

*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 5th

Red Hat Society visit to Woodbridge

Berry Festival on Market Hill

Church Shop open 9am to 4pm

09.00 Morning Prayer via **Zoom** (details from Alison Davis)

15.30 'Care for Creation' service, **St Eds Cathedral** celebrating 10 years of [Eco Church](#)

SUNDAY 6th (Trinity 14)

09.30 Patronal Festival (Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary), **Great Bealings**, followed by coffee & croissants

11.00 Parish Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

MONDAY 7th

19.00 Generosity Week working group meeting, **Seckford Room**

TUESDAY 8th

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

10.30 Flower Group meeting, **Seckford Room**

14.00 Funeral & burial of Jan Eichhorn, **St Mary's, Great Bealings N.B.** *There will be lots of MGs in our parking field, so don't be shocked!*

17.00 Christian Meditation, **SMH**

19.30 Fabric Committee meeting, **Seckford Room**

19.30 Bellringing practice, **Woodbridge**

WEDNESDAY 9th

18.00 Friends' Committee meeting, **Seckford Room**

THURSDAY 10th

10.00 Said Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

18.30 Choir Rehearsal, **SMH**

19.00 Woodbridge PCC meeting, **Small Hall**

SATURDAY 12th

09.00 Morning Prayer via **Zoom** (details from Alison Davis)

09.00 – 17.00 'Ride and Stride'

13.30 Wedding of James Tyler & Sarah Watson, **St Mary's, Woodbridge**

SUNDAY 13th (Holy Cross Sunday)

08.00 Said Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

10.00 Parish Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

TODAY'S Readings Sunday 6th September

Patronal Festival

Micah 5. 2-4

Romans 8. 28-30

Matthew 1. 18-23

Trinity 14

Exodus 12. 1-14

Matthew 18. 15-20

NEXT WEEK'S Readings Sunday 13th September

Holy Cross Sunday

Numbers 21. 4-9

Philippians 2. 6-11

John 3. 13-17

NOTICES

THANK YOU to Alison & John Davis for their recent 'Mansfield Park' talk, for all who came and supported them, and for your kind donations of £70 towards the Fabric Fund.

THANK YOU to Chris Burn for organising the series of excellent Organ Recitals throughout August, and for all who came along to support them. **£2,245** was raised for the Organ Fund through donations at all of the events.

MOTHERS' UNION will be in **St Mary's House** on **Thursday 10th September** at **2.15pm** when there will be a talk by Mandi Cox-Osborne who is a 'Suffolk Poppy Appeal' Organiser. The talk will be followed by a Branch Meeting and refreshments. All are welcome to attend the talk which lasts for around 45 minutes.



'RIDE AND STRIDE' – The annual Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride is on **Saturday 12th September** from 9am to 5pm. **For anyone wishing to take part from St Mary's Great Bealings Jonathan Keer has all the necessary documentation, including sponsorship forms, event stickers, and a list of which churches are open. Jonathan and his daughter will be taking part, so please support and sponsor them. To contact Jonathan phone 07962 114378 or email: jonkeer2000@yahoo.co.uk**

In **Woodbridge** Please consider getting involved as a rider, strider, recorder or sponsor. Sponsor forms available from Tony Waller (anjwaller@uwclub.net or 01394 386786). Gift Aid option encouraged. Half your donation goes to your church. Half plus any gift aid goes to SHCT. There will be a sign up sheet for recorders at the back of church. **Riders and Striders seeking sponsors include Alison and Peter Wintgens, Jamie and Amelia Symons, Sarah Dodds, and Tony Waller.** Please give generously!

BOUNDARY WALL WORKS – A number of bones have been excavated from the wall area, which may be three whole skeletons, likely to be from 18th century. Archaeologists are currently studying them on site, and will leave them with us after they finish their research, so that we can organise a respectful reburial at a later date.

THE BEES ARE BACK! They have been spotted in several places, including the churchyard 'triangle,' and around the steps.

OUR NEW 'ALL AGE EUCHARIST' begins on **Sunday 20th September** (and will take place on the third Sunday of every month thereafter). This will be a shorter service than usual, and more interactive, to attract younger families. The theme of this first one is **Harvest**, taking the form of a 'traditional Harvest Festival', and will be followed by a **'bring and share' lunch**. Sign up sheets are at the back of church. Please spread the word with your family and friends, and share & display the attached [poster](#). Thank you!

WOODBIDGE AMBIENT MUSIC FESTIVAL – We are delighted to be hosting part of the [Woodbridge Ambient Music Festival](#) again this year. As always the event spans several days and numerous events and venues, but there are four events at St Mary's, Woodbridge, as follows:

- **Wednesday 23rd September, from 7pm** – 'Equinox Ceilidh' (with caller) in the hall at St Mary's House, with music from Aartwork, and the Friends of St Mary's will be running a 'donation' bar. *Tickets £10, available from the Church Shop.*
- **Saturday 25th September, from 2pm to 5pm** – Ambient Label Hub
- **Saturday 25th September, from 7pm** – the annual highlight event, with Tom Rogerson & Friends
- **Sunday 26th September, from 1pm until 5pm** – 'slow sessions'. Bring a cushion and enjoy a relaxing afternoon!

Tickets for the event can be purchased via Eventbrite [here](#). £35 for the weekend (plus booking fee). Posters are available for you to share and display.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S – Due to circumstances beyond their control, the Friends of St Mary's are again looking for a new Treasurer. It is not a burdensome role, and the committee is very active and supportive. It would be great to welcome an additional member with a talent for fundraising 'stuff,' and outgoing Treasurer, Michael Bizzey, will explain all that is required. Please have a word with Nick Cottam, tel: 07834 978139, or email: nick@nickcottam.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Saturday 3rd October, 7-10pm at Woodbridge Town Football Club** – 'Darsham Dogs' charity fundraiser concert for local [Footsteps: Walking With You](#) (counselling charity for 8-25 year olds) – live music, and a raffle. Tickets £10 can be purchased [here](#). People you may know, from Quay Church and Poppy's Pantry, are involved with this important resource for young people.
- **Sunday 4th October, at 3pm, Blessing of Pets, at St Mary's, Woodbridge**, on the Feast of St Francis, followed by tea and cake in the Hall. All welcome.
- **Saturday 17th October, at 7pm and 9pm, at St Mary's, Woodbridge** – Ludovico Einaudi concerts by candlelight. Tickets can be purchased from Lumos [here](#).
- **Saturday 21st November, 10am to 3pm, in Seckford Chapel and Lounge** - Pre-Advent Benefice 'Quiet Day' led by spiritual writer and parishioner, Andrea Skevington.

ST MARY'S SHOP - This Saturday should be really busy with the Woodbridge Berry Festival taking place on Market Hill, and the 'Red Hat Bees of Bardwell' visiting Woodbridge and using St Mary's House and Shire Hall as a base in the afternoon. We are hoping for plenty of customers, and the Shop will be open from 10am to 4pm.

It is noticeable that many Shops have already started displaying their Christmas stock. Although we are not planning to do that just yet, if you are an 'early shopper' come in and have a look at our gifts and 'things'.

EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT – Fr Nigel's last celebration with us, in the Benefice, will be on the **Feast of Candlemas, Sunday 31st January 2027**. Please remember Liz and Nigel in your prayers over the coming months, and recall the famous words of Mother Julian of Norwich: "All shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well..."

AMONG YOUR PRAYERS

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

For our sister Church in Great Bealings, celebrating their Patronal this Sunday. For our joint loyalty and honouring Mary, the Mother of God... who prays for us...

On this 10th Anniversary of Eco Church we pray for all Parishes caring for their 'green spaces' and 'greener' lifestyle choices

For the continuing relief efforts in Nepal and Tibet; pray for peace in the Middle East, Ukraine, and Sudan. May the tears of all sorrow turn into a haven for joy.

Pray for all our children and students back to school or college; for those starting out on new apprenticeships, or the wider world of work.

- Among the sick and housebound we pray for Vi Woolmer, Penny Bird, Tony Burton, and Ann Pickard

- For all who have recently died, including Patricia Comer, and Jan Eichhorn

COLLECT (Woodbridge)

Holy and eternal God,
you are the Maker of heaven and earth,
you are the Word through whom all
things were made,
and you are the Spirit, the giver of life:
draw us into the mystery of your love,
that with all creation we may proclaim
your praise,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
AMEN

POST COMMUNION PRAYER (Woodbridge)

God our Creator,
by your gift the tree of life was set
at the heart of the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of
your Church:
may we who have been nourished at
your table on earth be transformed
by the glory of the Saviour's cross and
enjoy the delights of eternity;
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, Thursdays & Fridays 9am to 4pm

www.stmaryswoodbridge.org

[Follow us on Facebook](#)

[Follow us on Instagram](#)