



“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 13th

12.30-14.00 Lent Lunch, **SMH**

18.00 Stations of the Cross, **St Mary's, Woodbridge**

SATURDAY 14th

09.00-12.00 Church “Spring Clean” – All hands on deck, please!

SUNDAY 15th (4th of Lent; Mothering Sunday)

08.00 BCP Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

10.00 Parish Eucharist, **Woodbridge**, with distribution of flowers by the Guides

10.30 Morning Prayer, **Great Bealings**

16.00 “Bealings’ got culture” event, **St Mary's, Great Bealings**

TUESDAY 17th (St Patrick)

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

10.30 Eucharist at **Seckford Chapel**

17.00 Christian Meditation, **SMH**

19.30 Bellringers' Practice

19.30 Fourth Lent Talk “Brave new world? : Cyber security and AI” *David Sharples, SMH*

WEDNESDAY 18th (Parish Office closed)

18.00 Friends of St Mary's AGM, **SMH**

THURSDAY 19th (Joseph of Nazareth)

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

18.30 Choir Rehearsal, **SMH**

19.30 Great Bealings' PCC Meeting, **St Mary's, Great Bealings**

FRIDAY 20th (St Cuthbert)

12.30-14.00 Lent Lunch, **SMH**

SATURDAY 21st (Thomas Cranmer, 1556)

09.00 Prayer Meeting via Zoom

09.30-16.00 Cherishing the Earth Day Conference, with Address by The Rt Hon Lord Deben, John Gummer, **St John's, Woodbridge**. Cost: £5 to cover refreshments; please bring your own lunch.

19.30 World premiere of Ben Ponniah's ‘Carry me Home,’ **St Joseph's College Chapel, IP2 9DR** (& Fauré's Requiem, with Ipswich Choral Society)

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SUNDAY 22nd (5th of Lent; Passiontide begins)

08.00 BCP Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

10.00 Parish Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

TODAY'S Readings

Sunday 15th March

4th of Lent

Exodus 2. 1-10

Luke 2. 33-35

Readings for NEXT WEEK

Sunday 22nd March

5th of Lent

Ezekiel 37. 1-14

John 11. 1-45

NOTICES

CAKE DONATIONS FOR THIS SUNDAY – We are offering cake with coffee **after the 10am service (Woodbridge) this Sunday** as it's Mothering Sunday, and are looking for a varied selection, please. If you are able to make a cake and bring it along (with a list of ingredients) it would be very much appreciated. Thank you.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S AGM – On **Wednesday 18th March, at 6pm**. Please join us for a glass of wine (a thank you for your support), and to hear about the excellent events of the past year, as well future ones. Our speaker is Pieter Shipster, on famous Woodbridge 'blue plaques' recipients.

LENT LUNCHESES continue on **20th and 27th March** from **12.30 to 2pm**. Please come along to support, and invite your friends. Donations, please, to Suffolk Coastal Poverty Action.

LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITAL – Paul Grealley, 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, followed by Fairtrade refreshments.

UKRAINIAN EVENING – On **Sunday 26th April, from 3pm to 5pm** 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.

THE PILGRIM CROSS will be visiting us again on **Palm Sunday** and staying in St Mary's House overnight. They always appreciate the supper we provide for them and especially look forward to the puddings! If anyone can make a financial donation to cover the cost of the food or provide a pudding, your help would be very much appreciated. There is a sign-up list at the back of church (*Gaynor Shire*).

ST MARY'S SHOP - Reasonably priced Fairtrade Easter eggs are proving very difficult to source, so instead, we will be stocking some very attractively wrapped chocolate bars from Cocoa & Love and Bennetto, which, we think, will make very acceptable Easter gifts. We are also continuing to add to our range of books of prayers, Bibles and other Christian publications which could be worth a look. New stock arrives almost every week so please come in and have a browse!

CHURCHYARD WORKING GROUP - Our next Churchyard Working Group will be on **Saturday 28th March** from **10 am to 12 noon**, when the main task will be digging up patches of Green Alkanet in several areas of the churchyard. Would volunteers please come prepared with their favourite gardening tools to tackle these plants which have long tap roots! Trowels, border spades, forks, kneelers, plastic trugs, etc. Many thanks.
Rita

SPOTTED LAST WEEK – a bicycle in our bicycle rack by the porch! Can we get a “family-full” **this Sunday?!**

PARISH SHARE INFORMATION LEAFLET – There will be glossy printed copies available soon, but in the meantime, [this is a useful link](#) to see and read the information.

Bishop Joanne is really encouraging **everyone** to join the [Parish Giving Scheme](#), as:

- it is less work for our hard-pressed Treasurer
- it takes care of Gift Aid for us
- it adds on inflation each year to ensure our level of giving remains the same value
- we don't need to worry about envelopes or 'plates' any more

AFTER LAST WEEK'S DEANERY SYNOD – on our 'Plans for Church Growth' – our Rural Dean emphasised that it isn't just about 'numbers': “A satsuma is not a failed orange!”

HAPPY 2ND BIRTHDAY TO HUGO WADE! We have his name down for a signing with Ipswich Town FC!

SPRING HAS SPRUNG!

Photo courtesy of Linda in the Parish Office

Who wrote these lovely lines?

*“Through primrose tufts, in that green bower,
The periwinkle trailed its wreaths;
And 'tis my faith that every flower
Enjoys the air it breathes.*

*The birds around me hopped and played,
Their thoughts I cannot measure:-
But the least notion which they made
It seemed a trill of pleasure...”*



AMONG YOUR PRAYERS

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

- For our Church families and all the Parishes, throughout our Diocese, dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God
- Give thanks for our Mums, and family life at home; all for whom today is difficult or painful
- For all peacemakers, especially for the work of the United Nations... and all who engage in difficult diplomatic negotiations...

- Among the sick and housebound we pray for David Pitcher, Penny Bird, & all who care for the sick in our hospitals and homes; for all our Emergency Services...

- Among the departed, for Allan Barr, and Eric Hill. R.I.P., and also our Mums and Grandmas departed – and their eternal rest

COLLECT

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of
Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole
human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your
presence to bind together and to heal;
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

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the
breast
you feed us in this sacrament with the
food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your
goodness
to grow in grace within the household
of faith;
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

THIS WEEK: Benefice Office Opening Hours are Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9am to 4pm ONLY

www.stmaryswoodbridge.org

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