



Notices Sheet - 26th October 2025

Notices

This weekend's Bible reading: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 (p 1197)

Choral evensong this evening: During this time of vacancy, it's particularly important for us to meet together, to worship and to stay close to each other and God. Come and join us this Sunday for our regular service of Choral Evensong, an ancient and contemplative service of words and music.

Vacancy update: 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 by the end of this weekend to Marion Smith: marionsmith1456@gmail.com.

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.

Feel the Spirit Concert 1st November, 6.30 pm: Next Saturday, 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 of Lizzy's involvement in the OCC shoebox appeal! She is now filling shoeboxes, ready to send to children in areas affected by war, natural disaster, or other catastrophe. They will be collected in 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).
- Contribute gifts to be packed - small toys and games, little treats for teenage girls etc.
- Donate money so that Lizzy can use it to buy things, or to pay for the travel costs.

Thank you 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: 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 Mundens 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.

Diocesan Vacancies: The Diocese is advertising a number of administrative jobs again. Details are available on the Diocesan website.

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.

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:

6 th October	10.30 am	All age worship	St Mary's
	6.00 pm	Choral evensong	St Mary's
2 nd November	8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
	10.30 am	Morning worship	All Saints
9 th November	10.30 am	Remembrance service	St Mary's
16 th November	8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
	10.30 am	Holy Communion	All Saints
23 rd November	10.30 am	All age worship	St Mary's
30 th November	10.30 am	Morning worship	St Catherine'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:

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
26 th November, 12.30 pm	Midweek Music	St Mary's
29 th November, 10.30 am	Coffee morning & sale	St Catherine'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 pray for Alison, who will undergo surgery on Thursday and will be in hospital for about 5 days. She and Stuart are feeling 'a little daunted'.
- Ann is progressing, albeit slowly; please pray for her recovery.
- Please continue to pray for those who have been listed in this sheet in recent weeks.
- Please pray for all who are feeling in pain, unwell or just a bit under the weather.
- 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:

- prison officers, police, enforcement agency personnel and others who deal with difficult situations
- those who feel trapped in a cycle of self harm and crime
- those who work with ex-offenders as they try to rebuild their lives

Pray for our outreach, our service and our churches

This week we ask you to include in your prayers:

- our treasurers and finance committee as they meet this week to discuss the 2026 budget
- our discussions about youth work, as our prospective partner will not be joining us after all
- Caroline and all our visiting clergy as they support our worship until our new Rector joins us

Pray for our mission partners

In our cycle of prayers for our mission partners, this week we ask you to remember the work of Stephen and Catherine McGoldrick. *Catherine and Stephen are working for church growth in Burundi and Central Africa.*

More information about all of our mission partners can be found on our website.

Stephen and Catherine are in Arusha Tanzania, preparing for a retreat and training for WEC (World Evangelisation for Christ).

- Stephen asks for our prayers for strength
- Catherine has an infected foot after a wasp sting - in this country
- their eldest son Jacques is recovering from a very high temperature
- pray also for their colleague Zion (from Nigeria) that his visa will be granted

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 Jane

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