

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

St Mary's Saffron Walden

8.00am Holy Communion 1662
10.25am Sunday Club (Parish Rooms)
10.30am Holy Communion (livestreamed)

St Mary's Debden

5.00pm Christingle

All Saints Wimbish

10.30am Holy Communion

St James' Sewards End

10.30am Holy Communion

St Botolph's Hadstock

9.00am Holy Communion

Holy Trinity Littlebury

4.00pm Café Church & Christingle

St Peter's Littlebury Green

9.30am Sunday Worship

St Mary's Wendens Ambo

9.00am Holy Communion

All Saints Great Chesterford

10.30am Holy Communion

St Mary's Little Chesterford

9.30am Morning Worship

TUESDAY

8.30am Morning Prayer, Hadstock
10.00am Tinies, Saffron Walden (Parish Rooms)
5.00pm Evening Prayer - Zoom only, SW

WEDNESDAY

8.00am Morning Prayer, SW (Parish Rooms)
9.30am Building Blocks, Gt Chesterford
9.30am Holy Communion, SW (Parish Rooms)
5.00pm Evening Prayer - Zoom only, Cam Villages

THURSDAY

7.30pm Advent Praise and Worship, Gt Chesterford

SATURDAY

5.00pm Carol Service, St John's Little Walden

NEXT SUNDAY 14th December

St Mary's Saffron Walden

8.00am Holy Communion 1662
10.25am Sunday Club (Parish Rooms)
10.30am Holy Communion (livestreamed)
12.15pm Baptism
4.00pm Christingle

St Mary's Debden

9.00am Holy Communion

All Saints Ashdon

9.00am Holy Communion

St Mary's Wendens Ambo

4.00pm Christingle

All Saints Great Chesterford

6.00pm Carol Service

St Mary's Little Chesterford

3.30pm Carol Service

The Grapevine

**Welcome to our services today
7th December 2025
2nd Sunday of Advent**

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 11 v 1-10

Psalm: 72 v 1-7

Second Reading: Romans 15 v 4-13

Gospel: Matthew 3 v 1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight."'

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptise you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

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.

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

Please contact the Parish Administrator

Please send items for the Grapevine to Claire Dunn at
admin@stmaryssaffronwalden.org
by 9.00am on Wednesday.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

The family and friends of those who have died recently: Linda Moore

EVENTS

Some of St Mary's Choir and friends will be out **CAROL SINGING** on the evening of **Tuesday 9th December**, weather permitting. You would be very welcome to join us.

6.30pm Children's play area, Campling St CB10 2PT

7.15pm Jacob Place, Edwin Gardens CB10 2TB

8.00pm Children's play area, Howland Cl. CB10 2GT

BBC Radio 3's weekly CHORAL EVENSONG will be broadcast LIVE from St Mary's, SW on **Wednesday 10th December at 3pm**. We will be hosting the prestigious choir of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. All are very welcome to be part of the congregation for this special service. The BBC asks that the congregation be seated at 2.30pm or by 2.45pm at the very latest. Please join us! Any questions, speak to Vivian Falk or Hannah Razzell.
www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m002mwk5

ADVENT PRAYER & WORSHIP on **Thursday 11th December at 7.30pm** at All Saints, Gt Chesterford.

WIMBISH COFFEE MORNING at St Paul's Mission Hall, next to Wimbish School, CB10 2XE. **Saturday 13th December from 10am - 11.30am**. Delicious cakes, jams & produce.

CAROL SERVICE Saturday 13th December at 5pm at St John's Little Walden

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE on **Thursday 18th 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 SERVICE Saturday 20th December at 5pm at St James' Swards End

ALPHA COURSE

Thursday evenings, 8th January-26th March
at the Vicarage, Gt Chesterford, CB10 1NP

An open space to unpack life's big questions. For anyone who's curious about the Christian faith.

For more details contact revellaharris@gmail.com

NOTICES

CHURCH LIGHTING St Mary's SW. We have 40-50% of the new lighting handed over, the rest will be completed at the end of February. Please let us have any comments as you experience the new lights, particularly during this period when we are learning how to adjust the lighting levels and program which lights are on and off. Many thanks. *Steve Hasler & Vivian Falk*

CHRISTINGLE MAKING - Saffron Walden
10am-12noon on Friday 12th December in the Parish room downstairs. Please come and join us for a fun morning of Christingle making. If you have an apple corer please bring it, but most importantly bring yourself. *Gill Caswell*

CHRISTMAS CARD for St Mary's, SW.

There will be a large Christmas card at the back of church for all to sign for each other. Any donations given in lieu of the cost of individual cards will be donated to Uttlesford Foodbank. The card will be available from **Sunday 14th December**.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS THANKS

Very many thanks to all who worked so hard to make the fair at **St Mary's, SW** a very enjoyable day for our visitors. Over £4000 has been banked so far and there is often a little more to come. Photos in the 'Latest News' section of the church website. Thank you. *Sue Birchall*

Thanks to everyone who helped in any way at the **Chesterfords' Christmas Fair** on Saturday. Thanks to all of you who turned out to support us and make it a fun afternoon, to all the stallholders, to all the kitchen staff, to Father Christmas and his Elves and especially to all those who stayed behind to help clear up. We were very pleased to have made a healthy profit of around £2500 for church funds.

Many thanks to those who worked hard to make the **Wimbish Bazaar** successful and to all who came along to make a lovely atmosphere. £970 was raised.

Thank you for ensuring we had a great weekend by supporting the Christmas Tree Festival at **Littlebury** organised by the PCC and the Friends of the church. A great community event raising just over £1,000 for each charity.

MINISTRY TEAM

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