

**THIS WEEK'S SERVICES
AROUND THE TEAM**

SUNDAY 11th December

8.00am Holy Communion 1662
10.00am Holy Communion (livestreamed)
+ Team JC
4.00pm Christingle

St James' Swards End

9.30am Holy Communion

St John's Little Walden

11.00am Holy Communion

All Saints Ashdon

9.30am Holy Communion

St Mary's Debden

9.30am Holy Communion (livestreamed)

St Peter's Littlebury Green

4.00pm Carols & Christingle

All Saints Great Chesterford

11.00am Holy Communion (livestreamed)

TUESDAY

8.30am Morning Prayer, Hadstock
9.30am St Mary's Tinies, Saffron Walden Church
5.00pm Evening Prayer - Zoom only, SW
5.00pm Evening Prayer - Zoom only, Cam Villages

WEDNESDAY

8.00am Morning Prayer, Saffron Walden Church
9.30am Holy Communion, Saffron Walden Church
9.30am Toddler Church, Great Chesterford
5.00pm Evening Prayer - Zoom only, Cam Villages

THURSDAY

5.00pm Evening Prayer - Zoom only, Cam Villages

SATURDAY

5.00pm Carol Service, Swards End
5.00pm Carol Service, Little Walden

NEXT SUNDAY 18th DECEMBER

St Mary's Saffron Walden

8.00am Holy Communion 1662 (livestreamed)
10.00am Family Service
6.30pm 9 Lessons & Carols (livestreamed)

St Botolph's Hadstock

9.30am Sunday Worship

All Saints Ashdon

6.30pm Carol Service

St Mary's Debden

6.30pm Carol Service

All Saints Wimbish

3.00pm Carol Service

St Mary's Wendens Ambo

6.30pm Carol Service

Holy Trinity Littlebury

11.15am Holy Communion & Coffee

All Saints Great Chesterford

4.00pm Christingle

St Mary's Little Chesterford

3.30pm Carol Service

*Links for livestreamed services are available on
the weekly bulletin.*

*Please contact the Parish Administrator
to be added to the mailing list.*

The Grapevine

Welcome to our services today

**3rd Sunday of Advent
11th December 2022**

Collect

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way
of your Son:

give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

First Reading: Isaiah 35 v 1-10

Psalm: 146 v 4-10

Second Reading: James 5 v 7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11 v 2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

Post Communion

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

In December please pray for: St Peter's Littlebury Green, Holy Trinity Littlebury, New Life Church Saffron Walden and Great Chesterford School

The family and friends of those who have died recently: Michael Start, Doris Dare, Mary Binks, Glenys Heath & Barbara Cooper

EVENTS

The Prayer Team have two **ADVENT PRAYER SPACES** in St Mary's, Saffron Walden from **5th - 12th December**. We pray they will help others to reflect on themes of journeying towards peace as we approach Christmas. Look out for them!

CAROL SINGING AROUND THE VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE in Swards End on **Wednesday 21st December** at **6pm** followed by mulled wine and mince pies. Donations for Crisis warmly welcomed.

CAROLS ON THE GREEN on **Thursday 22nd December** at **6.30pm** at Horse River Green, Gt Chesterford. Mulled wine, BBQ and toasted marshmallows. All proceeds to support All Saint's church.

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE on **Thursday 22nd December** at **7.30pm** at St Mary's, SW. A simple service aimed at those who find Christmas a difficult time and those who want to mark the event rather than celebrate.

A limited number of tickets are now available for the **AFTERSHOCK MEAL** on **Saturday 14th January 6pm for 6.30pm** in the Parish Rooms raising money for **JIMMY'S night shelter**. Menu and sign up sheet are at the back of St Mary's, SW or contact Matt Williamson.

Save the date for the **QUINQUA QUIZ** on **Saturday 18th February at 7pm** in the Parish Rooms to raise funds for the Bishop's Lent Appeal. Teams of 6, £5 per person. Teams from all of the churches in the team welcome. Contact Chris Bishop or the parish office for more details.

LONDON to WALSINGHAM CAMINO. Anyone is welcome to join Andy Bull to walk parts of this route in April 2023. The Saffron Walden to Withersfield section will take place on **Saturday 15th April** and is 14 miles and will take about 5 hours. Details on our website at www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/pilgrimage

NOTICES

This is the last week for **Building Blocks**, in Gt Chesterford and **Tinies, Aftershock and Team JC** in Saffron Walden before the Christmas holidays. Thank you to everyone who makes these activities possible. Rev'd Alex Jeewan & Matt Williamson.

Many thanks to all those who placed orders for **CRACKERS** this year - it's a delight to make them for you. Diana Hoy

Please take home the insert with information about all of the **CHRISTMAS EVE** and **CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES** across the team.

LIVING STONES This will be a **new united service of contemporary worship** once a month starting on **January 15th at 4pm** in the Parish Rooms, Saffron Walden for everyone in the team ministry. After Easter we hope to meet in varying locations across the team. If you would like anymore information please speak to Jeremy, John or Alex

NEW SERVICE TIMES to start across the team on 1st January 2023. Following a detailed consultation over recent months, Team Council has agreed to a new pattern of services across the team which will use our ministry resources more effectively and promote stronger cross-team support. A key change is that from 1st January, the **main** morning service in each church will start at either 9am or 10.30am. Check the websites and future Grapevines for more details

Please send items for the **GRAPEVINE** to Claire Dunn by **WEDNESDAY** at 9.00am to admin@stmaryssaffronwalden.org

MINISTRY TEAM

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