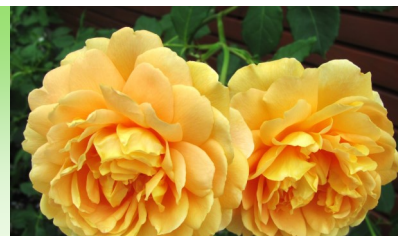




# St Mary's Northchurch Newsletter



Parish Room Bookings:  
Emily Millar  
Mobile: 07929934367

## September 2021

Church enquiries to:  
Revd Jonathan Gordon  
01442 871547  
[revjagordon@googlemail.com](mailto:revjagordon@googlemail.com)

## Fundraising page launched for Afghan arrivals in Hertfordshire

Residents in Hertfordshire are being encouraged to make a donation to an appeal in support of Afghan families arriving in the county.

"Hertfordshire helps Afghan arrivals and refugees" has been set up on the fundraising site JustGiving, by Hertfordshire Community Foundation (on behalf of a much wider local voluntary and public sector response co-ordinated by Hertfordshire County Council).

All the money raised will go to support Afghans staying in Hertfordshire temporarily and in the longer term. It will be used to support the local voluntary sector as it pulls together to provide a broad range of support from essential items to longer term employability skills, language skills, family support and community integration.

To donate to the appeal, go to [www.justgiving.com/campaign/hertsrefugee](https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/hertsrefugee) or click on the link below.

[Hertfordshire helps Afghan arrivals and refugees - JustGiving](https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/hertsrefugee)

Please visit our website [www.stmarysnorthchurch.org.uk](http://www.stmarysnorthchurch.org.uk)

# **Bike 'n Hike 2021 - 11 September**

Bike 'n Hike is our main annual fundraising event. As well as being a great day out, by getting people to sponsor you, you raise essential funds to help repair local churches and chapels which are such important places for their communities.

Each church that is involved keeps half of the funds raised by its supporters, while the remainder plus gift aid is given out by the Trust as grants to help maintain these historic buildings.

Last year's event was an outstanding success, raising over £112,800 thanks to bikers, hikers, supporters and organisers, despite Covid restrictions.

Anyone can take part – you don't have to be a church goer. Other transport such as mobility scooter, car or horse is welcome. Find out more below or contact [bikenhike@bedshertshct.org.uk](mailto:bikenhike@bedshertshct.org.uk) or Tel:01767 312966

If you would like to sponsor Evelyn Hodgson from St Mary's Church, you can click on the link below:

## **The Berkhamsted Walk Sunday 19th September 2021**

Whilst it has been a disappointing year for events and fundraising, we are delighted to announce that we will be putting on a smaller version of the Berkhamsted Walk on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2021!

The walk will be slightly different to our normal event – there will be one 12-mile route, but you will be able to walk as little or as much of it as you like – and join the route wherever suits you best. As usual, the route will be marked, and we will be providing maps – we are also aiming to have one checkpoint available. For more information and to register, please visit [www.berkhamstedwalk.com](http://www.berkhamstedwalk.com).

To find out more about The Children's Society's work, take a look at their website: [www.childrenssociety.org.uk](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk)



"PHAKAMISA" is pronounced "PA-GA-MEE-SA" and means "TO LIFT UP, TO MAKE GROW"

## News from South Africa

Dear Friends,

Classes have begun at Phakamisa again.



The grannies in the sewing class have been making aprons.

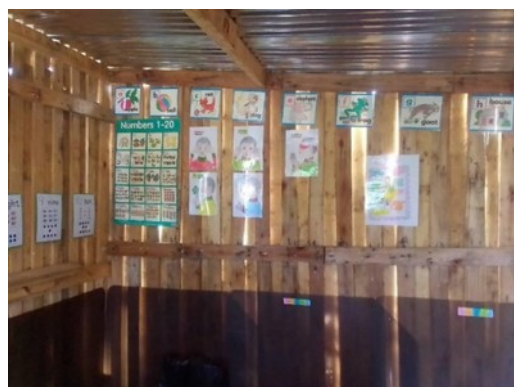
In cookery they have been making cookies.

In the gardens the butternut squash are ready for picking.



The feeding scheme has been reintroduced for the Wandering Schools. The teachers were worried that the children were coming to school having had no food. Porridge is prepared and sent out twice a week in warming bags to the wandering

schools, who have no electricity or equipment to prepare it on site. On two other days bread is being provided by Westville Pre-Primary School for the wandering schools.



Last year, during lockdown, the Inanda Wandering School building was vandalized. Many children around this area were left with no school to go to. We are very pleased with the new school we have been

able to build.

Since Zethu was appointed as Director, a gap was left in the Administrative Support role that she previously occupied. This has now been filled by Qondi, who joined Phakamisa initially as a volunteer. Her background is in social work, and she has been acting as a part-time Monitor as well as providing administrative support in other areas.

Thank you for your continued support through this year. God bless you all.

### **News from the UK Trust**

The life of Thokozani was celebrated on July 24<sup>th</sup> 2021. There was a Thanksgiving Service at 11am at Christ Church, Long Eaton.

Two of the UK Trustees are undertaking challenges to raise money for Phakamisa this summer. Jonathan Gordon is cycling from John O’Groats to Land’s End (having previously cycled Land’s End to John O’Groats 10 years ago!).

Robert Mawer is undertaking the “Coast to Coast Walk” from the west coast of Cumbria to the East coast of North Yorkshire - just over 180 miles from start to finish.

You can support them by searching ‘Phakamisa’ or their names on [virginmoneygiving.com](https://virginmoneygiving.com)

### **There are some other ways you can raise money for Phakamisa.**

Virgin Money Giving have partnered with Ziffit.com – a free app and website, where you can sell your unwanted books, CDs, DVDs, Blu-rays and games and choose to donate their value to Phakamisa.

You can also provide ongoing support for Phakamisa, at no cost to you, by doing your Amazon shopping through [www.smile.amazon.co.uk](https://www.smile.amazon.co.uk) and nominating Phakamisa as your chosen charity.

Phakamisa receives 0.5% of each eligible purchase at no extra cost to you.

Thanks again for all your support – it makes a real difference

June 2021

### **Update:**

Duncan raised over £900 for Phakamisa and with Gift Aid it may even be over £1,000.





# PARISH PANTRY @ St Mary's



## Food needs for September

**The following items are in short supply as we meet the needs of our community through September.  
Can you help, please?**

### NON-FOOD

Bleach  
Surface Cleaner  
Antibacterial cleaner/wipes  
Washing up liquid  
Disinfectant  
Toilet Rolls—4-packs  
Soap powder/pods  
Toothpaste  
Toothbrushes  
Baby food/nappies

### FOOD

UHT Milk  
Cereals  
Tinned meats/pies  
Tinned vegetables  
Tinned fruit  
Tinned/packet soup  
Stock pots/cubes  
Tinned Rice Pudding  
Coffee/Tea  
Pasta sauces  
Powdered potato

**The donation box can be found on the table just inside the side door of the church.**

**The Coronavirus has changed our country and our church in ways we could have never anticipated.**

**The Church of England, being present in every community, is well placed to lead and co-ordinate efforts to help those who find themselves in need.  
2021 will be a time of adaptation and innovation for the church and we all need to be part of it.**

**“For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat”  
Matthew 25:35 NIV**



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Hello from **everyone at St Mary's Northchurch** and **we do hope that everyone is safe and well.** Please do remember that we are here to help and support our community. If you or anyone you know is experiencing difficulties during this time, please do get in touch. St Mary's Church runs one of the Northchurch Community Pantry venues and is open daily for donations or if you need help.

- ✂ Our Sunday morning service is at 10am every Sunday morning.
- ✂ Every evening at 10pm, we have a short Night Prayer (Compline) service on Facebook.

Look at our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/stmarynorthchurch> for these services and for more information.

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**Contacts for the Newsletter: Currently we are only able to publish online.**

Editorial by email to the Editor, Jill Hipson [Jill.hipson@live.co.uk](mailto:Jill.hipson@live.co.uk).  
Copy date is 25th of each month.



**Please visit our website [www.stmarysnorthchurch.org.uk](http://www.stmarysnorthchurch.org.uk)**



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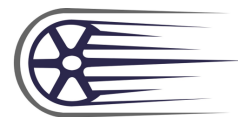
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No words to pray



## A candle prayer

God,  
Wherever you are,  
I have no words to pray.  
I am in the darkness,  
Aching,  
Lost,  
In pain.

As I light my candle,  
I reach out to you,  
For my family and friends,  
For the world around me,  
For myself.  
Give me strength  
To face another day.  
Shine your light into my  
dark places  
And help me to know  
I am not alone.

Amen

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