

## Clergy



Rev Dr Ian Poole



Rev Taiwo Olumuyiwa



Rev Emmanuel Salako

## Wardens (Parish)



Karen Adcock



Jacquie Mullett

## Wardens (District)



Mike Hotchkiss



Richard Todd

## INTO THE WILDERNESS

Brought to us by Rev. Ian

The season of lent reminds us that for the Christian the discipline of the wilderness is never far away. Whether we are *'led by the Spirit into the wilderness'* (Matthew Ch 4:1) as the Lord prompts us and invites us to take on some form of fasting, that is fasting from food or fasting from something else that brings comfort. Or whether through circumstances beyond our control we are *'sent... out into the wilderness'* (Mark 1: 12) where, for example, we may have to carry a burden unique to our own lives and it will often be the case that we don't know how long this will last for.

Either way we find ourselves in the wilderness. This is a place in between the joy of us knowing that we are His child, *'You are My Son (my child), whom I love, with You I am well pleased'* (Mark 1:11) and us being sent out *'into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God'* (Mark 1: 14). The wilderness is a season where the gift of being His child is cast in stone so that in due time we are ready to launch out into whatever purpose the Lord has for our lives.

Naturally we will shy away from the wilderness, but may we learn to embrace it for within it and beyond it lies great joy. Paul said *'therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses so that Christ's power may rest on me'* (2 Corinthians 12:9). And because the wilderness is a gift let us be careful that we don't seek to line it with feathers, by trying to turn the hard stone into bread (Matthew 4:3) or to be careless about looking after ourselves physically or spiritually (Matthew 4:6) or to say I'm a celebrity get me out of here and give me my due reward now (Matthew 4:9). Often it is only as we walk out of the wilderness that we realise what the Lord has done as He has both strengthened our identity in Him and wonderfully prepared us for all that He is calling us to **BE** and **DO**.

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### Gifts for God's work at St Mary's Church

A collection is taken in most services for the work of the church, if you wish to donate. If you are a member of the church and a UK tax payer and give a regular amount to the work of the church, please consider gift aid, Mike Hotchkiss has details. If you do not pay tax but wish to give regularly by an envelope scheme, boxes of pink envelopes are available by the church entrance.



Kerry Hoult

### Church Administrator Kerry Hoult

adbush@hotmail.co.uk  
01902 782226

Kerry's hours are Mon,  
Wed & Fri 8.55am -  
2.15pm



DISCOVERING GOD'S LOVE  
IN THE HEART OF BUSHBURY

# March 2024



## Easter In the CITY

**SATURDAY 30TH MARCH | 1:30 - 3 PM**

**WORSHIP | GOSPEL MESSAGE | TESTIMONIES | PRAYER FOR THE CITY**

Queens Square, Wolverhampton



## Welcome!

You are very welcome to join us today.

Please ask questions if you are not sure where or what things are or what they mean and we would be delighted to help.

## Services:

9am Communion Service

10:30am The Gathering

**St Mary's Church, Bushbury Lane, Bushbury, Wolverhampton**

[bushburyparishchurch.co.uk](http://bushburyparishchurch.co.uk)

[facebook.com/stmaryschurch.bushbury](https://facebook.com/stmaryschurch.bushbury)

# Church Diary

**Little Angels** meet term-time on Wednesdays at 1:15 - 3pm.

**Deanery Fellowship** 6pm St James' Church . Holy Communion with food.  
Sunday 3rd March.

**OASIS Ladies Group** will meet in the Church Hall from 1.30-3pm on 4th and 18th March and 8th April.

**St Mary's AGM** - 7:30pm on Thursday 7th March at St Mary's Church Hall.

**Parish AGM** - 8pm on Thursday 21st March at St Mary's Church Hall.

**Fundraiser Quiz Night** - 7pm on Saturday 9th March at St Mary's Church Hall, In collaboration with Hope City Church . ALL proceeds go to The Well. £5 per player with teams of 6 maximum. Bring your own snacks and drinks. Prizes to be won.

**City Wide Prayer** 7pm Thursday 14th March at St Philips, Church Road, WV3 7EN.

**Men's Breakfast** at 10am on Saturday 16th March. Jonah Part III. Please sign up on the list at the back of Church.



**Bring and Share Lunch** after the service on Sunday 17th March.

**Messy Church** at 4 - 5:30pm on Sunday 24th March and 21st April.



## EASTER SERVICES

**Maundy Thursday Service** 7pm at St Mary's Church

**Good Friday Service** 2-3pm at Good Shepherd Church

**Easter Gathering** 1.30 - 3pm on Saturday 30th March in Queen's Square, Wolverhampton

**Easter Sunday Communion Service** 10:30 at St Mary's Church



## ON HORIZON

**Mission Training with Dan Holland** Saturday 13th April 9am to 4.30pm at St Mary's Church Hall.

**Healing Service** 5 - 6pm on Sunday 14th April at St James' Church



**Church Facilities** There's a loo on the far side of the church from the main door, next to the organ.

**Accessibility** We have a **hearing loop**. Please switch to T when appropriate. Please tell us if it is not working.

During most services **we do not go up the steps** at all so everything should be easily accessible.

The parish is working on becoming more accessible to people with dementia.

**Communion** We can offer **non-alcoholic wine and gluten-free wafers** on request.

Please check this with the Church warden before the service.



If it's a communion service today and you are not familiar with this or do not share the Christian faith, please do not feel pressured to participate. When people move to the front to take the bread and wine, please feel free to come forward for a blessing.

**Sunday Club** We love to have children in our services! We currently don't run a creche but do have children's groups. Please feel relaxed with young children you are very welcome here.

Sunday Club joins **'The Gathering'** service at the beginning and then goes to the Church Hall except on the third Sunday where there is a communion service for everyone.

Would you like to join a **'Life Group'** for fellowship, worship, bible and faith sharing? If you would please see church warden, Mike Hotchkiss.

The **'Hope Faith and Charity'** shop that supports mission in Romania, are very grateful for our support. In order to support the most vulnerable in the City they have adjusted their most needed items list, which will be at the back of the Church.

**Safeguarding:** St Marys and Bushbury Parish take very seriously our commitment to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. A copy of the Safeguarding policy is available on request and on the website. Please inform us of any concerns.