

*Our Benefice church family is welcoming and inclusive to all.
We aim to reach and serve our communities and work lovingly in friendship and partnership. Together, we 'travel with' our Lord faithfully and sacramentally.*

THE WEEK AHEAD

SATURDAY 1st November

09.00 Prayer meeting via Zoom

SUNDAY 2nd (All Saints)

09.30 Festival Eucharist, **Great Bealings**

11.00 Festival Eucharist, **Woodbridge**,
with Bishop Graeme Knowles presiding
and preaching

TUESDAY 4th

10.00 – 14.30 Poppy's Pantry, **SMH**

12.00 Funeral for Ruth Smith, **St Mary's**,
Great Bealings

17.00 Christian Meditation, **SMH**

19.00 New Learners' bellringing,
followed by Bellringers' Practice

19.00 Practical Mysticism course
recommences, **SMH**

WEDNESDAY 5th

18.00 Friends' Committee Meeting,
Seckford Room

THURSDAY 6th (William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury)

10.00 Said Eucharist (readings of the day,
not 'All Souls'), **Woodbridge**

18.15 Choir rehearsal, **SMH**

19.30 All Souls' Sung Benefice Eucharist,
St Mary's, Woodbridge, followed by
refreshments in church

SATURDAY 8th November

09.30-12.30 Heritage Morning, **St Marys**,
Woodbridge (see below*)

SUNDAY 9th (Remembrance)

09.30 Said Benefice Eucharist,
Woodbridge, followed by coffee in the
hall (served by our Guides)

10.40 Service at the War Memorial,
followed by coffee in church, **Great
Bealings**

10.50 Town Act of Remembrance, led by
Fr Nigel, **Market Hill**

TODAY'S Readings Sunday 2nd November All Saints

Daniel 7. 1-3, 15-18
(Resp Psalm 149)
Ephesians 1. 11-end
Luke 6. 20-31

Readings for NEXT WEEK Sunday 9th November Remembrance

Job 19. 23-27
Luke 20. 27-38

NOTICES

CHURCH COLLECTIONS / DONATIONS - We no longer take a collection during services, but regular giving remains vital to running St Mary's, Woodbridge. **Please support us through regular giving via the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)** which is by far the best method – you can scan the QR code to the right, or [click here](#). Alternatively, by placing a donation (ideally in a Gift Aid envelope) in the plate at the back; or by using our contactless donation station. Thank you for your generosity. Please contact the Treasurer (Alison), Giving Steward (Sarah) or one of the Churchwardens (David or Michelle) if you require assistance.



CHURCHYARD BOUNDARY WALL - A Faculty has now been issued, dated 19th October, for these restoration and repair works to go ahead - praise the Lord! The works supervised by architect Richard Vest, have to be completed within the next 24 months.

* **'HERITAGE MORNING' & 'GIFT DAY'** (Woodbridge - for our 'Heating Appeal') will take place **NEXT Saturday 8th November**, from **9.30am to 12.30pm** at **St Mary's, Woodbridge**. It will include the opportunity to experience a mini church tour, led by one of our patrons, Canon Roy Tricker BEM, visit the bellringing chamber, hear the organ played and find out how it works, view the Church Recorders' 5-volume beautifully illustrated record, and much more. There will be children's activities, and refreshments available throughout the morning. See [our website](#) for more information.

Please help 'spread the word' about this important event, by passing on this newsletter, the poster, the flyers... or by sharing our [Facebook page](#) posts... and simply by talking to people!

Thank you for all the flyer deliveries so far - Let's clear the last few piles promptly! Thank you for the planning of different features. Thank you for the offers of cakes and of being present on the day - more of both would be very welcome.

The church will be prepared for the event on Friday, from 2.30 pm. There will be a range of tasks, only some of which will be strenuous. Please let us know if you can help then, and/or are able to clear up on Saturday, from 12.30pm.

OUR CHRISTMAS MARKET is coming very soon, on **Saturday 29th November** in **St Mary's, Woodbridge, from 3pm to 5pm**. Raffle tickets are widely available to buy, and boxes for donations will appear next Sunday (9th November).

OUR DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, James Davy, (as announced officially last Sunday) is to become the next Organist and Assistant Director of Music at Ipswich Minster in the New Year (date to be advised). This will of course leave a huge gap to fill for a new Choir Director, so please keep in your prayers, and make it more fully known... in the music circles you are part of?

BUILDING & HEATING FUND DONATIONS - One of our Appeal Patrons, Suffolk artist Maggi Hambling CBE, is to offer us a painting to either auction or raffle to help our building and heating funds. It is hoped to display a picture at our Heritage morning to whet our appetites and to see how we might best decide how we might raise the biggest sum from this most generous offer.

P.S. Some people have asked if they can give and gift aid anonymously to our Gift Day. Please just have a confidential word with our PCC Treasurer, Alison Davis. We can certainly keep donations anonymous, but the Treasurer will need some information from you in order that we can claim gift aid (where applicable), and thereby increase the value of your generous donations. Many thanks.

CAN YOU HELP? Our lovely cleaning lady, Linda, has been working here for 27 years (!!), and will be retiring at the end of the year. Most people may never have seen her, as she comes in early in the morning, but we couldn't do without her! We ask that anyone who would like to donate towards a retirement gift for Linda, please see Michelle or Barbara.

Secondly, do you know of anyone who might be interested in 4-6 hours work per week (mainly in St Mary's House), as we would like to appoint a replacement cleaner to take over in the new year? Again, please have a word with Michelle or Barbara. Thank you.

NEXT PCC MEETING (WOODBIDGE) is on **Tuesday 11th November** at **7pm** in the hall in **St Mary's House**.

ST MARY'S SHOP - Advent calendars are now on sale in the Shop, as are a good selection of Christmas cards, with our own being printed as you read this! If you are doing a bit of early Christmas shopping we've got plenty of gift ideas too! If someone on your 'gift list' is keen on cricket **DON'T GIVE THEM SOCKS OR TOILETRIES THIS CHRISTMAS**. The church shop has been given 8 copies of 'The Final Test' by Huw Turbervill (local lad). £15 each (full price £20) **with every penny going to the Church Heating Fund**.

RIDE 'N' STRIDE - This year's Ride and Stride final total (Woodbridge) is £1,048 + gift aid £189. A big thank you to all who contributed in any way, especially Samson and Jonas Grist who got drenched on the day, but inspired a surge in support. That means we will get £524 back towards parish expenses in due course.

MOTHERS' UNION will be holding their next meeting on **Thursday 13th November** at **2.15pm** in **SMH**. A time of Reflection and Prayer on '16 Days of Activism' against Gender-Based Violence. All are welcome - also the MUe Stall selling Christmas Cards, Diaries for 2026, and other MU goods will be with us. Refreshments available.

ITALIAN ADVENT LUNCH – On **Sunday 7th December** at **12.30pm** in **St Mary's House**, in aid of our Building Project Appeal (including Heating). Tickets available from the Church Shop are £25 per person (to include a free glass of Prosecco) for a 3-course meal from Chef Sophie-Rose. Menu will include a trio of crostini, chicken cacciatore, & a choice of orange polenta cake or affogato with a chocolate biscotti. Breads kindly donated by the new 'Acre Bakery' on Market Hill.

AMONG YOUR PRAYERS

(*Intercessors*, please [click here](#) for the Diocesan Prayer Diary)

- Today we give thanks for the Saints of every age who continue to teach us and guide us in the ways of faith, courage and inspiration...
- For acting Bishop Graeme, and the continuing mission and growth of our Parishes and people in this Diocese; give thanks for the prayers of St Edmund and our beloved Mary, Mother of God ...
- We pray for our DAC meeting this week and all advising us on our new Eco heating proposals; for our Amenity societies and Oliver Riley, our consultant mechanical heating engineer. For Nick and our 'Friends', all seeking funding and grants at this time.
- For the fragile ceasefire in Gaza and the desire for peace talks between Ukraine and Russia. For an end to the civil war in Sudan...
- For those countries recently affected by hurricanes and homelessness and for all international relief efforts...

We pray for the sick, especially those known to us: Penny Bird, and Betty Richardson; for Janice Poulson, and all awaiting surgery at this time.

For the recently departed. Among them we pray for the souls of Nicola Nolan, Ruth Smith, Ronald Corneby, and Gregory Warden. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

COLLECT FOR THIS WEEK

God of holiness,
your glory is proclaimed in every age:
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,
inspire us to follow their example
with boldness and joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
AMEN

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God, the source of all holiness and
giver of all good things:
may we who have shared at this table
as strangers and pilgrims here on
earth
be welcomed with all your saints
to the heavenly feast on the day of
your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
AMEN

Please contact the Benefice Office for all Baptism, Wedding and Funeral enquiries, and enquiries regarding bookings for the church or St Mary's House, on 01394 388820 or parish.office@stmaryswoodbridge.org

Usual Benefice Office Opening Hours are Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9am to 12.30pm, and Thursdays & Fridays 9am to 4pm.

www.stmaryswoodbridge.org

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