

St Bridget's, West Kirby with Caldy Church

THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

25th January 2026

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen.

8am	Holy Communion – St Bridget’s
10am	Holy Communion – St Bridget’s (livestreamed)
10am	Service of The Word – Caldry
4.30pm	Ecumenical Service at the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – St Bridget’s



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth. Amen.

LECTIONARY READINGS THIS SUNDAY

Isaiah 9.1-4 1 Corinthians 1.10-18 Matthew 4.12-23

Lectionary readings next Sunday

1 Kings 17.8-16 1 Corinthians 1.18-end John 2.1-11

FROM OUR BOOKS OF REMEMBRANCE (25th – 31st January)

St Bridget: Mary Mildred Sillitoe, Harold Brown, Sandra Pierina Caruana-Walker, Margaret Eileen Woodyer, Thomas Mark Creer, Lena Ward, Sarah Jane Fairbanks, Sue Buntin, Barbara May Wright, Jean Muriel Crabtree, John Dixon, Charles Henry Monks.

Caldy: Audrey Constance Anderson, Clifford Stott Harley, Christina Burden, Denis York.

RIP: Eileen Spark.



A HUGE THANK YOU FROM THE RECTOR

What a wonderful surprise last Sunday to begin my birthday celebrations in such a special way. Thank you for all who plotted and planned, made scones and meringues and provided fizz. A particular thank you for the special card and very generous gift which will be put to good use. Alex.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY ends this Sunday. St Bridget's is hosting the Ecumenical service at 4.30pm with guest preacher Pastor Paul McMichael. Members of all churches in West Kirby are encouraged to attend. Please come along if you can and offer a welcome to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

WHAT'S ON this week 26th – 31st January

Monday	RECTOR'S DAY OFF	
Tuesday	10am	Holy Communion – Caldy Church followed by coffee / tea
	11am	Buildings and Enhancements Group meets
	3.30pm	Toasty Tuesday in St Bridget's
	4.45pm	Sing Aloud
	6pm	Choir practice
	7.30pm	Bell ringing practice
Wednesday	8.30am	Morning Prayer – St Bridget
	8.30 – 11.30am Link café – Centre	
	10am	Knit & Natter, Craft and Chat group – Centre
	11.30am	Holy Communion – St Bridget
	1.30pm	Interment of ashes (Jo Ashcroft RIP) – St Bridget
Thursday	9am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
	10am	Caldy Baby & Toddler Group + STiCK
	7pm	PCC meeting – Centre
Friday	9am	Morning Prayer livestreamed on Facebook
	10am	St Bridget's Baby Group – Centre
Saturday	6.30pm	Hotpot Supper and entertainment in the Centre celebrating St Bridget's Patronal weekend

ST BRIDGET'S WEEKEND

CANDLEMAS AND ST BRIDGET'S DAY 2026

As is our tradition we will be celebrating these festivals on the same day.

On Sunday February 1st the 10 am service will be a joint parish service with our choirs leading the worship. There will be no service at Caldy that morning. In the evening we will have a service of Choral Evensong at

6.30pm at St Bridget's. Please join us, invite friends and help us celebrate themes of light and new life which also herald the arrival of Spring.



Hotpot Supper Saturday 31st January 6.30pm (doors 6.15pm)

St. Bridget's Patronal weekend will be marked by a wholesome hotpot supper evening with joyful entertainments. Tickets £10 include hotpot and a drink (Veggie, Vegan and GF will be available) from the Parish Office or from Andrew Gibb (07456 394 194)

Any profits from the evening will go to Wirral Foodbank

THIS SUNDAY'S HYMN – preparation!

Have a listen at <https://youtu.be/26cyYoBqiQ8>

LOOKING FORWARD TO LENT – LENT CALL

Easter is early this year, and Lent will soon be upon us. We are planning a variety of ways in which we can use this season to explore our faith. One simple idea is '**LENT CALL**' which would link pairs of people together once a week to talk on the phone about the Gospel reading used the previous Sunday. Those interested would give their name and telephone number to Paula who would randomly pair people together – it might be someone you don't know or know well! The suggestion is you agree a time to talk to each other about the gospel reading for that week. It might be to say you didn't understand a word of it! It's more about what you felt about it or what stood out for you rather than a theological discussion. No one need feel they can't take part. Why not give it a go by giving your name and number to Paula in the parish office? You can always stop if you don't find it helpful !



INCLUSIVE CHURCH

As part of the Inclusive Church network, we have committed to challenge the church where it discriminates against people on grounds of disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality. Last week The House of Bishops issued a statement which continues to discriminate. A [Church Times article](#) states "The Bishops will not be proposing the introduction of stand-alone services of blessing for same-sex couples, or removing the ban on clergy entering same-sex civil marriages, at the forthcoming meeting of the General Synod. The Bishops acknowledged that their decisions will be the cause of profound anguish to many LGBTQI+ people and their allies". Elections to the C of E General Synod take place this summer, and Inclusive Church are campaigning for a more inclusive synod. More information and an opportunity to help support candidates is at [The Inclusive Synod Election Campaign - JustGiving](#)

ECO CHURCH Christian Aid: New report reveals cost of climate change in 2025

See this link: <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/54190>

BEREAVEMENT JOURNEY

The next *Bereavement Journey*® is almost full so please sign up quickly if you were hoping to attend. At West Kirby Methodist Church from January 28th for seven weeks, every Wednesday from 2-4pm. Contact Susan Rice-Oxley on 07867 544964 or susanriceoxley@live.co.uk

BRIDGE AFTERNOON Friday 20th February, 1 for 1.30pm St Bridget's Centre Encourage bridge-playing friends to come ! Refreshments and prizes.

Donations of cakes, home-made if possible, would be very welcome.

£20 per table, pay on arrival – please phone Audrey Briggs on 07486 918169 to book.



BELL RINGING

We are very fortunate to have a great team of bell ringers at St Bridget's. At their recent AGM there was discussion about how best to train some new ringers. Whilst learning to ring takes commitment to a practice session each week (Tuesday evenings) and a willingness to ring on a Sunday morning, there are lots of benefits to health and wellbeing as well as sustaining a great traditional art. Ideally, we would like 3 or 4 people to start learning to ring together. If you would like to have a go, please talk to the Rector or contact Don Naylor by following this link

<https://stbridgetschurch.org.uk/about/groups-activities/> or calling 07983 657859

THE ELECTORAL ROLL

Applications to join the electoral roll for the parish of St Bridget's West Kirby and All Saints Caldy can be made at any time. This means you can vote at the Annual Parish Council Meeting in the spring. Forms are available at the back of church or [online](#). Please ask for assistance if you cannot find them. Completed forms can be handed in at the office in the Centre, or to the electoral roll officer Mary Rees mrees433@gmail.com 0151 625 1598.

ADVANCE NOTICE

HOSPITALITY

If you can help to donate or serve refreshments to parents and children from school from 2.45pm on **Wednesday 11th February** after the school Lent service or could help clear up please let Paula in the office know. Many thanks.

RUTH'S ORDINATION

Saturday June 20th 4pm at St Bridget's

We are delighted to say that Bishop Julie will be coming to St Bridget's to ordain Ruth amongst us all. Please put the date in your diary.

CONTACTS

Rector	Rev. Alex Williams	625 1052	rectorwestkirby@gmail.com
Curate	Rev. Ruth Abbott		curatewestkirby@gmail.com
Churchwardens	Ann Holden		churchwardens@stbridgetschurch.org.uk
	Anna Gibson		churchwardens@stbridgetschurch.org.uk
Retired Clergy	Rev. David Chester	625 8004	
	Rev. Mary Railton-Crowder	384 2482	
	Rev. Canon Anne Samuels and Rev. Canon Ray Samuels	625 3492	
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Rosemary Morgan	0782 1672232	safeguardingwestkirby@gmail.com
Parish Office		0151 625 2739	office@stbridgetschurch.org.uk