity for children to meet together, examine God’s Word, explore what it means to know God and be loved by Him.

If you would like to know more email cfwstmarys@gmail.com
On 1 October Brian Billings returned to give his second talk on London, which was absolutely packed with information. Brian began by telling us about a little church called St Peter’s which was built around 620AD on a muddy little island in the Thames which was called Thorney. Westminster Abbey, the Church of St Peter, was founded by Edward the Confessor in 1065, and is the largest Church in Britain. Many famous people are buried there, including Edward himself. Then on to the Tower of London which began its life as a royal residence, but had many different uses .. an armoury, treasury, menagerie, and was the home of the Royal Mint, and the Crown Jewels are kept there. Brian told us about some of the people who were imprisoned, from the Princes in the Tower, to Rudolph Hess in 1941. We were then taken on a verbal tour of the River Thames, hearing about all the bridges and famous landmarks on the route.

On 5 November we had a happy time practising Christmas arrangements, in good time for our Christmas Party on Monday, 3 December in the Guild Hall, 12:15 pm for 12:30 lunch.

Jenny King
Photo: Vera Field
Take the four week challenge

Volunteer for just four weeks and be amazed at the difference you’ll make.

Week 1 See what we get up to
Week 2 Start to help out
Week 3 Get a little more involved
Week 4 You’ll know if Scouting is for you.

We have vacancies for a Cub Leader and assistant's to join our team at 1st Prittlewell.
Any help is truly amazing.

Interested?
Contact Shaun Carey on 07941242789
or email shauncarey@blueyonder.co.uk

#SkillsForLife

Scouts
1st Prittlewell (St Mary's)
The Essex Association of Change Ringers 64th annual dinner was held at Little Channels, Little Waltham on 13 October and was well attended by ringers from Prittlewell. A delicious three-course meal was served. The newly elected Master of the Association, Dr Andrew Kelso, presided. Andrew is a consultant neurologist at the Royal London, Hospital. The first speaker was the Venerable Vanessa Herrick, Archdeacon of Harlow and an Association Vice-President. She was followed by Colin Parker, former organiser of the Ringing World National Youth Contest. Overall, it was a most enjoyable evening.

Two days after the dinner, Andrew Kelso joined us for the Monday evening bellringing practice. As Association Master he hopes to get to as many as possible of the 147 ringable towers in the Association.

On 19 October, Peter and Liz celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. To mark this special occasion, a quarter peal of 1,260 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung the day before. Then a church service and celebratory tea were held on 20 October. Peter and Liz were very grateful for all the support they received to make this such a memorable and happy time.

John Tipping
who also took the photos
A talk at St Mary’s School 2nd and 3rd Years

About the middle of October Revd Paul explained that the school was looking for a veteran who could speak to the school about World War 2. He knew that I had served in the Army, having joined as a boy aged 15 in 1949, so would I be interested? My reply was that I would not be able to speak as a veteran of the war, but I could speak as a boy, aged 5 – 11 years during the war years, exactly the same age as the children I would be speaking to.

I was under the impression that I would be speaking to one class only but a phone call 36 hours before I was due to arrive informed me that I had eight classes for 20 minutes each, quite a shock. My mind was in turmoil—8 classes of 6 to 8 year olds was going to be horrendous.

The truth was that I was in the school for 3 hours and their behaviour had been impeccable. The happy smiles on their faces were a pleasure to see. It is true that my subject—WW2 and my Army service after it—could not have been more attractive to these youngsters and the very many knowledgeable questions they asked proved to be better than the notes I had researched the previous day; they stayed in my briefcase.

I am sure that all the staff of St Mary’s School are quite rightly very proud of their achievement and because of this I had a very happy time with them all.

The last memory of the School was as I was returning to the car park. I had to walk past the playground where the last children I had spoken to were playing; some of them spotted me, they stopped their game and waved and shouted goodbye. That to me confirmed that the morning had been a real success.

John Carter
From the registers

Baptisms

7 October
   Adelle Danielle Richards
   Cody Michael Steven Kavanagh

4 November
   Frankie Eddie Sutheran
   Bella May Sutheran
   Marnie Kathleen Mary Sutheran
   Ava-Rose Margaret Colley

Renewal of Marriage Vows

20 October
   Peter and Elizabeth Sloman

Photo John Tipping

Quiz Night

The Social Committee is organising a Quiz Night which will take place in St Mary’s Hall on Saturday 26 January 2019 at 6:30 pm for a 7:00 pm prompt start. The cost per person will be £8.50, which includes a fish, chicken or vegetarian meal.

The Quiz Night has always been a popular event in our church social calendar and we hope you will support us on this occasion in the New Year. If you would like to get together a team of maximum 8 people with your friends or family, you can ask for a form from Ray Mason or Eileen Wilkins. However if you would like to come along but are not part of a team, we will find a team for you. There will be a raffle during the evening and we would appreciate any donations of prizes. Proceeds of the raffle will go to Essex Air Ambulance.
I have unearthed some family history on my Mother’s side going back to the First World War.

Firstly here is a photo of a post card dated October 1915 my great grandfather sent to the family while he was in service as a Pioneer Sergeant (Battlefield engineers).

Second is a photo of a newspaper cutting about the Standen brothers who went to war and all returned! Pioneer T Standen RE was my great grandfather who also sent the post card.

Alex Haider
We visited Southend recently to look for the World War 1 Memorials bearing my great–uncle’s name, Sydney Robert Grant. We found the Eastwood Memorial Hall and would like to thank the kind playgroup leader who took a picture of it for us. Later at Priory Park we were helped by a museum guide who talked with us and very kindly showed us the Town’s memorial.
From there we walked to St Mary’s Prittlewell to find another memorial in the porch of this beautiful and well–kept Church. Here the verger was welcoming and spent time with us. Sydney Grant was born in Hackney, but his family moved to Eastwood to a house named “Lynmouth”. My Grandfather, George, and Sydney, his brother, joined the machine gun corps. Sydney was killed on 18 April 1918 at Gorre and buried in Gorre Cemetery. My Grandfather never talked about his brother. We know only he told us that in war he was glad to have learned the true value of comradeship.

My thanks to the people of Prittlewell for looking after these memorials. I will be thinking of you on Remembrance Sunday as you gather to commemorate the fallen.

Rebecca Good

Dear Paul,

Our thanks go to you and the congregation for making us feel so welcome on Sunday, it meant so much to us both. We felt very close to Mum and Dad.

Here are some photos for your Remembrance Day Board.

If any of you visit Hampshire you will always be welcomed at St Peter’s, Titchfield.
May you all be blessed by God for the kindness you have shown us.

Terry and Wendy Donnelly
My father Walter Baker did not have to go on active service as he lost an eye in an accident when he was a child. He was in the Middlesex Regiment. He was not conscripted but signed up and was sent to Warley Barracks. Here he is in his uniform, with his younger brother Ernest.

Joyce Canfield

A national and international event marking the Armistice “Battle’s Over” took place in churches and cathedrals throughout the country with simultaneous bell ringing at 7:05 pm on 11 November 2018. Before the bell rang Out for Peace at St Mary’s we heard the Last Post.

Revd Jacky
Pop In for Pancakes

Due to the success of last years Pop in for Pancakes, we have decided to host this event again this year. So put Tuesday 5 March 2019 in your diary, think about how you can be a part of this fantastic event and keep your eyes peeled for further information. If you would like to volunteer please speak to Lois.

Light Party

On Saturday 27 of October we held our light party, to celebrate Jesus Light of the World! The evening began with hotdogs and games including apple bobbing, fruit shootout, treasure hunting and a laser maze. We then gathered together to share with the party attendees why we decided to hold a party of light. Then adults and children were invited to participate in some making activities. They had the opportunity to decorate a candle, make a lantern holder, create a stain glass window and experiment with shadow puppets. Everyone then came together to play a game in which an individual had to sneak over to and take the keys from underneath the guard without being caught in the guard’s flashlight. We witnessed some very impressive sneakiness. The final activity was made up of four reflection/interactive prayer stations that enabled children, parents and carers to focus on praise, saying sorry, thank-you, please. When we had
finished everyone was offered a s’more to take home. It was an enjoyable evening full of fun. A huge thank–you to all the volunteers who made it possible.

Lois Blakey

Children’s Society boxes

The time has come to return your home collecting boxes. These can be brought to church and left with the churchwardens or the verger, or given to me in church at the 9:30 am service. I can also collect from home if you wish. My number is 01702 303261.

Many thanks in anticipation of their return.

Linda Corney
Advent and Christmas 2018 at St Mary’s Prittlewell

3rd-21st Advent Calendar and Elf Hunt 3:00pm-4:30pm
   On school days visit our giant advent calendar, then see if you can find where the elf is hiding

9th Toy Service 9:30am - 11:00am
   Toy donations will be going to HARP, we ask that donations are new and unwrapped please

16th Christingle 4:00pm - 5:00pm
   Celebrating 50 years of Christingle in conjunction with the Children’s Society

16th Traditional Carol Service 7:00pm - 8:00pm
   We will be serving refreshments after the service

24th Crib Service 5:00pm - 6:00pm
   Come dressed as your favourite member of the Nativity

24th Midnight Holy Communion
   11:30pm - 1:00am

25th All Age Holy Communion
   9:30 am to 10:30am

For further details visit our website www.stmarysprittlewell.co.uk
Advent and Christmas Services and Events
December 2018 at St Mary’s

Saturday 1 December
4:00 pm Havens Hospice Light up a Life Service

Sunday 2 December First of Advent
8:00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
9:30 am Holy Communion (Common Worship)
2:30 pm Advent Sunday Junior Church Activity in Church
   including showing of the movie “The Star”
6:30 pm No evening service

Wednesday 5 December
10:30 am Holy Communion (Common Worship — Said Service)
7:00 pm Memorial Service (Tanners Funeral Directors)

Sunday 9 December Second of Advent
8:00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
9:30 am Holy Communion (Common Worship) Toy Service
   (please bring donations of new unwrapped toys;
   these will be distributed by HARP before Christmas!)
   6:30 pm Sung Evensong

Wednesday 12 December
10:30 am Holy Communion (Common Worship — Said Service)

Sunday 16 December Third of Advent
   (there will be no 6:30 pm service – see below)
8:00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
9:30 am Holy Communion (Common Worship)
4:00 pm to 5:00 pm Christingle Service in conjunction with the
   Children’s Society
7:00 pm to 8:00 pm Traditional Carol Service
Wednesday 19 December
10:30 am Holy Communion (Common Worship — Said Service)
11.00 am Fairtrade Coffee Morning

Saturday 22 December
7:00 pm Southend Bach Choir – Christmas Concert in aid of HARP

Sunday 23 December Fourth of Advent
8:00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
9:30 am Holy Communion (Common Worship)
6:30 pm Said service of Evening Prayer

Monday 24 December Christmas Eve
8:30 am Morning Prayer
5:00 pm to 6:00 pm Crib Service—An opportunity for adults and young people to dress up and be part of our nativity re-enactment
   (more details to follow)
11:30 pm to 1:00 am Midnight Holy Communion

Christmas Day
9:30 am to 10:30 am All Age Holy Communion (Common Worship)

From 26 to 30 December
the church will be closed and no services taking place.

Sunday 30 December
(the will be no 6:30 pm service)
8:00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
9:30 am Holy Communion (Common Worship)
“Welcome Lunch” held in St Mary’s Hall *photo: Paul Mackay*

**Caption Competition**

Well, what exactly is going on here? Any guesses to the Editor and his trusty independent team at prittlewellparishmag@vfemail.net

A bar of Fairtrade chocolate to the winner...*Entries by 1 January 2019, please.*
Services at St Mary’s

Sundays

8:00 am Holy Communion  
*(Book of Common Prayer)*
9:30 pm Holy Communion  
*(Second Sunday All Age/Parade Service)*
6:30 pm Evening Service  
*(Second and fourth Sundays Sung Evensong)*

Monday to Thursday

8:30 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday

10:30 am Holy Communion
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**Magazine deadlines**

- **Sunday 13 January 2019** for February/March 2019 edition
- **Sunday 17 March 2019** for April/May 2019 edition
- **Sunday 12 May 2019** for June/July 2019 edition
- **Sunday 14 July 2019** for August/September 2019 edition
- **Sunday 15 September 2019** for October/November 2019 edition

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⇒ to get St Mary’s Magazine and St Mary’s Weekly News Sheet by email

⇒ please send your email address to prittlewellparishmag@vfemail.net
Gifts taken during St Mary’s Harvest Festival went to HARP.

Photos: Paul Mackay

Curry Night at the Monsoon