



Notices Sheet - 21st December 2025

Notices

Notices over Christmas: There won't be a notices sheet between Christmas and New Year. The next one will be the weekend of 4th January. Please make sure Caroline has any items that need to be included. Meanwhile, we wish everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year.

This weekend's Bible readings: Isaiah 7:10-16 (p 692) Matthew 1:18-end (p 965)

Clergy cover: Rev Tim Weeks is home from hospital but has instructions from his doctors not to overdo it. We are very grateful to Archdeacon Janet, who has stepped in to preside at both of our communion services this weekend. Rev Teresa Wynne has agreed to come to All Saints on Christmas Day. Please continue to pray for Tim.

Carol services: On Sunday evening we will hold our candlelit service of Nine Lessons and Carols in St Mary's at 6.00 pm. On Christmas Eve at 7.30 we will gather in St Catherine's for the candlelit Carol Service there, accompanied by the new organ. All are welcome to either or both of these lovely services of music and readings.

New Seasons: There will be no New Seasons meeting this month. It will resume in the New Year on 15th January in Puckeridge Community Centre at 2pm. Contact Heather on 07909 065550 for more information.

Sunday lunch at The Star: Our next Sunday lunch will be on Sunday 28th December at The Star in Standon at 12.15pm. Please contact Heather if you would like a place 07909 065550.

28th December: We'll be worshipping in Sacombe on 28th December, as is usual on the Sunday after Christmas.

Advent Appeal: This year's Advent appeal is for the Buntingford and Villages Food Hub and Community Support. Our cash collections at all three carol services will go to the appeal. If you would like to give at other times, there are appeal envelopes in our churches, or you can give directly using the usual church bank details. Please mark your online donation 'appeal'. Thank you.

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

Please note that there will be no midweek services on 23rd and 24th, nor on 30th and 31st.

Sunday and Christmas services:

21 st December	8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
	10.30 am	Holy Communion	All Saints
	6.00 pm	Nine lessons and carols	St Mary's
24 th December	3.00 pm	Crib service	All Saints
	5.00 pm	Crib service	St Mary's
	7.30 pm	Candlelit carol service	St Catherine's
	11.30 pm	Midnight communion	St Mary's

25 th December	10.30 am	Christmas Day service with Holy Communion	All Saints
25 th December	10.30 am	Christmas Day service	St Mary's
28 th December	10.30 am	Morning Worship	St Catherine's
4 th January	8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
	10.30 am	Morning worship	All Saints
11 th January	10.30 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's

Please check the list for service times and places in the next week. There are some variations to our usual pattern, to accommodate our Christmas services.

Dates & meetings coming up:

30 th December, 1.30 pm	Funeral of Alan Beaton	St Mary's
12 th January, 2.00 pm	Funeral of Maurice Debnam	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 (details on our website).

Church family news:

- Praise God for those who have received positive health news recently.
- Please pray for Rev Tim Weeks who has been covering services for us and is currently unwell.
- Please continue to pray for those who have been listed in this sheet in recent weeks.
- Please pray for all who are in pain, unwell or just a bit under the weather, and for all who grieve, especially the family and friends of Alan Beaton and Maurice Debnam.

Pray for our community

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

- our local food bank and the team there, fulfilling an important need at this time of year
- all who are suffering from flu or any of the other viruses that are rife in our community
- all who will attend our services this week

Pray for our outreach, our service and our churches

This week we ask you to include in your prayers:

- the team of clergy and others who are supporting our services at this busy time
- all our Christmas services
- all who will be taking part in our services over the next week

Pray for our mission partners

In our cycle of prayers for our mission partners, this week we ask you to pray for the work of David & Marlene Fry in Austria. *David works for Media works, part of OM East & Marlene volunteers at Oasis where she teaches German to refugees.* More information about our partners can be found on our website.

Please pray for:

- David as he prepares to step down from leadership of MediaWorks in 2027, when he reaches retirement age
- the person God has chosen to replace David
- guidance for David to discern what direction God is leading him when he retires
- Marlene as she continues to source goods for the refugees, at a local collection point where the volunteers tend to be very unfriendly
- Johanna, who is having help as she prepares for her A level exams, to reduce her stress levels

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 Lizzie B.

3.15 pm Primary aged children

5.30 pm Young people in school years 5-9 (not meeting this term)

Thursday (2nd of each month), 1.00 – 3.30 pm: Knit & Natter: contact Diane M

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.

Gift aid forms are available from any of our treasurers.

	Standon	Little Munden	Sacombe
Bank	CAF Bank Ltd	NatWest Bank plc	Barclays Bank plc
Account Name	Standon PCC	The Mundens PCC	Sacombe Church PCC B Maintenance account
Account Number	00032168	28599551	90773689
Sort Code	40 52 40	60 10 39	20 20 37
email	treasurer@ubsms.org.uk	Treasurer.lm@ubsms.org.uk	Treasurer.sac@ubsms.org.uk

Contacts:

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. Please note that Rebecca, our administrator, works flexible hours, but she will respond to emails as soon as she can.

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://ubsms.org.uk/>

Notices: Caroline Franks caroline@ubsms.org.uk