



Notices Sheet - 21st September 2025

Notices

This weekend's Bible readings: Habakkuk 3:16-19 (p 947) John 6:5-14 (p 1069)

Farewell to John and Basma 28th September: We will mark John and Basma's last Sunday with us by holding a Songs of Praise service at St Mary's at 4pm on 28th September, followed by refreshments in church. We hope that as many of the church family and people in our community will join this time of worship and socialising so do spread the word! If anyone can offer to provide a cake for the tea after the Songs of Praise service that would be much appreciated. Please speak to Steph Beeston or Marion Smith or just bring it on the day! It is helpful if cakes are cut into portions and an important reminder not to bring anything that contains nuts. Thank you.

Harvest appeal: This Sunday is our harvest service in All Saints, Tuesday will be Sacombe's harvest service and next week we will have our harvest family service in St Mary's. Our harvest appeal will once again be for our missionary partners, the Ellis and McGoldrick families. In All Saints, the collection this Sunday will be for the appeal, as will the one in St Catherine's on Tuesday. In St Mary's there will be special appeal envelopes for your gifts. Alternatively, you can support the appeal by making a transfer to any of the usual PCC bank accounts, using the reference 'harvest'.

Midweek Music 24th September: This month's Midweek Music recital will feature our own Margaret Goodall, with Michael Smith. As usual, refreshments will be available from 11.30, with the concert at 12.30. Donations will go to all three of our benefice churches. Please join us if you can.

FOSM Candlelit Dinner 26th September: The Friends of St Mary's will be hosting a candlelit three course dinner in St Mary's on Friday at 7.30 pm, with live music and seasonal readings between courses. There are still some tickets available at £30 from Diana 07718 734897, but please let her know quickly!

Appeal from Church Café: The café runs every Wednesday in term time from 3pm - 4.30 pm in All Saints Church. The team who are on the rota arrive at 2.30pm to set up the cafe area with cakes and drinks, and also set the tables in the church with activities, toys etc. The team is very short of volunteers this term. Please consider giving up an occasional Wednesday afternoon to help with this "Blessing of Outreach" we have been given from God. If you can help in anyway at all (including making cakes occasionally) please speak to Carole H Lizzie B or Deborah O. It really is a wonderful place to be, with time to mix with the children, parents & carers from the school. The atmosphere is amazing and relationships are growing.

Standon Sing concert Autumn Leaves: Our local community choir rehearses each week in St Mary's, and has, for the last few years, performed with our benefice choir and the Rib Singers at Christmas. They will be performing a concert with the Rib Singers in St Mary's on 11th October at 7.00 pm. The concert is free, with a retiring collection for FOSM, who will also provide the bar. All are welcome.

Rutter Birthday Concert 1st November, 6.30 pm: On 1st November there will be a concert organised by Michael and involving our benefice choir to celebrate John Rutter's 80th birthday. More details will follow, but please save the date.

Knife Angel in Hertfordshire: The Knife Angel is a 27-foot-tall, figure, crafted from over 100,000 confiscated knives and blades, a striking piece of art and a poignant reminder of the devastating impact of violent crime. It will be in Welwyn Garden City throughout October, when Herts Police will host community engagements, focusing on knife crime and violence, and its prevention. Please pray for this enterprise.

Services for the next few weeks:

Midweek services each week:

Tuesdays, 9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) & Bible study	St Catherine's
Wednesdays, 9.30 am	Morning worship & Bible study	St Mary's

Sunday services:

21 st September	8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
	10.30 am	Holy Communion for Harvest	All Saints
28 th September	10.30 am	Harvest All age worship	St Mary's
	4.00 pm	Songs of Praise	St Mary's
5 th October	8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
	10.30 am	Morning worship	All Saints
12 th October	10.30 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
19 th October	8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
	10.30 am	Holy Communion	All Saints

Dates & meetings coming up:

24 th September, from 11.30	Midweek Music	St Mary's
24 th September, 7.15 pm	PCC meetings	St Catherine's
25 th September, 9.00 am	Roger de Clare harvest service	St Mary's
26 th September, 11.30 am	Organ tuners in church	St Mary's
26 th September, 7.30 pm	FOSM Candlelit Dinner	St Mary's
1 st October, 2.15 pm	Libury Hall service	Libury Hall
11 th October, 7.00 pm	Autumn Leaves concert	St Mary's

Prayers:

On this sheet, we suggest focus areas for prayer, but please continue to pray for the work of our churches and missionary partners around the world (at www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7825/page/77358/view).

Church family news:

- Ann Smith is in the Lister undergoing tests. She has her phone and is grateful for contact with the church family. Please pray for Ann, and for Arthur.
- A number of our church family have contracted Covid. Please pray for speedy recoveries.
- Pray for all who are unwell in any way.

Pray for our community

In our cycle of prayers, this weekend we ask you to include in your prayers:

- all who are victims of knife crime and other violent attacks
- those who use violence on others, for whatever reason, that they will find another way to live
- those who work with violent offenders, to and help them deal with underlying causes and recalibrate

Pray for our outreach, our service and our churches

This week we ask you to include in your prayers:

- Roger de Clare School, as it comes to St Mary's this week for its harvest service
- our café helpers; pray for more people to step forward to help
- our PCC discussions this week, including the steps necessary as we go into vacancy
- discussions this week with a possible partner about the future of our children's and youth work
- Little Angels, where we welcomed several new children with their carers this week

Pray for our mission partners

In our cycle of prayers for our mission partners, this week we ask you to remember the work of David and Marlene Fry. *David and Marlene work in Austria for OM*. More information about our partners can be found on our website.

The Fry Family send their thanks for precious care, support, giving and prayer, and ask prayer for:

- the outcome of the Biblica International Prayer Conference in Switzerland, grateful for this strong partnership
- the book "The Gracious Father", a very good foundation for conversations with Muslims
- particular staff needed, and future infrastructure needs with necessary changes
- David and Marlene travelling to Sofia this month for a conference for European ministries among diaspora groups
- family life with exams for Johanna and continuing Achilles tendon pain for Marlene

As we celebrate harvest and appeal for funds for the Ellis and McGoldrick families, please also pray for them and their work.

If you are aware of anyone who would like our prayers, or who would like the church family to share in some news, good or bad, please let Caroline know (caroline@ubsms.org.uk).

Regular notices

Groups in the Benefice

Mondays (2nd & 4th of month), 2.30pm: Reflections Bible study group at All Saints: contact Deborah

Tuesdays, 2:00pm (ad hoc): Benefice Group for World Mission prayer: contact Peter A.

Wednesdays, 2.30pm (2nd Wednesday of the month)

7.00pm (4th Wednesdays): Small Group Marthas & Marys: contact Marion

Wednesdays (term time only): Children's and Young people's Bible clubs at All Saints: contact Deborah.

3.15 pm Primary aged children

5.30 pm Young people in school years 5-9 (monthly on second Wednesday of the month)

Thursday (3rd of each month), 2.00 – 4.00 pm: New Seasons support group: contact Heather

Thursdays, 7.00pm (term time only): Benefice choir practice: contact Michael (music@ubsms.org.uk)

Fridays 9.30 am (term time only): Little Angels for toddlers and their carers at St Mary's:

contact Cate (littleangels@ubsms.org.uk)

Please Continue to Support our Churches

You can make a donation directly to any of our churches, or you can send donations to any of our treasurers. Bank details are displayed in our churches and on the website.

Contacts:

Rector:	John Chitham	rector@ubsms.org.uk	01920 739483 (Vicarage) 07495 504433 (Mobile)
Administrator:	Rebecca Legg	benefice.administrator@ubsms.org.uk	07976 700902
Safeguarding:	Lizzy Franks	safeguarding@ubsms.org.uk	01920 822723
Our website:	https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7825/benefice or https://ubsms.org.uk/		
Notices:	Caroline Franks	caroline@ubsms.org.uk	