

PARISH DIARY

TODAY **29th January 2012**

Saffron Walden	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	President:	Michael Swindlehurst
	10.00am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	David Tomlinson
	12.00noon	BAPTISM SERVICE for Betsy Rayner and Amelia Trimmell
	Officiant:	David Tomlinson
	4.00pm	TAIZÉ SERVICE
	Officiant:	Tim Hardingham
Ashdon	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	Wendy Moore
Debden	10.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	President:	Hilary Davey

As Rural Dean, David Tomlinson is attending the installation of the new Bishop of Bradwell, John Wraw, at Chelmsford Cathedral at 4pm this afternoon.

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

Monday, 30th January

8.30am Morning Prayer

Tuesday, 31st January

8.30am Morning Prayer
2.00pm St Mary's Tinies

Wednesday, 1st February

8.00am Morning Prayer
9.30am Holy Communion

Thursday, 2nd February

8.30am Morning Prayer
1.00pm Service with Prayers for Wholeness & Healing

Friday, 3rd February

8.30am Morning Prayer

Saturday, 4th February

8.30am Prayer Meeting in the Parish Room

NEXT SUNDAY 5th February

Saffron Walden	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	10.00am	HOLY COMMUNION
	6.30pm	H2H YOUTH SERVICE
Ashdon	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
Hadstock	11.00am	FAMILY SERVICE
Debden	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
Wimbish	10.00am	FAMILY SERVICE

There will be no services at Swards End, or Little Walden but you are welcome to come along to any services above.

The Five Parishes of which Chris Warren is Team Vicar, now have their own version of the Grapevine giving details of services for Wendens Ambo, Littlebury, Littlebury Green and Great and Little Chesterford.

The Grapevine

Welcome to our services today *Presentation of Christ in the Temple*

Collect for the day

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading *Hebrews 2:14-18*

Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Gospel *Luke 2:22-40*

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Those to be baptised today:

Betsy Rayner and Amelia Trimnell

Those who are ill: Ken Caswell, Doris Willment, Pat Bailey, Richard Hordern, and Jean Petchey.

Churches Together Prayer Cycle: In January we are praying for the people of the Gold Street Chapel and their minister, Revd Jonathan Burton.

NOTICES

DIOCESAN VISION: Last Saturday, a number from this Deanery attended a consultation day about the strategic aims of the Diocese. Find out more on this website: www.transformingpresence.org.uk.

HEALING SERVICE: There will be a service with prayers for wholeness and healing on **Thursday, 2nd February** at 1pm at St Mary's. All welcome whether you seek healing for yourself or another.

JIMMY'S SHELTER CHRISTMAS APPEAL. Great news! We have collected £1,200 (£728.23 of it is giftaided). Thank you very much to all donors. *Kathleen Huey* Please remember our collection for Jimmy's next Sunday, 5th February. The noticeboard at the back of Church gives you details. Thank you.

THANK YOU to all who read St Mark's Gospel last Sunday. It was very moving and much appreciated by those present. Thanks also for the delicious refreshments! *Paula*

BIBLE STUDY SMALL GROUPS - New Topic - '**Exploring God's Mercy**'. starting January 2012. Join us at any time of the year – contact your Group Leader for more details. There are four groups meeting - the evening sessions begin at 7.45pm and finish at 9.15pm. If you would like more information, please call Revd Anne Howson 01799 500563 revanne@ntlworld.com or Denis Tindley 01799 524436 dtindley@compuserve.com

PRAYER RETREAT 17TH-19TH FEBRUARY: There are still a few places left. If you would like to make a last-minute decision to go, please ring Margaret on 500292.

Fees: The balance of £92 per person needs to be paid by **31st January**. Would retreatants please send a cheque to the Parish Office, made payable to "Saffron Walden DCC" and labelled "Prayer Retreat." Many thanks.

THE MONTH Diocesan Newspaper for February is available at the back of church. Please take a copy.

"PARISH NEWS" (the new look Church News) is published this weekend and is available on the Book Stall.

MARMALADE: Lesley will be selling Marmalade at the back of church after the 10am service this morning, in aid of Church Music. £2/pot.

CLERGY TEAM

Rector: Revd David Tomlinson 01799 500947

Email: rector@stmaryssaffronwalden.org

Rector's Secretary: Debbie Sandom 01799 500947

Email: secretary@stmaryssaffronwalden.org

Revd Hilary Davey 01799 522616

Revd Paula Griffiths 01799 599141

Revd Tim Hardingham 01799 542874

Revd Anne Howson 01799 500563

Revd Wendy Moore 01799 584171

Revd Jenny Tomlinson 01799 500757

Revd Christopher Warren 01799 530317

Parish Office 01799 506024

Email: office@stmaryssaffronwalden.org

for more information, visit:
www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org

EVENTS

"Cinder's Supper"

Saturday, 4th February

3 course meal with entertainment and a panto theme - 7.30 for 8.00pm. See back of church for more details, and add your name to the list if you would like to come.

Men's Breakfast - Saturday 11th February

at 8:30am in the Parish Rooms

The speaker will be Denis Tindley. If you are interested in coming please sign the sheet on the notice board at the back of the church. Contact Mike Watts 502048 or Jeremy Collingwood 529055 for more details.

STAMP SALE: in the Town Hall on Saturday, 11th February, in aid of church funds.

Colchester Area Conference

"Let us Pray"

Saturday 11th February 9.30-3.30

@ St John's Church, Colchester - this year's Conference marks the 350th Anniversary of the Book of Common Prayer and explores the way we pray together. More details at the back of church. If you wish to attend **please let the Parish Office know by 31st January**. Coffee will be served at 9.30am with a 10am start and a 3.30pm finish. (Don't forget to bring a packed lunch!) Cost is £5 each - discounts available for block bookings.

A MEN'S CURRY NIGHT

is planned for **8pm Friday 17th February** at **The Mogul**, Saffron Walden. If you would like to come please add your name to the list on the notice board at the back of church or contact Bill Rose (516609) **as soon as possible** as it may be necessary to limit numbers.

Diary Dates:

Saturday, 17th March: Vocations Day - a chance to find out more about opportunities to serve God and his people. Held at John Owen Barn near Fordham Church, Colchester, 9.30am to 3.50pm. Contact the Parish office for details.

Saturday, 2nd to Sunday, 10th June - St Mary's will be holding a Music & Flower Festival to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. As this event will replace our Summer Fair, your help to make it a great success is needed. To find out more, please see the fliers available in church today.

Lent & Eastertide Schools 2012 - a series of short courses running across the diocese between Ash Wednesday and Pentecost. See poster in church or contact the Parish Office for details.

TOM GEPPS MEMORIAL SERVICE: We have had a very warm letter from the family thanking all those involved in the service. The family are very appreciative. *David*

All items for the Grapevine should be sent to the Parish Office by 1pm on Wednesdays. *Thank you!*

THE TRANSITION PROJECT

Looking for a job? Self-help and support, CV writing and improving, Interview practice, job search, discussion.

Tuesdays 10am to 12 noon in the Parish Rooms, beside

St Mary's Church, Saffron Walden

www.transitionproject.co.uk