

# Year 0 - 1400

## Country/World

St. Augustine  
arrives c.600

St. Cedd sent  
to convert the  
East Anglians  
650:

## Town

Saxon settlement near  
Gibson Estate c.600

Village called 'Walden'

## Norman Period 1066 - 1154

Battle of Hastings  
1066

Domesday Book  
1086/88

Magna Carta  
1215

Market moved here from  
Newport 1141  
Town re-named Chepyngge Walden

Walden Abbey built  
near Audley End House  
1136 - 1139

Town name changed  
to Saffron Walden  
c. 1350

Castle built  
c.1125

Castle demolished  
c. 1157

1000

1100

1200

1300

1400

## St. Mary's

Norman church  
built in Castle grounds  
c. 1130

1<sup>st</sup> vicar appointed  
Master Roger  
1215

Church re-modelled  
in Decorated Period  
style c. 1250

**Year 1400 - 1500**

**Country/World**

Battle of Agincourt  
1415

**Tudor Period 1485 - 1603**

America discovered  
1492

**Town**

1400

1425

1450

1475

1500

**St. Mary's**

Preliminary work on  
new church 1430 -1450

First reference to     John Leche, Vicar  
bells at St. Mary's     1489 - 1521  
1450

First mention of  
an organ at St. Mary's  
1451

Contract with John Wastell  
to build present church  
1485

## Year 1500 - 1600

### Country/World

Henry viii  
1509 - 1547

Henry viii  
break with Rome  
1532

Dissolution of  
the monasteries  
1536 - 1541

Elizabeth i  
1558 - 1603

Spanish armada  
1588

### Town

Guild of the  
Holy Trinity  
1514 (formed to enable  
the profits from  
the market to be  
used for the church build)

Walden Abbey  
dissolved  
1537

1500

1525

1550

1575

1600

### St. Mary's

Present  
St. Mary's  
completed  
c. 1530

Tomb of Lord Audley  
installed 1544

Destruction of  
'shrines to saints'  
and 'idolatry'  
sanctioned by  
Henry viii  
1540

Royal Commission  
confiscates plate and  
vestments etc from  
St. Mary's  
1553

## Year 1600 - 1700

### The Stuarts 1603 - 1714

#### Country/World

King James' Bible  
authorised for use  
1611

Pilgrim Fathers  
go to America  
1620

English Civil War  
1642 - 1648

Cromwellian  
Commonwealth  
1649 - 1659

Charles I  
executed  
Jan 1649

Book of Common Prayer  
approved for use  
1662

Great Fire  
of London  
1666

#### Town

Audley End House  
built 1605 - 1615

1600

1625

1650

1675

1700

#### St. Mary's

Thomas Turner's Will  
provides for bells to  
be rung to celebrate  
his safe return home  
(Great Ringing Day)  
1623

Oliver Cromwell  
comes to St. Mary's  
to speak to the  
Roundhead Army  
who are on the brink  
of mutiny  
1647

Royal Coat of Arms  
installed to mark  
the Restoration of  
the Monarchy  
1660

## Year 1700 - 1850

### The Georgians 1714 - 1830

#### Country/World

Battle of Trafalgar 1805      Battle of Waterloo 1815

#### Town

Violent storm  
damages  
St. Mary's  
1769

Town clock  
installed in  
St. Mary's tower  
1823

Building of  
new spire  
1831 - 1833

1700

1750

1800

1825

1850

#### St. Mary's

Bishop of London  
threatens to close  
St. Mary's unless  
repairs are undertaken  
1789

New peal of  
8 bells  
installed  
1798

Present organ first  
built in gallery at  
the west end of  
the church  
1824

Major restoration of  
St. Mary's  
1790 - 1799

## Year 1850 - 2000

### The Victorians 1837 - 1901

#### Country/World

Great War  
1914 - 1919

Modernised Prayer Book  
approved for use  
by the churches  
1928

#### Town

1850

1875

1900

1925

1950

1975

2000

#### St. Mary's

Re-modelling of  
the Sanctuary.  
Closure of  
Howard vault  
1860s

Organ rebuilt and  
moved to the  
South Chapel  
1885

Bells increased  
to 12  
1914

Lower rood screen  
erected  
1924

Upper rood screen  
erected and organ  
console resited there  
1951

Bells rehung  
1962

Repairs to  
tower and  
spire  
1970s