

PARISH DIARY

TODAY 24th March 2019

Saffron Walden	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	President:	Paula Griffiths
	10.00am	HOLY COMMUNION + TEAM JC
	President:	David Tomlinson
	Preacher:	Rachel Prior
	12 noon	BAPTISM
Hadstock	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	Paula Griffiths
	Preacher:	Marisa Baltrock
	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	Chris Bishop
	9.15am	MATTINS
Wimbish	11.00am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	John Saxon

THIS WEEK (All at St Mary's Saffron Walden, unless stated)

Monday 25th March

8.30am Morning Prayer
 9.30am Holy Communion - *Annunciation*

Tuesday 26th March

8.30am Morning Prayer
 8.30am Morning Prayer *at Hadstock*
 2.00pm St Mary's Tinies
 5.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 27th March

8.00am Morning Prayer
 9.30am Holy Communion

Thursday 28th March

8.30am Morning Prayer

Friday 29th March

8.30am Morning Prayer
 10.00am Funeral of Jennifer Rogers

Saturday 30th March

9.00am Morning Prayer

NEXT SUNDAY 31st March 2019

Saffron Walden	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	10.00am	FAMILY SERVICE
	11.45am	HOLY COMMUNION
	6.30pm	TAIZÉ SERVICE
	9.30am	FAMILY SERVICE
Sewards End	11.15am	FAMILY SERVICE
Little Walden	9.30am	FAMILY SERVICE
Hadstock	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
Ashdon	9.15am	FAMILY SERVICE
Debden	11.00am	FAMILY SERVICE

See St Mary's church, SW, website at
www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org to find out more.



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The Grapevine

COVERING THE PARISHES OF SAFFRON WALDEN, WIMBISH, DEBDEN, ASHDON AND HADSTOCK.

Welcome to our services today

Third Sunday of Lent
24th March 2019

Collect

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading: Isaiah 55.1-9

The LORD says this: Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Gospel: Luke 13.1-9

There were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them - do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.' Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

Post Communion

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Churches Together Prayer Cycle: In March please pray for Abbey Lane & Newport URC, incorporating the Methodist Church, Dame Bradbury's School

Those who are unwell: Stan Bradley, Dennis Sheldrick, Christine Coughlan & Cherry Bryant

The family and friends of those who have died recently: Ian Barclay, Jennifer Rogers & Brian Newman (Memorial Service at St Mary's, SW, on Thursday 25th April at 2.30pm)

Those who are being baptised today at St Mary's SW: Douglas & Ivy Bird

EVENTS

LENT COURSE ON PRAYER Thursday evenings 7.30 - 8.30pm at All Saints, Great Chesterford. **28th March** – Lectio Divina, **4th April** – The Jesus Prayer, **11th April** – Praying the Eucharist Each session will be led by a clergy member of the Saffron Walden and Villages Team. *Elizabeth Marshall*

MEN'S SUPPER Our next supper will be at The Yuva, Debden on **Thursday 28th March**, 7.00 for 7.30pm. All welcome. Bring a friend. Please sign up on the notice board at the back of St Mary's church, SW, or contact Bill Rose - email: wjr2163@gmail.com – tel. 01799 516609 - before 26th March.

FLOWER FESTIVAL Flower Arrangers we need you, please come to a meeting on **Wednesday 3rd April** at 10.30am in St Mary's church, Saffron Walden. *Pam and Jane*

THE DEANERY CLERGY WIVES will meet on **Thursday 4th April** from 2.30pm at 73 Thaxted Rd. Please ring me on 01799 520007 if you would like, or can offer, transport. *Lesley Sibson*

ANNUAL MEETINGS 7TH APRIL AFTER THE 10.00AM SERVICE @ ST MARY'S, SAFFRON WALDEN Nomination forms are available at the back of St Mary's church, SW, and in the daughter churches, to fill one vacancy on Deanery Synod for one year, and six standard vacancies for members of the PCC for three years. The formal requirements for nominees are printed on the forms, but if you wish to find out more, please talk to myself, David, the churchwardens or any of the existing members. Kindly return completed nomination forms to me in person or via St Mary's parish office by **today**. The agenda and papers, including the Annual Review and financial statement, are available at the back of St Mary's church, SW. *Lisa Brook*

MAUNDY THURSDAY 18th April We will be keeping the Vigil in St Mary's SW from 9pm to midnight. To ensure the whole time is covered, please sign up on the sheet at the back of St Mary's church, SW. **FOOT WASHING** David needs 12 volunteers for the 8pm service. Kindly sign up @ back of church. *Denis*

St Mary's church, SW, invite children aged 5-9, to **EASTER FUN** on **Saturday 20th April** 10-12 in the Parish Rooms. An exciting time of singing, crafting, Easter egg hunt and learning about the Easter story. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Booking is essential and numbers are limited. To apply email matt.williamson20@me.com for a booking form.

ST MARY'S BOOK GROUP will hold their next meeting at 8.15pm on **Friday 26th April** at 4 Castle Street to discuss Julian Barnes's novel **The Noise of Time**. Please contact me if you would like a copy (SW 520291). *Robin O'Neill*

Following the Cambridge choir concert last Saturday, **£360 WAS RAISED FOR THE BUILDING PROJECT**, largely as a result of proceeds from refreshments provided by members of the Social Committee led by Sue Birchall. Thanks to Sue, Gill, Ruby and Patrick. The singers enjoyed performing in St Mary's and appreciated the welcome they received. *Caroline Goulder*

The Communications team are pleased to say that the updated **'BAPTISM'** and **'WEDDING'** LEAFLETS are now on display together with our other coloured information leaflets. *Dawn Saxon*

EASTER SERVICE CARDS are ready to be delivered to every house in Saffron Walden. Please collect a pack(s) from the back of St Mary's church SW and deliver by **10th April**. There are spare cards to give out to friends and family. A BIG THANK YOU to all those who came to help fold the cards. *Dawn*

NOTICES

TODAY

There will be **HOMEMADE MARMALADE AND JAMS** on sale at the back of St Mary's church, SW, after the 10am service. £2 a pot for the Building Project. *Lesley A. Green*

JENNY TOMLINSON'S installation as Archdeacon of Birmingham will take place in Birmingham Cathedral on **Sunday 12th May** at 3.30pm. A coach will depart from Swan Meadow Car Park at 11.45am, returning back to Saffron Walden by approx. 8.40pm. Coach tickets, £15, and more information are available from Dawn in the Parish Office.

We will be thanking Jenny and presenting her with a **FAREWELL GIFT** after Evensong on Easter Sunday. Contributions to her gift should be placed in an envelope marked "For Jenny's gift" and handed into the Parish Office or to one of the Churchwardens (*Cheques payable to Saffron Walden PCC*). Please sign her card at the back of St Mary's church, SW. Thank you. *Denis & Gill*

DAVID IS ON SABBATICAL from May to July, and his first Sunday back is 4th August. Do hold Jenny (and David) in your prayers.

A copy of the proposed **NEW ELECTORAL ROLL** is being displayed in St Mary's church, Saffron Walden, from 24th March to 7th April. If you completed and returned an application form by 10th March 2019, please check that your details are included and correct. If you applied after the deadline of 10th March, your name will be added to the electoral roll after the APCM on 7th April. *Clifford Want, Electoral Roll Officer.*

DRIVERS NEEDED The group who give older members of our congregation lifts to the 10am Service urgently need more help. 2 drivers are allocated per Sunday and as we have a growing number of requests for help; we are in need of new drivers. No previous experience necessary. Please contact *Carolyn Mann* 500311 or carolyn1062@gmail.com **TWAM (Tools With A Mission)** are a Christian charity who repurpose all sorts of tools, machinery, fabrics etc. for ongoing use mainly in Africa. They are used to enable local people to set up small businesses and become self-supporting of their families. A list of what is needed is in St Mary's Parish Office. I am happy to collect and store prior to transportation to the main charity warehouse. Please let me know if you might be able to help. *Sue Birchall* 521297 sbirchall29@gmail.com

EDITOR OF ST MARY'S PARISH NEWS Thank you to John Sibson for his work and commitment in this role. As he is stepping down, we are looking for an enthusiastic person who has experience of using the IT Publisher programme to take on this role. The new co-ordinator will work with the Communications Committee (CC) to review the content, format and style of the magazine. If you are interested, please contact Rufus Barnes, Chairman of the CC on 523776 or email loavesandfishes@ymail.com. *David*

7TH SAFFRON WALDEN (ST. MARY'S) GUIDES The Guide Unit is in urgent need of leadership help after Easter. The unit, sponsored by St. Mary's Church, is thriving and currently has 19 girls aged 10-13 years. There is support available. Please contact me if you or someone you know would be willing to help. margaret.jacobs@hotmail.co.uk 01799 522801/07813 181835 *Margaret Jacobs*

CLERGY TEAM

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Parish Administrator: Dawn Saxon	01799 506024
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