St Mary's News

Sunday 15th November 2026

Large print hymn books and service sheets available

Wi-Fi : network: TalkTalk021AF9, Password X3MNT3J8

Website: www.stmaryshadlow.org.uk Find us on Facebook: St Mary's Hadlow

Today
2nd Sunday before Advent
(Safeguarding Sunday)

10am Parish Eucharist

Readings:

Zephaniah 1.7, 12-end
1 Thessalonians 5.1-11
Matthew 25.14.30



The Collect for the 2nd Sunday before Advent

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Next Week
Christ the King

10am Parish Eucharist with Prayer Ministry

Readings:

Ezekiel 34.11-16,20-24
Ephesians 1.15-end
Matthew 25-31-end



Prayers This Week

We pray this week for all who work in shops and pubs in the parish.

And from our Book of Remembrance:

Raymond Kenneth Walter (17th)
Marjory Smith (20th)
Mark Pepper (21st)

If you would like a loved one remembered, please complete a blue form by the Book of Remembrance and the name will be added to the book.

Coffee After Church

Visitors are warmly welcomed; please join us for refreshments after today's 10am service.



The Week at a glance

Monday
7.30pm PCC Meeting

Tuesday

Wednesday
9.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Coffee Pots & Tiny Tots
7.30pm Bell ringing practice

Thursday

Friday
10.30am Coffee Morning for Seniors
7.15pm Choir Practice

Saturday
7.30om Singing Group

The church is open every day from 10am to 3pm.

For Children and Young People

Activity Bags for younger children are in baskets near the back of church. There are also books, crayons etc.



All visitors' children are very welcome.

TEDDY BEAR BLESSING & TOY SERVICE.

Sunday 29th November at 10am

Bring your beloved Teddy for a blessing (and to take back home), and bring a new toy to donate to the Christmas Present Appeal to help spread the joy of Christmas to families whose children would otherwise not receive a Christmas present.

Donated toys can be left unwrapped to help charities allocate them to children of the appropriate age.



CONCERT

Sunday 29th Nov at 2.30pm

by the excellent

Bacchus Wind Orchestra

Varied programme of wonderful tunes; interval with tea and cakes. Free entry but we welcome donations towards band and church funds.



Christmas Quiz

Saturday 5th December at 7.30pm

Come along and get into the Christmas spirit at our Quiz. Teams of up to six, so come as a group or join in with others on the evening. Pay on the door: £5 adults, children £3. Bar available.

Yarn Appeal

Do you or anyone you know have any knitting yarn you can pass on to the Cafe Plus group? We are planning several projects for next year and our yarn stash is running low! We make blankets for the homeless and baby blankets all year round and have other projects planned.

We're looking for all colours & mostly double knit weight but we can use arran & chunky also).

Funding Bid for a Feasibility Study into a Community Solar Project in Hadlow

At an extraordinary meeting of the Parochial Church Council, the PCC voted to apply to the Great British Energy (GBE) Community Fund for funding for a feasibility study for a solar project to benefit Hadlow community. The urgency was due to the need to get PCC approval before the bid due date of 12 Nov. The funding bid is for up to £40,000 for Stage 1 of the project: to assess the feasibility.

The project's ultimate aim is for solar photovoltaic panels to be installed on the roofs of public buildings in the parish, including St Mary's and the Old School Hall complex, with the electricity sold to benefit the community, as well as being used by the buildings' occupants. If the bid is successful it would not commit St Mary's to leading the project beyond the feasibility stage. Instead, a community organisation would be created to take the project forward.

Needed

Someone to Unlock Church

We need someone to unlock the church on Thursdays at 10am. If you are able to help, please speak to Janice.

Safeguarding Sunday

This year's Safeguarding Sunday theme is 'Love Protects'.

Jesus set the bar high when he said, "Greater love has no one than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (*John 15:13*). Love costs something. It requires sacrifice.

In safeguarding, that might look like:

- giving up your time for criminal record checks and training sessions
- following processes even when they feel inconvenient
- challenging behaviour, even from people you respect
- paying attention to power dynamics and appropriate boundaries
- supporting volunteers with proper supervision and care
- speaking up when your gut tells you something's off.

None of this feels particularly 'spiritual', but safeguarding isn't a distraction from ministry; it IS ministry. It's not separate from discipleship; it IS discipleship, because it is a form of love.

Yes, safeguarding involves policies, procedures, training and more. But at its heart, it's about people – precious, valued people made in the image of God. When we protect them, we love them. When we love them, we reflect the heart of God.

Who's Who at St Mary's

Vicar
Rev. Dr. Peter Hayler
01732 711380
vicar@stmaryshadlow.org.uk

Church Wardens
John Speed (07725 691518)
john@stmaryshadlow.org.uk

Katerina Plucknett-Nixon
(07922 146853)
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Anna Chaplain
Jenny Hopkins (01732 852386)

Honorary Treasurer
Martin Massy (01732 851519)
finance@stmaryshadlow.org.uk

Parish Administrator
Janice Massy (07570 941809)
office@stmaryshadlow.org.uk

PCC Members, any of whom can be approached for help or information:
John Speed, Katerina Plucknett-Nixon (Church Wardens);
Mike Harvey (Deanery Synod rep.); Cathy Brill, Kirsty Finch, Jenny Hopkins, Richard Hopkinson, Janice Massy, Martin Massy, Jim May, James Menday, Iris Shaw and Sharon Vanns.

PCC Secretary:
Richard Hopkinson
PCC@stmaryshadlow.org.uk
Minutes of PCC meetings are on the notice board and on St Mary's website.