



“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)*

THE WEEK AHEAD

FRIDAY 20th (St Cuthbert)

12.30-14.00 Lent Lunch, **SMH** (with or without a red nose!)

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)

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

08.00 BCP Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

10.00 Parish Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

TUESDAY 24th (Parish Office closed)

10.00 St Mary’s CE Primary’s Easter Service, **St Mary’s Church, Woodbridge**

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

17.00 Christian Meditation, **SMH**

19.30 Bellringers’ Practice

19.30 Fifth Lent Talk “The Triduum” *The Very Rev’d Keith Jones, SMH*. All welcome!

WEDNESDAY 25th

(The Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary)

(15.30 Installation of the Most Rev’d Sarah Mullally as the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury)

THURSDAY 26th

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

18.30 Choir Rehearsal, **SMH**

FRIDAY 27th

12.30-14.00 Lent Lunch, **SMH**

18.00 Stations of the Cross, **Woodbridge**

SATURDAY 28th

09.00 Prayer Meeting via Zoom

10.00-12.00 Churchyard Working Group, **Woodbridge** (*see details below)

SUNDAY 29th (Palm Sunday)

08.00 BCP Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

10.00 Benefice Eucharist, **Woodbridge** to begin Holy Week together!

N.B. We begin from the Prep School Car Park, where our Palm Crosses will be distributed, along with our service sheets, etc

TODAY’S Readings

Sunday 22nd March

5th of Lent

Ezekiel 37. 1-14

John 11. 1-45

NOTICES

EASTER LILIES - There is the opportunity again this year to remember loved ones with a 'named lily'. They will cost £4 each, and you can ask for one or more names to go on one lily. Please order as follows:

Place cash in an envelope and seal it. On the outside, please print clearly:

FROM: (Your own name);

CONTACT TEL NO. or E-MAIL;

IN MEMORY OF: (Exact name of the person or people remembered);

CASH ENCLOSED: £(Amount)

Please pop into the Parish Office, or push your sealed envelope well into the Shop letterbox **by Friday 27th March.**

FLORAL TRIBUTES – Did you know that you can arrange with the Flower Group for a floral tribute in memory of a loved one at any time of year? We will also offer the names to go under 'Anniversaries' in our weekly e-News. Please contact Christine Bizzey to discuss your requirements and an idea of the cost involved.

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

***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*

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*).

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, followed by Fairtrade refreshments.

REPLACEMENT EMERGENCY EXIT DOORS have now been installed in the main hall at St Mary's House, although Smartcall will be back again to paint them.

ST MARY'S SHOP - It's not long now until Easter so it's a good time to buy your Easter cards, and we've got a good choice in the Shop, as well as some very pretty greetings cards. New decorations have arrived - and some of the very popular leather-look Hedgehog door stops have 'come out of hibernation' too! We look forward to welcoming you for a browse.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES – If there are any Adults or Children 12 years+ interested, please speak with Fr Nigel. A Deanery Confirmation is on the cards in the near future, if our clergy have a positive response.

SERMONS You may have missed are always posted on our website. Fr Nigel regrets that our wonderful Lent Talks were not recorded. Our last Lent Talk this coming Tuesday will be given by the former Dean of York Minster, now an associate priest at St Margaret's, Ipswich. He will explain why the coming days are such a wonderful experience by joining in.

HOLY WEEK draws near, beginning NEXT (Palm) Sunday. Please take a poster to display near you. Two Volunteer Readers are needed for the PASSION GOSPEL next week, please. PLUS:

- We need some FEET to wash, please, on Maundy Thursday. Sign-up sheet available.
- We need six readers for our special Good Friday Service (with the Sudbourne Ensemble).
- We need a 'Fire Pit' for our Easter (Saturday) Vigil, that is safe and user-friendly for Fr Nigel presiding!

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FROM FRIENDS' AGM on 18th March is [attached](#) for your information. A lot of effort and work has gone into making various events a success over the last year, and a good deal of money has been raised towards the 'Help heat our Church' Appeal. Thank you to all involved.

EASY FUNDRAISING – in order to continue our fundraising efforts (although not specifically for Heating or the Building Project) we have set up an [Easyfundraising page](#) where you can help us raise money, but it doesn't cost you a penny! We have attached a list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#), and a [poster](#) giving you an idea of how it works, but please ask for help if you're not sure about it. Essentially, once you have signed up to EasyFundraising yourself, whenever you shop online with any of the many retailers, they will automatically donate to our cause. You can [use this link](#) or the QR code above to get started!



DIOCESAN "CELEBRATING OUR CARE FOR CREATION DAY" at **St Edmundsbury Cathedral** on **Saturday 9th May**, to coincide with the 10th Anniversary of A Rocha Eco church awards. The event will include a series of talks in the morning, highlighting the theological basis for Creation Care and celebrating a lot of what is happening in our diocese. Over lunch and in the early afternoon there will be stalls, displays and activities. These will showcase specific examples of how churches have achieved Eco Church awards, and publicise organisations that can support churches in their Eco Church work.

AMONG YOUR PRAYERS

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

- For our new Archbishop of Canterbury, Sarah Mullally
- For our Diocese and Benefice as we prepare for the prayerful days ahead – on our pilgrimage to follow the Cross of Christ... which leads to Easter
- For our musicians, Choir, Servers, Elders, Intercessors, Readers, and Sidespeople; all who will share in our different liturgies of Holy Week...
- For our world leaders at a time of great tension and disharmony; for the innocent who suffer, especially families and young children...
- Among the sick and housebound we pray for Canon David Pitcher, Fr Raymond, Jean Waller, Penny Bird, & all who care for the sick in our hospitals and homes
- For all who have died, especially as a result of war or violence; at home, for those who have died from meningitis

COLLECT

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his
passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's
blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
AMEN

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
that what we do for the least of our
brothers and sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of
others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for
ever.
AMEN

Readings for NEXT WEEK

Sunday 29nd March

Palm Sunday

Matthew 21. 1-11

Isaiah 50. 4-9a

Philippians 2. 5-11

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 Wednesday 9am to 12.30pm, Thursday & Friday 9am to 4pm ONLY

www.stmaryswoodbridge.org

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