



“THIS LENT let your door stand open to receive Christ,
unlock your soul to him,
offer him a welcome in your mind,
and then you will see the riches of simplicity,
the treasures of peace, and the joys of grace.” *St Ambrose (adapted)*

FRIDAY 27th (George Herbert, priest, poet, 1633)

18.00 Stations of the Cross, **St Mary’s, Woodbridge**. All welcome (40 mins approx.)

SATURDAY 28th

09.00 Morning Prayer via Zoom

SUNDAY 1st March (2nd of Lent)

09.30 Parish Eucharist, **Great Bealings**

11.00 Parish Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

N.B. No refreshments afterwards

MONDAY 2nd (St Chad)

Our prize draw closes at midnight!

TUESDAY 3rd

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

17.00 Christian Meditation, **SMH**

19.00 New Learners’ bellringing, followed by Bellringers’ Practice

19.30 Second Lent Talk “Accepting our human sexuality—why is the CofE always ‘ducking & diving’?” *Dean Joe Hawes, SMH* (Please see the Bishops’ statement [here](#))

WEDNESDAY 4th

19.30 Fabric Committee meeting, **Seckford Room**

THURSDAY 5th

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

12.00 Prize draw winner announced! **St Mary’s, Woodbridge**

18.30 Choir Rehearsal, **SMH**

FRIDAY 6th

12.30-14.00 Lent Lunch, **SMH**

14.30 World Day of Prayer, **St Thomas, Woodbridge**. All welcome!

SATURDAY 7th (SS Perpetua & Felicity)

09.00 Morning Prayer via Zoom

09.30 Diocesan Synod

19.30 Woodbridge Choral Society concert, **St Mary’s, Woodbridge**

SUNDAY 8th (3rd of Lent)

08.00 BCP Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

10.00 Parish Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

TODAY’S Readings

Sunday 1st March

2nd of Lent

Genesis 12. 1-4a

John 3. 1-7

Readings for NEXT WEEK

Sunday 8th March

3rd of Lent

Exodus 17. 1-7

John 4. 5-42

NOTICES

OUR LENT BOOK this year is 'Easter in Disguise' by Liz Dodd, £10 each in our Church Shop, but only one left!

OUR LENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS are £2.50 each, with 40 Daily Reflections. There is a separate excellent version for Children and Young families. Must go today!

LENT LUNCHESES continue on **Fridays 6th March, 13th March, 20th and 27th March**. We are a little short of help and so would welcome assistance with tables and chairs, making soup, heating soup, serving, washing up etc. If this could be you for **12.30 to 2pm** opening hours, please let Veronica know.

CHURCH SPRING CLEAN (Woodbridge) on **Saturday 14th March**, from **9am to 12noon**. As always, the more helpers, the better! Please look out for sign-up sheets coming shortly, or speak to Michelle. Thank you.

PILGRIMS' SUPPER - The Pilgrims Cross will be visiting us again on **Palm Sunday, 29th March**. They will stay overnight in St Mary's House and are always grateful for the supper we provide for them. If anyone can make a financial donation to cover the cost of food or provide a pudding, your help would be very much appreciated. There will be a list at the back of church shortly. Thank you, Gaynor Shire.

MOTHERS' UNION are having a 'Card Making' session at their next branch meeting on **Thursday 12th March** at **2.15pm** in **SMH**. These 'Cards' will go to Highpoint/Warren Hill and Hollesley Prisons for prisoners to be able to send to loved ones at Christmas 2026. The session will run for 1 hour - so if you have an hour to spare you are more than welcome to come along and be creative. Refreshments will be available.

LAST SUNDAY'S VIGIL/ CHORAL EVENSONG on the 4th Anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine in Ipswich Minster was very moving and hugely appreciated. Please keep this diary date (**Sunday 26th April, 3-5pm**) when our Ukrainian friends will be with us in **St Mary's, Woodbridge** for a special gathering of Words and Music - which will include an interval - with generous Ukrainian refreshments! A5 flyers are available at the west end of both our churches, for us to take away and promote.

HOT NEWS! We are delighted to report that the DAC have recommended our new detailed Church heating application, subject to agreement of matching the colour of the air source heat pumps to the church wall render. Not as easy as it sounds! The next step is for our PCC to go for full planning permission to East Suffolk Council, whilst the Church Amenity Societies are also formally consulted. Until all permissions are received, we cannot go out to tender.

MISSING FROM THE VESTRY – A hardback copy of ‘Lent, Holy Week & Easter – Services & Prayers,’ and two paperback copies of the same have disappeared! Can anyone help, please?

WOODBIDGE CHORAL SOCIETY SPRING CONCERT in **St Mary’s, Woodbridge** on **Saturday 7th March** at **7pm** is Haydn’s ‘The Creation.’ Tickets are £18, and can be purchased from choir members or via [Ticketsource](#). Conducted by Andrew Leach. Soloists: Daniella Sicari (soprano), Ben Vonberg-Clark (tenor), and Johnny Herford (bass).

LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITAL – Paul Greally, Assistant Organist at Westminster Abbey, will be giving a recital at **12 noon** on **Easter (Bank Holiday) Monday, 6th April** in **St Mary’s, Woodbridge**. There will be a retiring collection in aid of the Organ Fund. Wonderful talent, and how privileged we are to host!

EVENING PIANO RECITAL with Andrew Leach, on **Sunday 19th April** at **5.30pm**, and a joyful ‘Eastertide’ theme. There will be a retiring collection for our ‘Help Heat our Church’ Appeal.

CHURCHYARD PARKING – Please do not park in front of the new bicycle rack and bench to the left of the entrance porch, for obvious reasons!

ST MARY’S SHOP - This year we have been able to source a few 'Mothering Sunday' cards which are now on sale - and Easter cards will be available very soon. A delivery of our popular painted hanging and wall crosses has arrived, together with a lovely selection of hanging Easter decorations and boxes, all from FairTotrade, who work with producers who are members of the World Fair Trade Organisation. Come in and see....

MAGGI HAMBLING PAINTING PRIZE DRAW – VERY LAST CHANCE to enter! Closing date: **Monday 2nd March**, then the winner will be announced and the painting ‘Fireworks above the sea’ presented by Fr Nigel in **St Mary’s Church, Woodbridge** at **12 noon** (TBC) on **Thursday 5th March**. ***Our online total is now***

Share the page link:
<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/maggi-hambling-painting-prize-draw-st-marys>

[Enter here now](#) **Don’t miss out!** Tickets are £10 each. You can also purchase tickets from our Church Shop.



AMONG YOUR PRAYERS

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

- On this St David's Day, we pray for the Church and people in Wales...
- For our forthcoming Diocesan Synod led for the first time by Bishop Joanne... for growth & flourishing of our churches in faith, numbers, and service to our local community
- For our Lent Talks and Lunches; our continuing prayers for the peoples of Ukraine, Gaza, and South Sudan, and the political anxiety over Iran
- Among the sick and housebound we pray for Betty Richardson, Cath Eaden, Penny Bird & all in our Care Homes or who receive the Sacrament at home...
- Among the departed, for Allan Barr, and Eric Hill. R.I.P.

COLLECT

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of
Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
AMEN

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of
ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all
adversities which may happen to the
body,
and from all evil thoughts which may
assault and hurt the soul;
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

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

www.stmaryswoodbridge.org

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