**Notices Sheet - 25th October 2026**

# Notices

Bible readings: Colossians 3:12-17 (p 1184)

Choral Evensong 25th October: Our monthly choral evensong service will be held this weekend, for the last time until January, as we hold our Advent and Christmas carol services on Sunday afternoons and evenings in late November and December. Please join us for this centuries old contemplative service, with music led by our benefice choir.

Service of Memories 1st November, 3.00 pm: Our annual service of memories will take place next Sunday afternoon in St Mary's. All are welcome as we come together to remember loved ones we have lost. There will be an opportunity to reflect, and to light a candle if you wish. If you would like the name of your loved one to be read out, members of the pastoral team will take the details as you arrive.

All Souls' service in Much Hadham: Tayo, the Much Hadham Rector, has asked us to let you know that Much Hadham's "Remembering Those We Love," service will take place at St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham, on Monday 2nd November at 7 pm.

Midweek Music at St Mary's 28th October: This month's concert is this coming Wednesday with refreshments from 11.30 and the concert at 12.30. Everyone is very welcome to come and hear Cate singing a gentle programme of songs, many of them well known. She will be accompanied by Michael on the piano.

The Real Advent Calendar: This ever popular Advent Calendar contains fairtrade chocolate. Each window has a Bible verse which relates to the Christmas story and activity booklet that comes with it. There is a page for each day of Advent, allowing families time to really discover the Christmas story. We have ordered enough to allow the price to remain at £5, so please let Marion S know how many you would like to order.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal: This weekend, Lizzy will be clearing her attic of all the shoeboxes and gifts she and others have collected during the year, ready to send to children in areas affected by war, natural disaster, or some other catastrophe. There are three ways you can help:
1. Fill a shoebox with gifts (ask Lizzy for the list of what's allowed and not allowed) and leave it in St Mary's or give it to Lizzy or Caroline.
2. Contribute gifts to be packed - Lizzy is always short of small toys and games, little treats for teenage girls (eg hair accessories, eye shadow, keyrings) and small toys for toddlers.
3. Donate money so that Lizzy can use it to buy things she is missing for boxes, or to pay for the travel costs. Cash can be given to Lizzy or Caroline, or transferred to the Standon PCC bank account, reference "OCC".
Thank you - every box filled is another child who will know someone cares this Christmas.

Free cyber crime and fraud prevention session Tuesday 10th November, 11:00 - 12:30: This session in Buntingford Library, run by officers from Hertfordshire Constabulary's Serious Fraud and Cyber unit, will provide you with practical tips for staying safer, by being aware of the most common types of online or telephone scams and rogue traders. All are welcome, for the whole session or to drop in.

## Services for the next few weeks:

Midweek services each week:

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| Tuesdays, 9.30am | Holy Communion (BCP) & Bible study | St Catherine's |
| Wednesdays, 9.30 am | Morning worship & Bible study | St Mary's |

*On Tuesday 10th November, the Little Munden School choir will join us again for our Sacombe service of Remembrance at 9.30. All are welcome.*

Sunday services:

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| 25th October | 10.30 am | Family worship | St Mary's |
| | 6.00 pm | Choral evensong | St Mary's |
| 1st November | 8.00 am | Communion by extension | St Mary's |
| | 10.30 am | Morning worship | All Saints |
| | 3.00 pm | Service of Memories | St Mary's |
| 8th November | 10.30 am | Remembrance Sunday service | St Mary's |
| 15th November | 8.00 am | Holy Communion | St Mary's |
| | 10.30 am | Holy Communion | All Saints |
| 22nd November | 10.30 am | Family worship | St Mary's |

**Dates & meetings coming up:**

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| 28th October, 12.30 pm | Midweek Music | St Mary's |
| 28th October, 5.00 pm | Benefice finance committee meeting | The Old Top Shop |
| 30th October, 11.00 am | Funeral of Audrey Morton | All Saints |
| 1st November, 3.00 pm | Service of memories | St Mary's |
| 9th November, 7.30 pm | FOSM committee meeting | 40 South Road |
| 11th November, 7.30 pm | PCC meetings | All Saints |

# 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:

- We have received another newsletter from John and Basma, and more photos. Peter A has kindly agreed to take on the distribution to those of you who would like to read these letters. Please contact him if you would like him to send it to you.
- Please continue to pray for those of our church family, including Steve L, who are unwell, are undergoing treatment, have had operations, or are waiting for tests or procedures.
- Please pray for those who are grieving, including for Audrey Morton.

### Pray for our community

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

- those individuals and businesses affected by the storms this week
- our school staff and pupils as they rest in half term
- those who find that the shorter days after the change of the clocks affect their wellbeing

### Pray for our outreach, our service and our churches

This week we ask you to include in your prayers:

- the group who lead the children's and youth work as we plan for the next half term and Christmas
- our benefice finance officers and committee as they meet this week
- those who will come next week to our service of memories, and all for whom we have conducted funerals recently or long ago
- this round of recruitment, and for the person God will send to be our Rector

### Pray for our mission partners

This week we ask you to remember the work of all our mission partners, spreading the good news of Jesus across the world. More information about all our mission partners can be found on our website.
Please pray for:

- Catherine and Stephen McGoldrick, working for church growth in Central Africa
- Andrew and Samara Ellis, part of a church leadership team in Harare, Zimbabwe
- David and Marlene Fry, working with media in Austria reaching out to unreached peoples
- John and Gillian Robinson, working with the poorest in Bangkok, Thailand
- Kisiizi Hospital in Uganda, working for health and Christian outreach
- The Holy Land Institute for the Deaf in Jordan, working with deaf children throughout the country

**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.

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| **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 | |