



ST MARY BREDIN CHURCH // FAMILY NEWS

25th April 2021

Welcome to SMB online!

We are a church looking to follow Christ's call to
'Be Holy and Be a Blessing'

Welcome to St Mary Bredin (SMB) and a special welcome if this is your first visit. We hope you enjoy your time with us and quickly feel at home here. We are a church looking to follow Christ's call to 'Be Holy and Be a Blessing' and we love welcoming others into the church family to join us on that journey. We would love to say hello to you so please do get in touch.

God bless, Barney

Today at SMB

8.00am | Holy Communion

9.30am & 11.00am | Church Unlocked

(with the 11.00am LiveStreamed on the SMB YouTube channel)

(with Youth and Children Groups in person)

Reading: Acts 2: 42-47

Speaker: Barney de Berry

This week

Monday to Friday – Morning Prayers at 9:10am

Thursday - Student Night at 7.30pm

Saturday - Men's Prayer Session online at 8am

Ministry Letter from Rev Barney de Berry

Dear Friends,

It was so wonderful on Easter day to be able to gather again in person. At various points in the service I got quite emotional, especially when we gathered together after the service outside to sing 'Thine be the Glory'. It reminded me so much of what we have missed and what I have craved in this last year in not being able to gather physically together and not being able to worship as the body of Christ gathered. So, with that in mind, I am so excited that this Sunday - and I hope from now on - we have the opportunity to gather again in person. It will still not be everything we would want our gatherings to be as we are still not allowed to sing together but to be physically present with each other is also to be more fully spiritually together and it is something I, and I believe all of us, have missed this last year.

This Sunday we will also be starting a new sermon series with the title 'The Church Unlocked'. I will be preaching most of the sermons as I felt it was right to look again at our vision as a church as we come out of lockdown. Each Sunday this term we will be looking at an area of church life that I think should be central to our call as the body of Christ, as we 'unlock' as a church. Many are things we were doing already but I think it is good that we reaffirm our call to these things, make sure we prioritise them in our life together and make sure we are fully unlocked, unleashed and equipped by God to pursue them for his glory.

We will continue to stream our services, but I hope that as the term goes on we will see more and more of you back at our gatherings, if and when you feel confident to be there, so that we might all benefit from the joy and fellowship of being the gathered body.

Do join us for our APCM this Thursday which we will be conducting on zoom. You'll receive further information and the zoom link in an email on Monday.

Finally, this week we will be saying a big thank you to Catherine Colley as she steps down from the staff team. I am so grateful for all that Catherine has brought to the church and the staff team in her role as Church Manager. I am especially grateful for all she carried during the first lockdown for which we as a church owe her a huge debt of thanks.

God Bless, Barney

Events & Notices

News from Becca of UCCF

Becca Wild is the Staff Worker with Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship (UCCF) in Canterbury, helping the Christian Unions (CUs) reach students for Jesus.

Throughout the past year CUs have adapted and found new ways to share the gospel. Kent CU included a social event once a month to help with loneliness and Christ Church CU started small groups to help students make deeper friendships.

Please pray that, as restrictions are lifted, this new start would be positive for the CUs and that they would see more people coming to know Jesus. Becca is preparing to leave her role in UCCF in August, and Elliot Curryer will be taking over. Becca is thrilled to be handing over to someone who is so passionate about student work in this city. Elliot says "I'm delighted to be taking on the role of UCCF Staff Worker in Canterbury and excited to continue the great work that Becca has done in serving the CUs. CU was a formative part of my faith journey and I did Relay in Canterbury too. I can't wait to get started!". Please pray for Becca and Elliot in this change. If you would like to support Elliot or receive his prayer letters, do get in touch with Becca (bwild@uccf.org.uk).

In person gatherings start today!

From today we will be gathering in person again at 8:00am, 9:30am and 11:00 with the Livestream at 11:00am. Book online at smb.org.uk/sundays or phone/email the office.

Mini-school of discipleship on zoom Monday 26th April // 7:30pm

Charmaine will be leading a two part mini-school looking at the Lord's Prayer together and how that helps us go deeper in our prayer life. For more information contact the office or sign up on our website smb.org.uk/schoolofdiscipleship

Annual Meeting (APCM) This will be held on 29th April at 8pm, and will be on zoom this year. All the information, including the zoom link, will be sent out to the church family via email on Monday.

Alpha We will now be amalgamating this term's course with the next one, which is likely to run in the Autumn Term. Information about Alpha can be found at smb.org.uk/alpha

Youth Evangelist vacancy Please pray about who God is calling to this role, and if you know of anyone who may be suitable, please do share it with them.
www.smb.org.uk/vacancies

Children

We're back in the building:

At 9:30am

Scramblers: Pre-school (with parents)

Meet in Kendall Hall

Climbers: Reception - Yr 2

Meet in The Upper Room

At 11:00am

Explorers: Yrs 3 - 6

Meet in The Upper Room

Youth

We're back in the building:

At 11:00am

Younger Youth: Yrs 7 - 10

Meet in Kendall Hall

Parents — please contact Mim for more information if you are new to SMB, or if you would like to know about provision for Older Youth (Years 11-13)

Giving at SMB

We believe that God calls us to tithe to our local place of worship as part of our discipleship and worship. We can only continue to fulfil God's calling on us as we, His church, continue to tithe and give as God calls us. The best way to give is by standing order and, if you're a taxpayer, to ensure that you gift-aid your donation. More information at smb.org.uk/finance

Get Connected

Our Fellowship Groups are central to our life and fellowship as a church and we hope that every member of SMB is a member of a Fellowship Group.

This is one of the best ways to get to know others as well as serving in teams and using our gifts. Please phone or email the office for a form which we can send by email or in the post.

Staff Contacts

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