



Notices Sheet - 20th September 2026

Notices

Bible readings: 8.00: Psalm 105:1-7 (p 607) Matthew 20:1-16 (p 987)
10.30: Joel 2:22-27 (p 913) John 6:25-35 (p 1070)

Harvest appeal: Our harvest services this year are on 20th, 22nd and 27th September. Our appeal this year is to support the work of John and Gillian, who work in the slums of Bangkok. They are fundraising to set up a safe house for boys, to add to their safe house for girls, offering support for children who live in abusive families. Donations can be made to any of our churches' bank accounts, or given to one of our treasurers. The collection in All Saints this Sunday will be for the appeal.

Midweek Music at St Mary's: The midweek lunchtime concerts restart this coming Wednesday, 23rd September and this month's will be given by the local professional violinist, Jo West, accompanied by Michael Smith on the piano. As usual there will be refreshments from 11.30 and the concert starts at 12.30 for about 30-40 minutes. This is a great opportunity to support local musicians and entry is free. Any donations are shared between all three churches in the Benefice. We look forward to welcoming you.

Candlelit Supper in St Mary's, 2nd October: Tickets, at £30 per head, are on sale for FOSM's candlelit supper in St Mary's on 2nd October. A three course meal will be served by candlelight, with musical and dramatic entertainment between courses. A licensed bar will be available. To book, please speak to Diana 07718 734897.

Away From It All (AFIA) holidays: AFIA is a Mother's Union (MU) project giving families in need of a holiday an opportunity to spend time away. It is open to anyone who has not been on holiday for over 3 years due to health, financial problems, bereavement, family reasons or situations beyond their control and who cannot afford a vacation. MU will arrange & pay for accommodation and/or transport, depending on the family's circumstances. The family will need a recommendation from a vicar, head teacher, social worker or doctor. If you know of anyone who would benefit from a holiday, please contact MU by email: awayfromitall.stalbans@yahoo.co.uk or ring 07438 474225 & an application form will be sent. If you need any further information before contacting MU please ring Diane on 07949 665365.

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

Sunday services:

20 th September	8.00 am	Communion by extension	St Mary's
	10.30 am	Holy Communion for harvest	All Saints
27 th September	10.30 am	Family worship for harvest	St Mary's
	6.00 pm	Choral evensong	St Mary's
4 th October	8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
	10.30 am	Morning worship	All Saints

11 th October	10.30 am	Holy communion	St Mary's
18 th October	8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
	10.30 am	Holy Communion	All Saints

Dates & meetings coming up:

23 rd September, 12.30 pm	Midweek Music	St Mary's
24 th September, 9.00 am	Roger de Clare harvest service	St Mary's
27 th September, 12.30 pm	Baptism of Brody McLean	St Mary's
28 th September, 7.30 pm	PCC meetings	St Mary's
29 th September, 2.30 pm	Little Munden School harvest service	All Saints
2 nd October, 7.30 pm	Candlelit supper in St Mary's	St Mary's
7 th October, 2.15 pm	Libury Hall service	Libury Hall

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:

- Please continue to pray for those of our church family who are unwell, undergoing treatment, waiting for tests or procedures or grieving.

Pray for our community

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

- our local litter pickers, refuse collectors, recycle centres and all who help dispose of our rubbish
- our farmers and food producers and distributors as they prepare for the winter months
- those who walk and cycle in our beautiful countryside as we see the seasons change

Pray for our outreach, our service and our churches

This week we ask you to include in your prayers:

- our faithful Midweek Music audience as they are welcomed to the concert this week
- our schools as they celebrate harvest in our churches
- our church leaders as we plan for the months to come

Pray for our mission partners

This week we ask you to remember the work of John & Gillian Robinson. *John and Gillian run the Place of Grace in Bangkok, Thailand.* More information about all our mission partners can be found on our website. Please pray for:

- our Harvest Appeal to help them provide a safe house for boys to escape from abusive and violent family members
- a little boy in desperate need of somewhere safe to live, whose only experience of family is a grandad who beats & pinches him
- a 9 year old girl taken away from the Place of Grace. Although later found she was traumatised by things she saw & experienced. She is now living at 'My Father's House', the girls' safe house
- a 12 year old & his brother who are in the care of the Robinsons. Following horrendous violence by their father, their mum signed over guardianship

Pray for John and Basma's ministry: John writes: 'Basma and I request your prayers! We are off to Bahrain for 2 months (20 September to 18 November) where John will be doing cover at St Christopher's Cathedral, Bahrain. (Yes, there are interregna overseas as well...) We're sending this email fairly late as, with all the uncertainties in the region, we only now have the ticket booked. So it is new news! We'd value your prayers for the ministry (there is more on the St Christopher's website to get an idea), coping with the heat (currently 40 C), safety and Jack at home.'

Please pray for John and Basma, and for all who serve God in areas of uncertainty and conflict.

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 (dates vary – please ask), 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, 3.15 pm (term time only): Café & Children's Bible clubs at All Saints: contact Lizzie B.

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 babies & toddlers and their carers at St Mary's:
contact Cate (littleangels@ubsms.org.uk)

Please Continue to Support our Churches

You can donate directly to any of our churches, or you can send donations to any of our treasurers. Bank details are displayed in church and on the website.

Gift aid forms are available from any of our treasurers.

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. 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. Rebecca, our administrator, works flexible hours, but 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