

For the recently departed

Those whose years mind falls at this time:

Daphne Elsaïda Blake, Jane Frost Jones

For the schools in and around the parish: St Mary's Academy, Cherry Orchard School, Grove Primary School, King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School, St Clare's Roman Catholic Primary School, St Teresa's Roman Catholic Primary School, & Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy

**This Week & Upcoming at St Mary's
& the wider Handsworth & Winson Green Group**

Wednesday 29th July

11.30am – Mid-Week Eucharist

Friday 31st July

8.30am – Morning Prayer

Sunday 2nd August

8am - BCP Holy Communion

11am – Parish Eucharist

Saturday 29th August

Handsworth Group trip to Lichfield

Sunday 30th August

8am - BCP Holy Communion

11am – Parish Eucharist – *Pulpit & Altar swaps with the Handsworth Clergy*

Saturday 5th September

10am – 4pm – St Mary's ArtFest

Sunday 6th September

8am - BCP Holy Communion

11am – Parish Eucharist for the

Patronal Feast of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday 12th September

12pm-3pm – Macmillan Coffee afternoon *in aid of Macmillan cancer support*

Saturday 19th September

10am – 4pm – St Mary's Open Day for Birmingham Heritage Week

Songs of Praises During August

Have you got a favourite hymn that hasn't been sung for a little while? There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of church for the next few weeks where you can put in a request for hymns. Please write (clearly!) the hymn name and number down on the sign-up sheet provided, and the rector will do her best to accommodate requests during the month of August. (Please keep it seasonal e.g. no Christmas Carols!)

St Mary's Contact Information

The rector can be contacted via email at rector@handsworthstmary.org or by phone **07594731122 / 0121 7148 397**.

If you have any concerns about safeguarding at St Mary's please contact the Parish safeguarding officer on: safeguarding@handsworthstmary.org

St Mary's Church, Handsworth

Sunday 26th July

Eighth Sunday after Trinity

11am Parish Eucharist

President: Revd Lizzie Longhurst (Rector)

Preacher: Ruth Cooper (Licensed Reader)

Hymns

Entrance	582	O worship the King, all glorious above
Gradual	690	Teach me my God and King
Offertory	280	Hail to the Lords annointed
Communion	170	Father I place into your hands
Final	399	Jesus shall reign where'er the sun

Collect: Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: *A reading from the book of Genesis:*

Then Laban said to Jacob, 'Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?' ¹⁶Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. ¹⁸Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, 'I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.' ¹⁹Laban said, 'It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.' ²⁰So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her. ²¹Then Jacob said to Laban, 'Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.' ²²So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. ²³But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. ²⁴(Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) ²⁵When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, 'What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?' ²⁶Laban said, 'This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. ²⁷Complete the week of this one, and we will give

you the other also in return for serving me for another seven years.’²⁸ Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Genesis 29.15–28

Psalm: *The liturgical deacon leads the psalm which is said antiphonally:*

Blessed are all those who fear the Lord, •
and walk in his ways.

² **You shall eat the fruit of the toil of your hands; •
it shall go well with you, and happy shall you be.**

³ Your wife within your house
shall be like a fruitful vine; •
your children round your table,
like fresh olive branches.

⁴ **Thus shall the one be blest •
who fears the Lord.**

⁵ The Lord from out of Zion bless you, •
that you may see Jerusalem in prosperity
all the days of your life.

⁶ **May you see your children’s children, •
and may there be peace upon Israel.**

Psalm 128

New Testament Reading: *A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans:*

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.²⁷ And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?³² He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?³³ Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies.³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?³⁶ As it is written, ‘For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.’³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.³⁸ For I

am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8.26-39

Gospel: *Please turn to face the gospel as it is read from the central aisle.*

He put before them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.’ ³³He told them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.’

⁴⁴ ‘The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹ ‘Have you understood all this?’ They answered, ‘Yes.’ ⁵²And he said to them, ‘Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.’

Matthew 13.31–33, 44–52

Post Communion Prayer: Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever. **Amen.**

***Coffee/tea and biscuits served in the refectory
after this service. All welcome!***

For your Prayers

For all who are unwell at this time:

*Pamela Swan, Keith Hemmings, Darren Fortnam, Bill Moodie,
Chris & Jenna, Eunice Moore*

Cont. overleaf