



Notices Sheet - 19th October 2025

Notices

This weekend, we welcome Rev Robert Riley-Braley, who will preside at our 8.00 service in St Mary's. Our 10.30 service will be Public Worship with Communion by Extension, led by Caroline.

This weekend's Bible readings: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 (p 1197) Luke 18:1-8 (p 1052)

Vacancy update: On Wednesday last week, we had an informative meeting with our PCCs and other leaders, our three patrons, the Area Dean Designate and Archdeacon Janet. The recruitment process for a new Rector was outlined and we spent some time considering the challenges and opportunities facing whoever God is preparing to join us.

A group have been working to prepare the profile which is the document prospective applicants will see to tell them more about our benefice and the Rector we are looking for. The profile will be completed and approved by mid November and we plan to advertise the post in early January.

In the meantime, if you would like to contribute to the process, please consider these two questions:

- 1) What do you value about the churches' presence in this benefice?
- 2) What qualities would you look for in our new Rector?

Any responses you are happy to share should be sent as brief bullet points to Marion Smith, who is coordinating the group preparing the profile: marionsmith1456@gmail.com. Responses should be with her by Sunday 26th October at the latest.

Please speak to any of our wardens or to Michael Smith if you have any questions. Your prayers are most vital in this process. Thank you.

Contacts during the vacancy: While we have no Rector, if you have any queries or concerns, please speak to any of our church wardens (it doesn't matter of which church). If you know of someone who needs a visit, please liaise with Jacqui. We do have access to clergy who will help if needed, so please don't be put off raising a concern.

Midweek Music Wednesday 22nd October: On Wednesday October, we will be entertained by our local musicians, Hugh Legg, Rebecca Watts and Michael Smith with voice, harp and piano in an exciting programme of music from the world of film and musicals. Refreshments are served from 11.30am and the concert is at 12.30. Do come and bring a friend - and maybe a friend who hasn't been before. Donations made are shared between our three benefice churches.

Feel the Spirit Concert 1st November, 6.30 pm: On 1st November there will be a concert organised by Michael and involving our Benefice Choir and the Harmonaires Choir to celebrate John Rutter's 80th birthday and Bob Chilcott's 70th. There is no charge, but a retiring collection will go to Youth Music.

Service of Memories 2nd November: This service will be held on 2nd November at 3.00 pm in St Mary's. There will be an opportunity to remember loved ones, and to light a candle if you would like to do that. All are welcome, so please tell friends and neighbours.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal: This year marks 30 years since Lizzy was first involved in the OCC shoebox appeal! She is now filling the shoeboxes she has collected during the year, ready to send to children in areas affected by war, natural disaster, or some other catastrophe. The boxes will be collected around mid-November. There are three ways you can help:

- Fill a shoebox with gifts (ask Lizzy for the list of what's allowed and not allowed) and leave it in St Mary's or give it to Lizzy or Caroline.
- Contribute gifts to be packed - things Lizzy is always short of are small toys and games, little treats for teenage girls (eg hair accessories, eye shadow, keyrings) and small toys for toddlers.
- Donate money so that Lizzy can use it to buy things she is missing for boxes, or to pay for the travel costs. Cash can be given to Lizzy or Caroline, or you can transfer it to the Standon PCC bank account (details on our website, or from Caroline) with the reference "OCC".

Thank you in advance for your support - every box filled is another child who will know someone cares this Christmas.

The Real Advent Calendar: Please preorder these from Marion asap if you would like one of these Fairtrade Advent calendars, which come with a little book of the Christmas Story. They are no longer stocked in supermarkets. She needs 18 orders to get a price of £5.50 each and the profits will go to the local Food Bank.

Remembrance services this year: We haven't been able to find cover for our Little Munden service this Remembrance Sunday, so there will only be one service on 9th November. However, we will be holding a special service at St Catherine's on Tuesday 11th, with participation from the Little Munden School Choir. This service will include an Act of Remembrance by the war memorial at 11.00. As with all our services, all are welcome.

Concert for Remembrance 9th November, 3.00 pm in St Mary's: The Priory Singers will perform a concert of music and readings for Remembrance on Sunday 9th November in St Mary's at 3.00 pm. The concert is free, with a retiring collection. All are welcome.

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:

19 th October	8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
	10.30 am	Public worship with Communion by extension	All Saints
	10.30 am	All age worship	St Mary's
26 th October	6.00 pm	Choral evensong	St Mary's
	8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
2 nd November	10.30 am	Morning worship	All Saints
	10.30 am	Remembrance service	St Mary's
9 th November	8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
16 th November	10.30 am	Holy Communion	All Saints
	10.30 am	All age worship	St Mary's
23 rd November	10.30 am	All age worship	St Mary's

Please note there will be no service of Choral evensong on 23rd November, but our Advent service of music and readings will take place at 6.00 pm on 30th November in St Mary's.

Dates & meetings coming up:

22 nd October, 12.30 pm	Midweek Music	St Mary's
29 th October, 5.00 pm	Benefice Finance Committee meeting	The Old Top Shop
1 st November, 6.30 pm	Feel the Spirit concert	St Mary's
2 nd November, 3.00 pm	Service of memories	St Mary's
9 th November, 3.00 pm	Concert for Remembrance	St Mary's
12 th November, 2.15 pm	Libury Hall service	Libury Hall
12 th November, 7.30 pm	PCC meetings	All Saints
14 th November, 12.00	Funeral of Jean Aldridge	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:

- Please continue to pray for those who have been listed in this sheet in recent weeks.
- Please pray for all who are feeling unwell or just a bit under the weather.
- Pray for all who are in pain in any way.
- Please pray for those who grieve, particularly remembering the family of Jean Aldridge

Pray for our community

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

- all who are visiting our local surgery or pharmacies for important vaccinations against flu and Covid
- our health care professionals, looking after our well-being with dedication and professionalism
- all who work for our local pharmaceutical companies, vital to the development of new treatments

Pray for our outreach, our service and our churches

This week we ask you to include in your prayers:

- the team working on our benefice profile, to be provided to clergy interested in our vacancy
- the people working on other aspects of getting ready to advertise for our new Rector
- those working on the continuation of our mission and ministry while we wait for a new incumbent

Pray for our mission partners

The latest Tearfund update on Israel/Hamas ceasefire requests prayer for:

- peace: lasting ceasefire leading to a real desire for permanent peace on all sides
- safety: for all civilians and humanitarian aid workers
- strength: particularly for faith leaders and community leaders
- hope: for the bereaved, the injured, the hungry, the fearful, those left homeless and/or alone
- healing: for those left traumatised physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually

Please continue also to pray for our own mission partners. More information about all of our mission partners can be found on our website.

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: Until a new Rector is appointed, please direct any enquiries to our benefice administrator.

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