

*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 10<sup>th</sup>**

**09.00** Morning Prayer via Zoom

**15.00** Bellringers' Quarter Peal, St Mary's, Woodbridge

### **SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> (The Baptism of Christ)**

**08.00** BCP Eucharist, Woodbridge (Epiphany Chapel)

**10.00** Parish Eucharist, Woodbridge

### **TUESDAY 13<sup>th</sup>**

**10.00 to 14.30** Poppy's Pantry, SMH

**17.00** Christian Meditation, SMH

**19.00** PCC Meeting, SMH

**19.00** New Learners' bellringing, followed by Bellringers' Practice

### **THURSDAY 15<sup>th</sup>**

**10.00** Said Eucharist, Woodbridge, followed by coffee

**18.30** Choir Rehearsal, SMH

### **SATURDAY 17<sup>th</sup>**

**09.00** Morning Prayer via Zoom

**15.00** Bellringers' Quarter Peal, St Mary's, Woodbridge

### **SUNDAY 18<sup>th</sup> (Epiphany 2)**

**08.00** BCP Eucharist, Woodbridge (Epiphany Chapel)

**10.00** Parish Eucharist, Woodbridge

**10.30** Morning Prayer, Great Bealings

**12.30** Interment of ashes, Ruth Smith, Great Bealings

**19.00** 'Churches Together' service, Quay Church, for the start of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. All welcome.

### **TODAY'S Readings**

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January**

The Baptism of Christ

**Isaiah 42. 1-9**

**Matthew 3. 13-end**

### **Readings for NEXT WEEK**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January**

Epiphany 2

**Isaiah 49. 1-7**

**John 1. 29-42**

## NOTICES

**THANKS FROM SUFFOLK REFUGEE SUPPORT** – “I just wanted to pass on the sincere thanks of everyone at Suffolk Refugee Support and the families we work with for the wonderful Christmas gifts. We delivered these to families across Suffolk, in particular those who are more isolated, and they were received with great appreciation and gratitude.” (*Martin Simmonds*)

**CHRISTMAS CARD REUSING / RECYCLING** - Mothers' Union is again collecting all Christmas Cards that you received (fronts only if possible). These will be re-used for cards for Prisoners in Suffolk Prisons. If you can help please leave your card fronts at the back of Church. Thank you.

**PRIZE DRAW TO WIN A PAINTING BY MAGGI HAMBLING!** We are delighted to tell you that at the time of writing) we have raised £12,740 so far.



[Enter here now](#) to be in with a chance of winning it! Tickets are £10 each. The draw will run until **2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026**, with the winner being announced on **5<sup>th</sup> March 2026**. If you are unable to enter online you can purchase tickets from our Church Shop.

Thank you for your generosity, and please ‘share’ the page link: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/maggi-hambling-painting-prize-draw-st-marys> with friends and family, or pass on the QR code.

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC** – A huge welcome to Chris Burn in his new role. He hails from Hollesley, is a great bicycle enthusiast, and commutes to Norwich most days, working for an acoustics company.

**HEATING FUND DONATIONS** (aside from the prize draw) are still coming in. Please use the QR code or [click here](#) to support via our ‘help heat our church’ appeal, or use the Donation Station (choose the Fund you wish to support), or directly to our bank account:

Account Name: PCC of St Mary Woodbridge

Account Number: 00034212

Sort code: 40 52 40



**If by cheque or BACS**, please let our Treasurer or Parish Office know that you would like your donation to go towards a specific Fund (otherwise we won't know). Email: [treasurer@stmaryswoodbridge.org](mailto:treasurer@stmaryswoodbridge.org) or [parish.office@stmaryswoodbridge.org](mailto:parish.office@stmaryswoodbridge.org)  
Thank you.

**2026 SPECIAL EVENTS & SERVICES CALENDAR** – The first draft is now available in both our Churches...it is a work in progress, so please let us know of any edits or additions, for our second draft.

**OUR NEXT PCC MEETING (WOODBIDGE)** is this **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm** in St Mary's House. Now that our 'pre-app' for external heat pumps is being supported by East Suffolk Council, we intend to pursue final detailing for the internal heating grilles and heaters for final DAC approval in February.

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY** begins on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January. To start the week there will be a service at **Woodbridge Quay Church at 7pm on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January**. All are welcome. Our **10am** Said Eucharist in **St Mary's, Woodbridge on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January** will include appropriate readings. Also, followed by coffee as usual.

**THANK YOU FROM JAMES** – “Thank you so much for such a warm and generous farewell last Sunday - it was a heart-warming occasion, despite the sadness in leaving, and I'm very touched by so many kind words: those from Pat Lovett and Fr Nigel were very special indeed. Thank you too for such very generous leaving gifts - I'm deeply grateful. Do please come and visit the Minster sometime.” *(Photo courtesy of James Francis)*



**FEEDING OUR CHURCHYARD BIRDS** - Please would you consider joining the small team of people who keep the bird feeders and water bowls topped up in the churchyard! We're desperate for new people to join the team. If you love birds and live near the church please consider whether you could help. We want to maintain the present rota where people take responsibility for feeding and cleaning for a month at a time. It's critically important at this time of the year and also during hot weather in the summer. If you think you could help please get in touch with Rita James. Thank you.

**THANK YOU TO JACKIE SHIPLEY** for organising another great annual lunch for the Church Shop Volunteers last week.

**BENEFICE PARISH SHARE 2026** – The current annual figures are £69,012.35 for Woodbridge, and £12,178.65 for Great Bealings. This is an 85% and 15% 'share' breakdown, but will change when Great Bealings becomes a 'Festival' Church.

## AMONG YOUR PRAYERS

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

We give thanks for our baptisms, our parents and godparents – all who have nurtured and shaped our Christian believing and belonging, through the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

For the work and witness of the United Nations; our respect for the sovereignty of every nation; for all peacekeepers...

For all affected by the cold weather, our farmers protecting their livestock; our transport and emergency services. For the homeless and all who provide food and shelter...

Among the sick and housebound we pray for Penny Bird... and give thanks for all working in our local care homes; for all our Elders and Chaplains providing sacramental care...

### COLLECT FOR THIS WEEK

Eternal Father,  
who at the baptism of Jesus revealed  
him to be your Son,  
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant to us, who are born again by  
water and the Spirit,  
that we may be faithful to our calling as  
your adopted children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
AMEN

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord God,  
the bright splendour whom the  
nations seek:  
may we who with the wise men have  
been drawn by your light  
discern the glory of your presence in  
your Son,  
the Word made flesh, 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](mailto: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](http://www.stmaryswoodbridge.org)**

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