THIS WEEK'S SERVICES AROUND THE TEAM

| SUNDAY 1 | 10 th December |
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| 8.00am | Saffron Walden Holy Communion Holy Communion (livestreamed) + Team JC |
| 4.00pm | Christingle Service |
| St Mary's I 9.00am | Debden Holy Communion |
| | Little Walden Family Service |
| St Mary's V 4.00pm | Wendens Ambo Christingle |
| | Great Chesterford Carol Service |
| TUESDAY | |
| 8.30am | Morning Prayer, Hadstock |
| 9.30am | , |
| 5.00pm WEDNESD | Evening Prayer - Zoom only, SW |
| 8.00am 9.30am | Morning Prayer, Saffron Walden |
| 9.30am 5.00pm | Building Blocks, Gt Chesterford Evening Prayer - Zoom only, Cam Villages |
| SATURDAY | , Sewards End |
| 5.00pm St John's | Carol Service Little Walden Carol Service |
| | |

NEXT SUNDAY 17th DECEMBER

SAFFRON WALDEN & VILLAGES TEAM MINISTRY

The Grapevine

Welcome to our services today 2nd Sunday of Advent 10th December 2023

Collect

Almighty God,

purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God.

First Reading: Isaiah 40 v 1-11 Psalm: 85 v 1-2, 8-13 Second Reading: 2 Peter 3v 8-15a Gospel: Mark 1 v1-8

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 baptiser 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 baptised you with water; but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

Post Communion

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

The family and friends of those who have died recently: Robert Leedham, Barclay Barrell

EVENTS

The FAIRTRADE STALL at St Mary's, SW will be available after the 10.30am service on **Sunday 10th December, today.**

CHURCH MICE Parent and Toddler Group next meet **from 1.45pm-3.00pm Monday 11**th **December** in the New Room, Debden Church, Church Lane, CB11 3LD All parents/carers and pre-schoolers are welcome for a social session with a mixture of activities: toys, crafts, songs, and refreshments.

CAROLS ON THE GREEN We will be gathering on Horse River Green in Great Chesterford at **6.30pm** on **Thursday 21st December** to sing carols around the Christmas Tree. We will be led by Janet Cattley and there will be a barbecue selling hotdogs, marshmallows on a fire pit and mulled wine to keep you warm while you sing. There will be a

keep you warm while you sing. There will be a bucket collection but there are no tickets, just turn up and join in.

BLUE CHRISTMAS on **Thursday 21st December** at **7.30pm** at St Mary's, SW is a quiet service for those who wish to mark Christmas, but find it too difficult to celebrate. All welcome.

Carol Services For information about the Carol Services today and next weekend please see the back page of the Grapevine

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

Links for livestreamed services are available on the weekly bulletin. Please contact the Parish Administrator to be added to the mailing list.

NOTICES

CHRISTIAN AID are launching a major campaign to coincide with **COP 28** 30th November - 12th December. Their aim is to apply pressure for Justice amongst those who are suffering the worst effects of the Climate Crisis. They have produced a pack of prayers and a sample letter to write to your MP at www.christianaid.org.uk/ resources Do download a copy and do whatever you can to help! *Edward Gildea*

The **HOLY COMMUNION** service on **Wednesday 20th December** at St Mary's, SW will start at **9.00am** instead of the usual 9.30am to allow time for RAB school carol service to follow.

TREE LIGHTING service 24th December at 6pm, St Mary's, SW We desperately need more people to act as Welcomers at this service. If you are able to help please contact Pamela on 521697 or pjmteddybear@btinternet.com **THANK YOU**.

WIGGLE CHURCH We have made the decision to stop Team JC at the end of this term. We feel it is time to bring in a new Sunday morning provision for families at St Mary's Church and in Saffron Walden. I'm pleased to announce that we will be starting Wiggle Church a morning filled with fun, faith, and friendship held on the first Sunday of the month starting on **January 7th, 2024, at 9.15am**, in the Parish Rooms. Starting with croissants and coffee, the perfect fuel for an energetic morning of dancing, singing and activities. At 9.30am, the Wiggle Church will start, a lively and engaging 30 minute service for 0-7 years olds and their families. If you have any questions, please email me. *Matt Williamson*

Foreign and British commemorative **STAMPS**, **CURRENCY** & **BRITISH COINS** and notes that are no longer in circulation, please hand to me or St Mary's Parish Office. All proceeds go to Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. *Margaret Walters*

MINISTRY TEAM

| Rector: Rev'd Jeremy Trew rector@stmaryssaffronwalden.org | 01799 500947 |
|--|--------------|
| Rev'd Ella Harris revellaharris@gmail.com Rev'd Dr Hilary Walker | 01799 571023 |
| hcwalker55@gmail.com | |
| Youth & Children: Matt Williamson youth@stmaryssaffronwalden.org | 07794 518907 |
| Team Administrator: Anthea Slater office@stmaryssaffronwalden.org | 01799 506024 |
| Pastoral Assistant: Judith Hasler judithhasler@btopenworld.com | 01799 525041 |
| Associate Administrator: Claire Dunn admin@stmaryssaffronwalden.org | 01799 506024 |

If you need to contact Rev'd Trew, please use email as the rectory telephone line is awaiting repair.