

# The Grapevine

Issue 2: April/May 2021



St Mary and  
St John the Divine

BALHAM

## Newsletter from St Mary and St John the Divine

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## Message from Father Robert Tobin

### Welcome back to Church!

As lockdown eases, we are delighted that we have the chance to come back into church to worship together. Please continue to follow the Covid guidelines as reminded by our clergy and church wardens. The next step of the roadmap out of lockdown is May 17, 2021 followed by a final stage (hopefully) on June 21, 2021.

On Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2021, our church was the glorious venue for Fabienne's and Mark's marriage – let's have more weddings at St Mary's! (If you would like to sponsor the beautiful flowers, arranged by Daphne Clark, please let us know.)

We are so glad that the staff and children are now fully back at Trinity St Mary's – we wish them a very happy summer term!



I am sure all of you share in my sense of gratitude that we are again able to join in Sunday public worship at St Mary's. At the same time, we remain mindful of those who are still at home and who worship alongside us via Zoom and livestream.

The past year has taught us valuable lessons about the nature of inclusion and the importance of extending ideas of community in directions we might not have considered otherwise. Just as the call to share the Good News is ongoing, so is the challenge of making the church as open and welcoming as possible. As we look forward to resuming some of our previous activities, I hope all of us can join in the creative work of renewing St Mary's as a place of hospitality, both to friend and stranger alike.

With my thanks and prayers to you all as together we move forward amidst the uncertainties and possibilities of the present time.

**Father Robert**

### Where is this?

This is such a wonderful stained glass window of David and Goliath. Where is it in the Church?



### St Mary's Know Your Numbers quiz—Answers

**Congratulations to Martin Gray** who was the winner of the Know Your Numbers quiz! Thank you to all of those who took part. Please find the answers below:

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| 26 = L of the A          | Letters of the Alphabet                   |
| 7 = D of the W           | Days of the Week                          |
| 1001 = A.N.              | Arabian Nights                            |
| 12 = S of the Z          | Signs of the Zodiac                       |
| 54 = C in a D (with J)   | Cards in a Deck (with Joker)              |
| 9 = P in the S.S.        | Planets in the Solar System               |
| 88 = P.K.                | Piano Keys                                |
| 13 = S on the A.F.       | Stripes on the American Flag              |
| 32 = D.F. at which W.F.  | Degrees Fahrenheit at which Water Freezes |
| 18 = H on a G.C.         | Holes on a Golf Course                    |
| 90 = D in a R.A.         | Degrees in a Right Angle                  |
| 200 = P for P.G. in M    | Pounds for Passing Go in Monopoly         |
| 7 = S on a F.P.P.        | Sides on a Fifty Pence Piece              |
| 3 = B.M. (S.H.T.R)       | Blind Mice (See How They Run)             |
| 4 = Q in a G             | Quarts in a Gallon                        |
| 24 = H in a D            | Hours in a Day                            |
| 1 = W on a U             | Wheel on a Unicycle                       |
| 4 = L in a P.C.          | Letters in a Post Code                    |
| 57 = H.V.                | Heinz Varieties                           |
| 11 = P in F.T.           | Players in a Football Team                |
| 1000 = W that a P is W   | Words that a Picture is Worth             |
| 29 = D in F in a L.Y.    | Days in February in a Leap Year           |
| 64 = S on a C.B.         | Squares on a Chess Board                  |
| 40 = D and N of the G.F. | Days and Nights of the Great Flood        |
| 76 = T in the B.P.       | Trombones in the Big Parade               |

## Pen Portrait

### Paul Swinden, Director of Music

I started to play the organ once I had spent two years learning the piano. My aim was to pass Grade 5 piano and then to begin organ lessons, which was essentially what happened. I still carried on learning the piano at the same time and went on to take performing diplomas in both instruments. I was inspired to learn the organ by listening to recordings of Bach's organ music. I don't have one favourite piece that I play or listen to, but I love Bach and the organ works of French Romantic composers such as Widor, Guilmant and the later compositions of Vierne and Dupre.



## Church Sitting volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to sit in church when it is open for private prayer on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. With more people, duties will be lighter. The church is open from 10.00 a.m. to midday and the time passes surprisingly quickly. One session could be shared by two people. There are two comfortable sofas to sit on and a small table. It is an opportunity to work on your laptop, read a book, meditate and pray in the peaceful atmosphere of the church.

Please contact the clergy or the church wardens (see pew sheet for details).

## The Grapevine Editorial team

**Sarah McDermott**  
**Marian Shaw**  
**Wendy Newall**  
**Lillian Mathieson**  
**Brenda Turner**

If you have any contributions for us at The Grapevine, please email them to **Dawn Dugar at**

[Dawn.Dugar@gmail.com](mailto:Dawn.Dugar@gmail.com)

We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Please note that issues of 'The Grapevine' are now available on the church website:

<https://tinyurl.com/StMaryGrapevine>

## The Oasis Garden

*Marian Shaw*

A small and enthusiastic group of us look after the Oasis Garden all year round. There is not much we can do when the soil is hard with frost, but at other times there is plenty to do. We have started to prune the apple trees, but need ladders to reach the upper branches. We planted bulbs in containers during the autumn and it is exciting to see them pushing up. We struggle to discourage the squirrel who insists on digging holes close to the plants. Wire netting is one way of keeping them off the containers. We hear that they hate chilli powder, but the rain soon washes that away! Any other tips?



We are all tired of the monotony of Lockdown, but nothing stops the seasons changing and, as ever, we thank God for His creation. Before the snow fell, a few narcissi were in flower, which was a cheering sight. Others, beside the big bins, are now appearing as the pelargoniums die back a bit. We hope that these plants will live in harmony and provide colour for most of the year.

The Bug Hotel is now one year old! We hope the beetles and insects who have taken up residence are happy and comfortable. Unfortunately, we have no way of knowing, until we see some of them emerge in warmer weather.

We have plans to enhance the garden and encourage the children to grow flowers, linking up with the children at TSM. But more of this another time.



## From the Kitchen of St Mary's Goan Omelette

### Ingredients (per omelette)

- 2 Eggs
- Half a Medium Onion (sliced finely both ways)
- Pinch of salt
- 1 green chilli finely chopped
- 6 coriander stalks.

### Method

- Put the onion and chilli in a bowl with a pinch of salt;
- Add the two yolks to the onion mixture and whisk the egg whites for about one minute in a separate bowl
- Add the coriander to the onion, egg and chilli mixture
- Add the whisked egg whites to the mixture and beat with a fork until well mixed
- Add a little veg or sunflower oil to a non-stick omelette pan to warm
- Add the omelette mixture and let it cook for 1-2 minutes under medium heat
- Flip the omelette over and cook for a further 1 minute
- It is ready to eat. If you want it spicy you can add another green chilli .
- Enjoy!!



## Online Donations

If you would like to make a donation to St Mary and St John the Divine Church online, please do so by visiting the link: <https://tinyurl.com/StMaryGive> We appreciate your generosity in these times.

Thank you!