

## PARISH DIARY

TODAY 10th December 2017

<b>Saffron Walden</b>	8.00am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION 1662</b>
	President:	Jenny Tomlinson
	10.00am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
	President:	David Tomlinson
	4.00pm	<b>CHRISTINGLE SERVICE</b>
	Leader:	David Tomlinson
	Talk:	Rachel Prior
<b>Sewards End</b>	9.30am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
	President:	Jenny Tomlinson
<b>Hadstock</b>	9.30am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION 1662</b>
	President:	Paula Griffiths
<b>Little Walden</b>	11.15am	<b>FAMILY SERVICE</b>
	Leader:	Tracey Nicholls
	Talk:	Richard Peet
<b>Ashdon</b>	9.30am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
	President:	Richard Spencer
<b>Debden</b>	4.00pm	<b>CHRISTINGLE SERVICE</b>
	Leader:	John Saxon
<b>Wimbish</b>	11.00am	<b>CHRISTINGLE SERVICE</b>
	Leader:	John Saxon

**THIS WEEK** (All at St Mary's Saffron Walden, unless stated)**Monday 11th December**

8.30am Morning Prayer

**Tuesday 12th December**

8.30am Morning Prayer

8.30am Morning Prayer *at Hadstock*

2.00pm St Mary's Tinies

**Wednesday 13th December**

8.00am Morning Prayer

9.30am Holy Communion

2.00pm Funeral of Mary de Vries

**Thursday 14th December**

8.30am Morning Prayer

**Friday 15th December**

8.30am Morning Prayer

**Saturday 16th December**

9.00am Morning Prayer

5.00pm Carol Service *at Sewards End*5.00pm Carol Service *at Little Walden***NEXT SUNDAY 17th December 2017**

<b>Saffron Walden</b>	8.00am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION 1662</b>
	10.00am	<b>FAMILY SERVICE + BAPTISM</b>
	11.45am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
	6.30pm	<b>A SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS &amp; CAROLS</b>
<b>Hadstock</b>	9.30am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
<b>Ashdon</b>	9.30am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
	6.30pm	<b>CAROL SERVICE</b>
<b>Debden</b>	6.30pm	<b>CAROL SERVICE</b>
<b>Wimbish</b>	3.00pm	<b>CAROL SERVICE</b>

**Post Communion** (cont'd from front page)

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.



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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**  
**10th December 2017**

**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 40.1-11**

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.' A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

**Gospel: Mark 1.1-8**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight"', John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

(cont'd on back page)

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

**The family and friends of those who have died recently:**

Mary de Vries

**Churches Together Prayer Cycle:** In December please pray for New Life Pentecostal Church & Gt Chesterford Primary School

**Those who are unwell:** Dennis Sheldrick & Jenny Gallant

## EVENTS

**DEANERY CLERGY SPOUSES** We shall meet for lunch from 12.15 on **Tuesday 12th December** at 55 Audley Road, by kind invitation of the Collingwoods. A £5 donation is requested please. Kindly let Lesley Sibson know soon if you would like to attend, and if you need, or can offer, transport. Tel: 520007.

**WWW** will meet for a **SOCIAL EVENING** on **Tuesday 12th December** at 8pm at Gill Caswell's home, 59A Claypit Piece, Saffron Walden CB10 2DR. Please bring a small plate of finger food to share. All women of working age or thereabouts are very welcome to come along to this friendly group. Further details from [alisoncinque@hotmail.com](mailto:alisoncinque@hotmail.com)

**LIGHTING THE CHRISTMAS TREE SERVICES** at 4pm and 6pm on Christmas Eve. At both services, you can bring presents for children. These will go to EACH – East Anglian Children's Hospice. The collection will be shared between the church and 'Together in Sound,' one of the mayoral charities that is run by Saffron Hall. They provide ten-week music courses for those living with dementia and their carers. Professional musicians will provide weekly music workshops. There will be opportunities to sing, play instruments and create music as well as to meet others in the coffee hour that bookends each session. *David*

**AFTERSHOCK** warmly invites you to **JIMMY'S FUND-RAISING MEAL** on **6th January** to raise money for Jimmy's Night Shelter. The evening will consist of a sumptuous three course dinner with entertainment between courses by the young people of Aftershock. There is no set price for the meal but all donations received will go to Jimmy's. Spaces are limited so please sign up as soon as possible at the back of St Mary's church or email Matt with your menu choice.

**EVENING PRAYER** Another opportunity to pray together! Evening Prayer is starting from the **9th January** at 5pm in the North Chapel every Tuesday and we would love you to join us. *Sue Walker*

**THURSDAY PRAISE** – an evening of worship, teaching and getting to know each other better in St Mary's Parish Rooms on **Thursday 18th January**. Refreshments will be on offer from 7.45pm and we'll start at 8pm. All welcome. *David*

**'COME WITH US TO ISRAEL AND SEE THE BIBLE COME TO LIFE'** Rufus Barnes will be leading his sixth tour of Israel from the **4th to the 14th of October 2018**. Previous tours have been enjoyed by both clergy and members of congregations from Saffron Walden and the surrounding parishes, as well as elsewhere in the country. If you would like to join this exciting tour of many of the places referred to in the Bible, please contact Rufus for more information and a brochure. (523776 or [loavesandfishes@ymail.com](mailto:loavesandfishes@ymail.com)) Rufus has been approached by a lady in Saffron Walden who would be interested in sharing a room with another lady to avoid the single supplement. If this would be of interest to anyone, please contact Rufus.

### WEEKEND AWAY - 29 June to 1 July at Belsey Bridge near Bungay Suffolk

Our theme is 'Sharing God's Love' and our speaker is Bishop Stephen Cottrell. Come and enjoy a weekend of friendship, learning together and fun for all the family. The weekend offers comfortable accommodation (including many en-suite rooms) and delicious fully catered meals from Friday dinner to Sunday tea. There will be a crèche and activities for under 11s and 11-18 year olds. Cost £140-£170 per person full board, day rates available, under 18s FREE. Pick up a booking form or go St Mary's website [www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org](http://www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org) for more details. £50 deposit needed to book. Don't miss out!

## NOTICES

TODAY

**ST MARY'S CHRISTINGLE SERVICE @ 4.00pm -**  
All welcome. *David*

**SEASON OF INVITATION** In this year of invitation, do pray about who you can invite to come with you to: the Service of Nine Lessons & Carols on **17th December** at 6.30pm and Midnight Holy Communion on **Christmas Eve** at 11.30pm. There will be a Family Holy Communion on **Christmas Day** at 10.00am. In addition, all are welcome to any of our other services in Advent and at Christmas. *David*

Starting in the New Year: **THE PARENTING CHILDREN COURSE**. Free five week course for mums and dads of children 0-10 years on Friday mornings at 9.30-11.30, from **26th January**. For more information and to book your place, please contact Rachel, 500047.

**BUILDING WORK** The excavation contractors have left until Mon 8th January when they will return to complete another 2-3 weeks work. The installation of the WC in the south west corner will start on this same day and will take 3-4 months to complete. More details to follow in the New Year. *Steve Hasler*

**ST MARY'S PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** from Monday 25th December until Tuesday 2nd January inclusive. It will re-open on Wednesday 3rd January at 9.30am.

**ST MARY'S PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE** You will find a poster at the back of St Mary's church by the west door inviting you to write a Christmas message. Please sign it and put the money you would otherwise have spent on a card and a stamp into the blue safe (near the west door). *Sue Riches*

**JANUARY SERVICES AT ST MARY'S** H2H Youth Led Service at 6.30pm on **7th January**, Family Service at 10.00am and Choral Evensong at 4.00pm on **14th January**, Epiphany Carol Service at 6.30pm on **21st January** and Celebrate@4 at 4.00pm on **28th January**. All welcome. *David*

**THE UNITED SERVICE** will be held at the Baptist Church at 10.00am on **Sunday 21st January**. All welcome. *David*

If you have any **UNUSED STAMPS** or **OLD/UNUSED COINS** please save them and leave in St Mary's Parish Office in aid of Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. Thank you. *Margaret Walter*

**SERVICE SHEET:** If you would like a copy of the Service Sheet in large print, please ask one of the Welcomers at St Mary's church. All items for the Grapevine should be sent to [secretary.swrectory@ntlworld.com](mailto:secretary.swrectory@ntlworld.com) by **9am on Wednesdays**. *Thank you.*

### THE TRANSITION PROJECT

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](http://www.transitionproject.co.uk)

## CLERGY TEAM

Rector: Revd Canon David Tomlinson 01799 500947  
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Revd Richard Spencer 01799 584171  
Revd Canon Jenny Tomlinson 01799 500757  
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