

PARISH DIARY

TODAY 18th February 2018

Saffron Walden	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	President:	David Tomlinson
	10.00am	FAMILY SERVICE
	Leader:	David Tomlinson
	Talk:	Rachel Prior
	11.45am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	David Tomlinson
	Preacher:	John Saxon
	4.00pm	HOLY COMMUNION (with prayers for wholeness & healing)
	President:	Jenny Tomlinson
Hadstock	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	Paula Griffiths
Ashdon	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	Richard Spencer
Debden	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	Jeremy Coillingwood
Wimbish	11.00am	MATTINS
	Leader:	Home Team

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

Monday 19th February

8.30am Morning Prayer

Tuesday 20th February

8.30am Morning Prayer

8.30am Morning Prayer *at Hadstock*

2.00pm St Mary's Tinies

5.00pm Evening Prayer *in the North Chapel***Wednesday 21st February**

8.00am Morning Prayer

9.30am Holy Communion

Thursday 22nd February

8.30am Morning Prayer

8.00pm Thursday Praise *in St Mary's Parish Rooms***Friday 23rd February**

8.30am Morning Prayer

Saturday 24th February

9.00am Morning Prayer

NEXT SUNDAY 25th February 2018

Saffron Walden	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	10.00am	HOLY COMMUNION
	4.00pm	EVENSONG
Sewards End	9.30am	MORNING PRAISE
Little Walden	11.15am	HOLY COMMUNION
Hadstock	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
Ashdon	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
Debden	9.30am	MATTINS
Wimbish	11.00am	HOLY COMMUNION

The Grapevine

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

Welcome to our services today

First Sunday of Lent**18th February 2018****Collect**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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: 1 Peter 3.18-22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Gospel: Mark 1.9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.' And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

Post Communion

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



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<https://twitter.com/RectorSW>



Please 'Like' our Facebook page so we reach more people! Click on the link on our website, or go to:
www.facebook.com/saintmaryschurchsaffronwalden

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Churches Together Prayer Cycle: In February please pray for Our Lady of Compassion Roman Catholic Church & St Thomas More School

Those who are unwell: Dennis Sheldrick, Jenny Gallant, Charles White & Pam Russell

The family and friends of those who have died recently: Harold Grayling, Phyllis Parker & Raymond Holroyd

Those whose wedding banns are being called: Kelvin Kaliyati & Jessica Stuckey

EVENTS

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SAFFRON WALDEN 'THE GOSPELS & THE CROSS...' SERIES OF TALKS FOR LENT ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS (please note that the day shown on the Lent and Easter Leaflet is incorrect) 8pm-9pm (refreshments from 7.45pm). **21st February:** Speaker: Fr David Clemens "The Gospel of Matthew and the Cross" at Our Lady of Compassion RC Church, **28th February:** Speaker: Revd Caroline Vodden "The Gospel of Mark and the Cross" at Abbey Lane URC. **7th March:** Speaker: Revd Canon David Tomlinson "The Gospel of John and the Cross" at SW Baptist Church. **14th March:** Speaker: Revd Jonathan Burton "The Gospel of Luke and the Cross" at SW Community Church. All welcome.

All are welcome to our midweek informal service **'THURSDAY PRAISE'** on **22nd February** in St Mary's Parish Rooms. We will be looking at Philippians 2 and exploring what it means for our lives today. Refreshments served at 7.45, and we'll start at 8pm. *Rachel Prior*

ST MARY'S BOOK GROUP will hold their next meeting at 8.15pm on **Friday 23rd February** at 4 Castle Street to discuss **Zadie Smith's** novel **NW**. Please contact me if you would like a copy (SW 520291). *Robin O'Neill*

WOMEN'S OWN meets again on **Saturday 24th February** at 9.00am in St Mary's Parish Rooms for breakfast and "Why on earth have sermons?" with Revd Canon Chris Bishop! If you would like to join us, please sign up on the board at the back of St Mary's church, SW, telephone Margaret Taylor 500292, or email judithfelgate@gmail.com by Wednesday 21st February. All ladies welcome.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER **Friday 2nd March**, 10.30am coffee, 11am Service at the URC, Abbey Lane. Theme: 'All God's Creation is very Good' prepared by the women of Suriname. Leader: Revd Caroline Vodden. All welcome. *Eunice Harris*

HOMEGROUP SUPPER The small group that convened last year to watch DVDs on the Old Testament Prophets is regrouping, led by Andy Colebrooke, to study a book by Graham Tomlin, who is currently Bishop of Kensington. The book is called 'Looking through the Cross' and, as the title suggests, it is not so much a book about the cross as an object, but a lens through which we can look at the rest of life. It can shape how we understand God, ourselves and the world around us. If you would like to learn a little bit more about the book and our group, then come along to a simple supper on **Monday 5th March**, at 7 for 7.15 pm at 3 Springhill Road. Please book your place at the table as numbers are limited, by contacting Sue Walker (email: suewalker619@btinternet.com), 'phone 01799 523007.

EASTER CARD FOLDING We will be holding a working party to fold 7000 cards on **Thursday 8th March** from 9.30am – 12noon in St Mary's Parish Rooms. ALL welcome to come and help for as little or as long as you are able. Refreshments and excellent company guaranteed! Thank you. *Dawn Saxon*

74TH SALE OF STAMPS The next sale, in aid of St Mary's SW Church Building and Music Funds, will be on **Saturday 10th March**. Thousands of individual stamps at the Town Hall Committee Room from 9.30 to noon. A warm welcome (and a cup of coffee) - even to those who are not dedicated stamp collectors! *David Hoy*

NOTICES

TODAY

STEWARDSHIP OF MONEY If you have not had a letter yet, do pick up one from the back of St Mary's SW labelled 'Dear Friend.' We'd be pleased if you'd return your response form by Sunday 4th March. Thank you to all those who have already responded. *David, Denis and Pam.*

COFFEE, CAKES AND COMPANY: 3pm -
in St Mary's Parish Rooms. All welcome.

ISAAC GAME is being baptised at the Baptist Church on **Wednesday 28th March** at 4.00pm. All welcome. *David*

CAR PARKING AT THE WEST END OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SW When parking at the West End, please ensure space is left for cars to pass. Thank you. *David*

DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD LENT APPEAL To raise vital money to support their link, Diocese of Marsabit, in northern Kenya, for a water bowser to be used during drought. Further info: www.chelmsford.anglican.org/lentappeal *David*

BRUNCH Thank you to all those who have offered to help with Brunch, which we are hoping to offer regularly after the Family Service. If you can be on the rota once-in-a-while, do let Pete Taylor know on 500292 or peter.taylor.farming@ntlworld.com *David*

The public notice of our proposals to install some **STORAGE AT THE FRONT OF THE NORTH AISLE** is now on display inside and outside of St Mary's SW. More details are available for viewing in the Parish Office for those who are interested. *Steve Hasler*

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who donated empty jam jars and/or has bought marmalade from me over the past three weeks. I have been able to give £280 profit to the Building Fund. *Lesley A Green*

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOX HOLDERS Please hand in during February/March in one of two ways: 1) to St Mary's Parish Office, 2) count your contribution and hand it in cheque payable to the Children's Society. Thank you. *Eunice Harris, Society Rep.*

Please remember to hand in your **OLD STAMPS & COINS** for Hearing Dogs for the Deaf by the end of **FEBRUARY** as they will no longer be accepting these after this date. Thank you. *Margaret Walter*

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) for more details. £50 deposit required needed to book. Don't miss out!

CLERGY TEAM

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Revd Tim Hardingham 01799 542874

Revd Richard Spencer 01799 584171

Revd Canon Jenny Tomlinson 01799 500757

Revd. Angela Want 01799 540051

Revd Rachel Prior 01799 500047

Revd John Saxon 01799 541619

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