

Life News @ St Mary's



May 2024



WORLD MISSION NEWS

In February of this year Gavin and I were fortunate enough to have a lovely holiday in Sri Lanka. At the end of our interesting and very restful stay we visited Mano at the Colombo Theological Seminary, her place of work, and were able to see where she lectures, meet some of her students and take part in the staff's weekly 'devotionals' where we met Mano's colleagues. They were all very pleased to receive us and we were plied with Ceylon tea and lovely chocolate cake. Mano was so appreciative that we'd been able to see her saying that no one had ever been out there to visit from the UK before, apart from her family. The Seminary is awaiting Government recognition so that the degrees they offer will be accredited and nationally recognised. Please pray that this process goes smoothly. Please also pray for Mano to have a safe journey as she flies to the UK on 3rd May to spend the summer here.



We have had an appeal from Teresha, from Triumph Heart in Uganda, for donations towards a car as their present one is no longer road worthy. If you feel you could help with a donation please visit [gofundme.com](https://www.gofundme.com) and search for the [Karahukayos](#). I know any donations would be greatly appreciated.

Both Teresha and Mano will be visiting church on **Sunday 7th July**, which will be our next Missionary Sunday. Teresha will also be talking about her work at Triumph Heart in the church hall with tea and cake, on the afternoon of **Saturday 13th July**. Please put both these dates in your diary. Both events will be most interesting and enlightening.

Thank you for your continued prayers for all our mission partners. Our Mission Board is updated regularly, please take a look to find out the latest.

Julia Chapman

A Word from the Vicar

Life News

What was your favourite report in this year's Annual Report? All of them speak volumes of the faith and life of St Mary's as we grow as God's community here in Eaton Socon – a community in which all of us are called to play our part in different ways!

For me, my part changes over the next 4 months as I step back from the daily life of the church for a period of study and reflection. Often referred to as Study Leave or a Sabbatical, it is a time for me to change pace and to be refreshed before returning to leadership in the Autumn. This means that in my absence, various people who are already involved in the life of the church, will be taking on further responsibilities to help guide and help the church to keep growing. Some of these people include:

The Lay Leaders of Worship: David Ferris, Jane Gogarty, Barbara Jarvis, Sarah Miller and Julie Robb

The Eldership: Chris Harris, Edward Jarvis (also Churchwarden) and Ali Wood

The retired clergy and reader: George Cobb, David Miller, Ray Porter and John Wood.

In the porch shortly will be some new photo boards of these people and others who all contribute in different ways. Do look out for them and encourage them in all they will be doing to serve the life of St Mary's.

In closing can I commend the new verse for the year to you: *Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

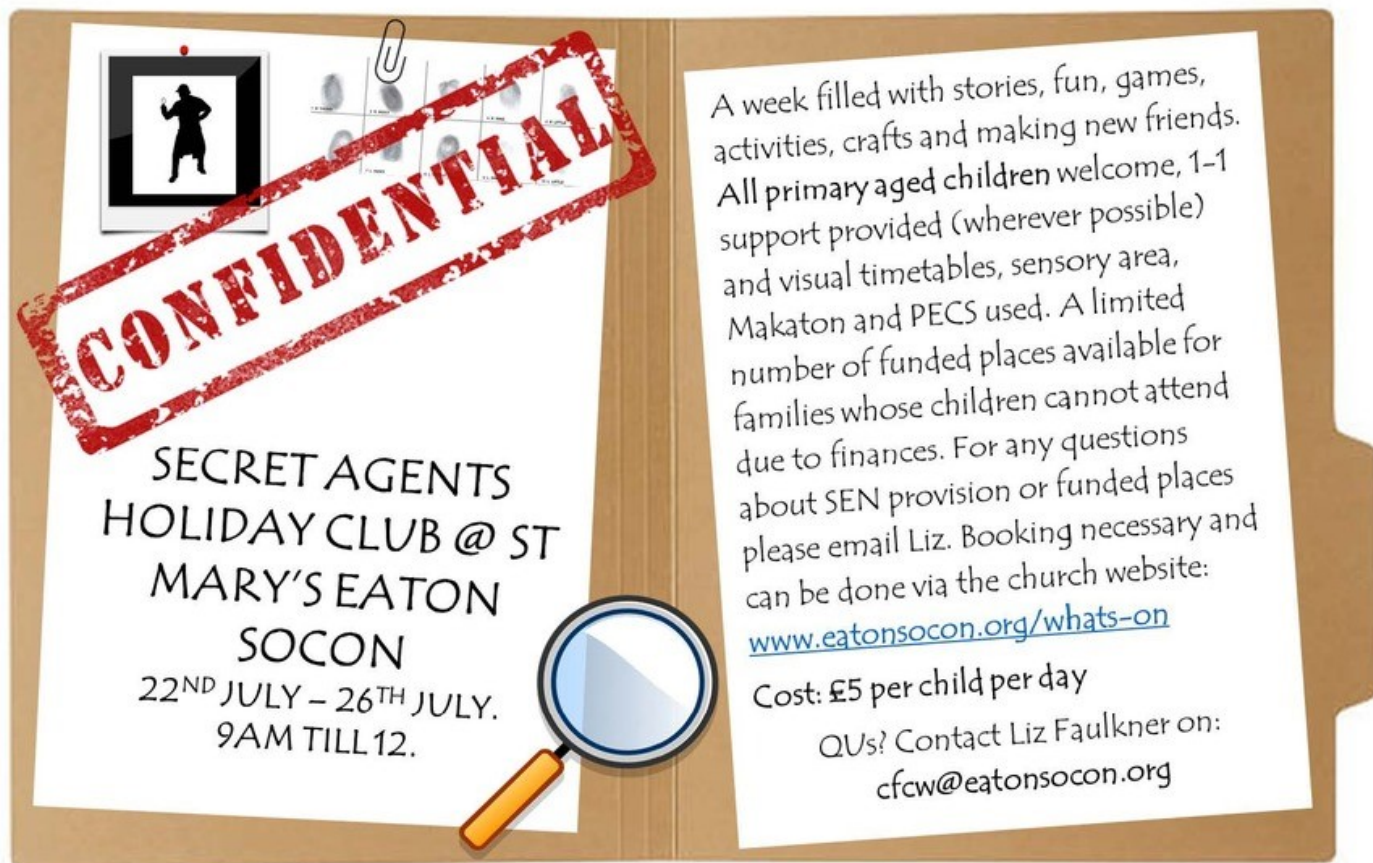
This is who you are – you are God's chosen, holy and dearly loved people. What will your response be?

Blessings – Tim

Save the Date for a **Quiz night** to be held on **Friday 21st June at 7.30pm** in aid of the Youth New Day fund.

And don't forget the **cake sale** on **19th May!!**

ADVANCE NOTICE - Holiday Club coming soon



Foodbank Appeal

The Foodbank is currently issuing more food than it receives in donations and at the moment has a shortage of the following items:

- Long Life Fruit Juice
- Long Life Milk
- Pasta Sauce
- Tinned Meat
- Tinned Vegetables (Peas, Carrots etc)



To help you donate what is most needed you can get an app for your phone called 'BanktheFood'. It can be found in Google Play or the App Store.

Just download the app from your app store and follow the instructions to get started. Once you have followed your local food bank, the app will send you a helpful 'ping' with a reminder of your food banks' needs. You can then choose exactly what you would like to donate and leave your donation in the supermarket collection box or bring it to the church.

Calendar for MAY 2024



MONDAY

Café on the Green - 10am (term time only)

M (Maintenance) Team - 9.30am (20th)

Youth Café - 3.30pm (For children in Years 7-11)(term time only)

May Day Village Fayre - 12 - 4pm (6th)

TUESDAY

Morning Prayer - 9am

Craft Group - 10am

WEDNESDAY

Holy Communion - 9am

Little Stars - 10am (term time only)

Wednesday Welcome - 3pm (term time only)

Bell Ringing Practice - 7.30pm

THURSDAY

Prayer Meeting - 9am

Thursday Lunch Club - 12noon (30th)

FRIDAY

Food bank 10am - 12noon

Fusion 7.30pm (term time only)

Thy Kingdom Come global prayer initiative - 9th - 19th May

SUNDAY

5th - 3:16 Service - 3pm

12th - Wildlife Walk and tea - 3pm

19th - Youth Cake Stall in aid of New Day funds - 9am and 10.30

19th - HIVE - 2pm

26th - Sharing Life Through Learning - 6pm

