

ST MARY'S MENDLESHAM

www.stmarysmendlesham.org.uk

You are welcome to worship at any
of our services.

SUNDAYS

9.30 a.m. Parish Mass & Address

First Mass of Sunday:

Saturdays: **10.00 am**

*(This is an experiment, as the time
seems better for more people)*

Daily Mass: see calendar on back
page & check porch notice & bulletin.

Daily Morning & Evening Prayer
see porch notice.

For Pastoral visits, Baptism
(Christening), Marriage, Anointing of
the Sick & Holy Communion from the
Reserved Sacrament, contact Fr Philip

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays 4.00 pm

Before Festival:

12th Aug – 4.00 pm; 13th Aug – 3.00 pm
or contact Fr Philip



Vicar:

Fr Philip T Gray, B.A. S.S.C.
Mendlesham Vicarage

01449 766359

Churchwardens:

Andrew Fleming

01449 711065

Chris Elstone

07530 769676

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

Mass offered daily. Sunday Parish Mass is also **LIVESTREAMED**

Visit <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysmendlesham/>

From August I intend to experiment with the timing of the first Mass of Sunday, which will now be anticipated at 10.00 am each Saturday	
30th Jul	10.30 am – Requiem Mass for Fr Timothy van Carrapiett
12th Aug	9.30 am – Monthly Requiem – August anniversaries
13th Aug	<u>Vigil of the Assumption of Our Lady – Patronal Festival</u> <u>7.00 pm – Blessing of Beer, Sung Mass, Address, Procession of Our Lady & Benediction. Preacher: The Bishop of Richborough.</u> 9. 00 pm - BBQ & Beer Tent in South Churchyard 9.15 pm approx - Fireworks to music. Further details on website nearer the time *PLEASE KEEP PETS INDOORS DURING FIREWORKS*
15th Aug	<u>ASSUMPTION of OUR LADY - Patronal Festival</u> 9.30 am – Parish Mass
30th Aug	Pilgrimage of Healing and Renewal at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. Please see website for further details.

FRIDAY 13th AUGUST

Patronal Festival

7.00pm Sung Mass, Blessing of Beer, Procession & Benediction

Celebrant & Preacher:
The Rt Revd Norman Banks, Bishop of Richborough

9.00 pm

BBQ, Beer Tent (wine & soft drinks also available)

9.15 pm approx.

Fireworks to music
BUCKETS FOR DONATIONS

11th September

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust

Ride and Stride Day

Cyclists, walkers, horse riders and motorists can be sponsored for visits to churches. Half sponsor money to SHCT & half to the church of your choice.

Forms from Andi Elstone.

More details in Sept Newsletter

Father Philip writes...

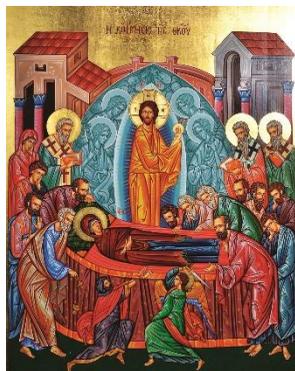
Our beer label for this year's Summer Festival Weekend (13th – 15th August) is copied from the gate in the Lady Chapel

given in memory of John Herron. AMR under a crown. Ave Maria Regina – the Latin for 'Hail Mary, Queen'. St John, in the Book of Revelation, writes:

"A great sign appeared in Heaven – a woman clothed with the sun and the moon under her feet – and on her head a crown of 12 stars." Revelation 12 v 1



These words apply to the Church and to Mary, who is a sign of the Church. We must not think of her in isolation but close to Jesus. It is generally believed that Mary died but that like Elijah in the Old Testament, she shared bodily in Christ's Resurrection by being assumed into Heaven after death. Her body is no longer mortal, subject to the limits of space and time. It is glorified and immortal – a sign of what lies in store for all who are saved by the grace of Jesus Christ.



The Assumption may be compared with the resurrection of the body which St Paul describes in 1 Thessalonians 4 v 7, speaking of those who will be alive at the end of time. They will, he says, ***"be caught up in the clouds together... to meet in the air, and... will be with the Lord forever."*** Of course this language is symbolic, as any language must be in dealing with such a mystery, but it expresses reality. Mary has experienced fully what we will all experience at the end of time.

Mary is Queen of Heaven. This means Our Lady is greater in dignity than all the angels and saints. The story begun at Nazareth had for her reached its climax. To many it had ended with the Cross, but for her it is an ending in glory.

Thoughts on 2 Corinthians 8 v 1-9 & 2 Corinthians 9 v 6-11

Owing to Covid-19 we have had no fundraising events for nearly 2 years and St Mary's Mendlesham is always in need of money. We were the only parish in the old Stowmarket Deanery which did not manage to pay our share of the diocesan quota and we have not been able to start to raise funds to replace the lead on the Nave roof which is leaking.

In the Bible passages cited above St Paul is asking for money as he takes up a collection for the nearly bankrupt Jerusalem Church. He points to the example of the Macedonian Christians who showed phenomenal generosity despite their own financial problems. *“God loves a cheerful giver.”* Our giving acknowledges that our wealth is a gift and not something to be hoarded for our own benefit. It symbolises the work we do and enables us to share in the mission of our church. Above all it demonstrates our faith in God’s continuing generosity to us. Our festival will be our first opportunity for months to contribute to the work of St Mary’s. Everything we own today will some day belong to someone else, but our relationship with the Lord which we have shaped over a lifetime remains with us through life, death and into eternity.

Bishop Mike Harrison, Bishop of Dunwich, in a sermon here on Giving told this story which sadly reflects many people’s attitude to giving. He said it was so easy to leave responsibility to someone else:

“A man and woman had marital difficulties. They came to see the local Vicar. After a while it became apparent to the Vicar that the man’s wife needed cheering and affirming, so he came round from his desk and without saying anything hugged the wife. He then resumed his seat and turning to the husband said, “Now that’s what your wife needs at least 3 times a week.” ... The man paused for a thought and said, “All right, Vicar; I’ll bring her here Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays!”



We can easily be blind to our own responsibilities. There is sometimes an assumption that things will carry on as they are, whether we give or not, and this is not the case. **Please give generously.**

FROM THE PARISH
REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM (adult)

11th July 2021

HARRY JAMES ELSTONE
MAX CHARLES MORGAN-
LUCAS

FR TIMOTHY VAN
CARRAPIETT

was Honorary Assistant
Priest here for many years
and a good friend to many.
He died on 5th July.

I shall offer a Requiem Mass
in St Mary’s on Friday 30th
July at 10.30 am.