

PARISH DIARY

TODAY 8th December 2019

Saffron Walden	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	President:	Paula Griffiths
	10.00am	HOLY COMMUNION + TEAM JC
	President:	Rachel Prior
Sewards End	4.00pm	CHRISTINGLE SERVICE
	Leader:	Rachel Prior
	Talk:	Tracey Nicholls
Little Walden	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	Chris Bishop
Hadstock	11.15am	FAMILY SERVICE
	Leader:	Tracey Nicholls
	Talk:	Richard Peet
Ashdon	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	President:	Paula Griffiths
Debden	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	Richard Spencer
Wimbish	9.15am	FAMILY COMMUNION
	President:	John Saxon
Wimbish	11.00am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	John Saxon

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

Monday 9th December

8.30am Morning Prayer

Tuesday 10th December

8.30am Morning Prayer

8.30am Morning Prayer *at Hadstock*

2.00pm St Mary's Tinies

5.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 11th December

8.00am Morning Prayer

9.30am Holy Communion

Thursday 12th December

8.30am Morning Prayer

Friday 13th December

8.30am Morning Prayer

Saturday 14th December

9.00am Morning Prayer

NEXT SUNDAY

15th December 2019

Saffron Walden	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	10.00am	FAMILY SERVICE
	11.45am	HOLY COMMUNION
	4.00pm	HOLY COMMUNION <i>with prayers for wholeness & healing</i>
Hadstock	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
Ashdon	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
	6.30pm	CAROL SERVICE
Debden	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION
Wimbish	11.00am	MATINS

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
Second Sunday of Advent
8th December 2019

Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

First Reading: Isaiah 11.1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Gospel: Matthew 3.1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Post Communion

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Churches Together Prayer Cycle: In December please pray for New Life Church & Gt Chesterford Primary School
Those who are unwell: Ken Ryles, Anne Rose, Lilian Maddams, Mark O'Neill
The family and friends of those who have died recently: Denise Johnson

EVENTS

THE DEANERY CLERGY WIVES will meet for a light lunch on **Monday 9th December** from 12-2pm at the home of Gill Lovegrove, 8 Beck Road, Saffron Walden, CB11 4EH. I do hope you will be able to join us. Please let me know if you will be coming, if you would like a lift, and of course, of any dietary requirements. *Lesley Sibson* [tel.520007](tel:520007)

WWW WOMEN WHO WONDER. This is a group for Christian women to discuss, share and learn together. We have a social on **10th December** at 8pm. We meet at 59a Clay Pit Piece. For further details contact Gill Caswell on 01799 520485.

ST MARY'S BOOK GROUP will hold their next meeting at 8.15pm on **Friday 13th December** at 4 Castle Street to discuss **Thomas Hardy's** novel **Jude the Obscure**. Please contact me if you would like a copy (SW 520291). *Robin O'Neill*

STREET PRAYER/PASTOR PRAYER MEETING
Friday 13th December 8-9.30pm at the Community Church lounge, Castle Street, SW. All welcome. *Dawn Saxon*

University of London Chamber Choir Alumni singers will be leading **SUNG EUCHARIST** at Holy Trinity, Littlebury on **15th December** at 11.00am. All welcome. They're also **SINGING CAROLS** in the Market Square on **14th December** from 2pm in aid of the Mayor's charity raising money for an emergency children's ambulance as part of Team Max fundraising for children's services for Addenbrookes Hospital. *Janice Rust*

COFFEE, CAKES AND COMPANY **Sunday 15th December** 3pm - in St Mary's Parish Rooms. All welcome.

EVENING PRAYER OVER CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR Due to Tuesdays falling both on Christmas Eve (24th December) and New Year's Eve (31st December) there will be no evening prayer. We start back on **Tuesday 7th January**, which will be followed by mulled wine and nibbles at 3 Springhill Road. *Sue Walker*

All items for the **GRAPEVINE** should be sent to secretary.swrectory@ntlworld.com by 9am on Wednesdays.

ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS FAIR You did it again! All you stars, shepherds, kings, angels and other wonderful characters, all in the Starlight Cafe, our wonderfully talented musicians, singers and bell-ringers, every single stallholder, our publicists, printers, setters up and clearers away, all who came to support and help in every way – **THANK YOU**. The Christmas Fair would have been nothing without you. A marvellous £5,500 plus was raised for church funds, but more importantly brought hundreds of people into St Mary's. Well done! *Richard Garvey*

A selection of **PHOTOS** taken can be seen in the News section of the church website. *Martin*

NOTICES

THANK YOU so much for a wonderful final weekend. The Barn Dance, the glorious celebration of Christ the King on Sunday 24th November, and the cards, gifts and affirmation. I'll enjoy riding the state-of-the art bike, the picture of Saffron Walden and spending the generous cheque. Working with and knowing you have been such a joy. With love and prayers. *David*

DAVID'S FAREWELL Photos can be seen in the News section of the website. *Martin*

A HUGE THANK YOU to all who helped with the Barn Dance. I know David and his family really enjoyed the occasion as I am sure all who attended did. It was a great success and shows what team work can do. *Gill and Denis*

ST MARY'S PARISH OFFICE - LOOKING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WEEKDAY MORNINGS.

We would like to invite a few more people to join our dedicated Parish Office Team. The office is open weekday mornings 9.30am – 12 noon. Have you a couple of mornings each month to spare? You need to be able to work independently as well as part of a team. If this could be you, or to enquire further, please speak to *Dawn Saxon*.

JIMMY'S Please consider Jimmy's this Christmas. We are hoping to use any money donated to purchase sleeping bags and blankets as there is a need this winter. Please see the notice board at the rear of St Mary's church, SW, for more information. *Timothy Game*

Copies of the revised "**WHO'S WHO AT ST MARY'S**" are now available at the back of St Mary's church, SW, or from the Parish Office. This use to appear on the inside cover of the old style Parish News magazine, but because of GDPR and the fact that the new Parish News magazine is available via the web we can no longer include it. Please let me know of any amendments. *Dawn Saxon*

A BIG THANK YOU to all those who came to help count the Christmas cards into bundles in readiness for delivery from this Sunday onwards. **CHRISTMAS CARDS** are ready to be delivered to all the homes in Saffron Walden. **WE NEED YOUR HELP**. Please pick up the card(s) you would like to deliver today. We hope to deliver them all this week and next. Many thanks. *Dawn Saxon*

Foreign and British commemorative **STAMPS, CURRENCY & BRITISH COINS** and notes that are no longer in circulation, please hand to me or St Mary's Parish Office. All proceeds go to Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. *Margaret Walter*

CLERGY TEAM

Parish Administrator: Dawn Saxon	01799 506024
Email: office@stmaryssaffronwalden.org	
Revd Paula Griffiths	01799 599141
Revd Tim Hardingham	01799 542874
Revd Alex Jeewan	01799 531153
Revd Richard Spencer	01799 584171
Revd. Angela Want	01799 540051
Revd Rachel Prior	01799 500047
Revd John Saxon	01799 541619