

## 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

### All Saints Wimbish

9.30am Village Worship

### St James' Searwicks End

10.30am Holy Communion

### All Saints Ashdon

9.00am Sunday Worship

### St Botolph's Hadstock

9.00am Holy Communion

### St Mary's Wendens Ambo

9.00am Sung Matins

### Holy Trinity Littlebury

10.30am Café Church

### St Peter's Littlebury Green

9.30am Sunday Worship

### All Saints Great Chesterford

10.30am Holy Communion

### St Mary's Little Chesterford

9.30am Morning Praise

## 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 Holy Communion, SW (Parish Rooms)  
with prayers for wholeness & healing  
9.30am Building Blocks, Gt Chesterford  
5.00pm Evening Prayer - Zoom only, Cam Villages

## NEXT SUNDAY 8th February

### St Mary's Saffron Walden

8.00am Holy Communion 1662  
10.25am Sunday Club (Parish Rooms)  
10.30am Holy Communion  
4.00pm Choral Evensong

### St Mary's Debden

9.00am Holy Communion

### St John's Little Walden

10.30am Holy Communion

### All Saints Ashdon

9.00am Holy Communion

### All Saints Great Chesterford

10.30am Cam Churches Together

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

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

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

# The Grapevine

**Welcome to our services today  
1<sup>st</sup> February 2026  
Candlemas**

## Collect

Lord Jesus Christ,  
light of the nations and glory of Israel:  
make your home among us,  
and present us pure and holy  
to your heavenly Father,  
your God, and our God.

**First Reading:** Malachi 3 v 1-5

**Psalm:** 24

**Second Reading:** Hebrew 2 v 14 - 15

**Gospel:** Luke 2 v 22-40

When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons". Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,  
you now dismiss your servant in peace.  
For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the sight of  
all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel."

The child's father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.

## Post Communion

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna,  
who lived to welcome the Messiah:  
may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

In February please pray for Our Lady of compassion Roman Catholic Church and St Thomas More school.

**The family and friends of those who have died recently:** Wendy Linney, Brian Brooke-Smith, Valerie Scott

**Those whose banns are being read:**

**Saffron Walden:** Graeme Phillips and Rachel Marshall

### EVENTS

**OASIS** Our next Men's lunchtime get together at The Old English Gentleman in Gold Street will be on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February, from 12 noon**. As always, everyone is welcome but if you are intending to join us please confirm with me by 6pm on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February and I will look forward to seeing you there.

*Bill Rose.* email: wjr2163@gmail.com  
tel: 01799 516609

**DEANERY SYNOD MEETING on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm for 7.45pm** at Thaxted Church Hall. Deanery Synod meetings are open to all. Rev'd Gary Fleming will be speaking about the church management software 'iknowchurch'.

The next time of **SILENT PRAYER** will be on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 10am** in the Parish Rooms. All very welcome. Do contact me if you would like more information. *Judith Hasler*

**FAIRTRADE STALL** will be available after the **10.30am** service on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February**, at St Mary's, SW. Cash only please.

**THE QUINQUAQUIZ** will be on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February 7pm for 7.30pm** in the Parish Rooms. Teams of 6 at £5 per head. Please register with the Parish Office. All further information from Chris Bishop. 01799 523722 or 07810 851002

## NOTICES

### LENT COURSES

#### Travelling Well Together

Being a faithful Christian in a diverse Church during changing and challenging times is not easy. Through a series of reflections, using Lectio Divina, we will be considering how we might better be the people of God together and live out our faith. Hilary will offer this course on Wednesday afternoons, and Jeremy on Thursday evenings, in the context of Night Prayer. From **12<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm** in St Mary's SW and **18<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm** in the Parish Rooms

#### Get outside for Lent

A time to reflect and contemplate using music, art and poetry as stimuli. On **Wednesdays 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> March** from **10-11am** at All Saints, Wimbish. Contact Pete Gray 07901 946440 for more information.

#### THE FEBRUARY EDITION OF PARISH

**NEWS** is available at the back of St Mary's church, SW, and online

[www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/parishnews](http://www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/parishnews)  
**COPY** for the next edition of **PARISH NEWS** may be sent to the editor, John Pickthorn, [jeppickthorn@gmail.com](mailto:jeppickthorn@gmail.com) by **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February**

**HOME MADE MARMALADE** will be on sale under the tower at the back of St Mary's, SW after the 10.30am service today or telephone Lesley on 01799 521356 to arrange collection or delivery. £3 a pot for the Church General Fund. Many thanks.

**LIGHTING** The work from the scaffolding for the lighting installation is taking a little longer than anticipated and so the scaffolding will be in place for at least another week.

### MINISTRY TEAM

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Rector: Rev'd Jeremy Trew<br><a href="mailto:rector@stmaryssaffronwalden.org">rector@stmaryssaffronwalden.org</a>                 | 07707 386238 |
| Rev'd Ella Harris<br><a href="mailto:revellaharris@gmail.com">revellaharris@gmail.com</a>   | 01799 611124 |
| Rev'd Lynda Sebbage<br><a href="mailto:debden.wimbishvicar@gmail.com">debden.wimbishvicar@gmail.com</a>                           | 01799 796193 |
| Rev'd Romey Poston<br><a href="mailto:revd.romeyposton@gmail.com">revd.romeyposton@gmail.com</a>                                  | 07565 171582 |
| Rev'd Dr Hilary Walker<br><a href="mailto:hcwalker55@gmail.com">hcwalker55@gmail.com</a>  |              |
| Children & Youth Leader: Julie Lester<br><a href="mailto:stmaryschildrenandyouth@gmail.com">stmaryschildrenandyouth@gmail.com</a> |              |
| Team Administrator: Anthea Slater<br><a href="mailto:office@stmaryssaffronwalden.org">office@stmaryssaffronwalden.org</a>         | 01799 506024 |
| Pastoral Assistant: Judith Hasler<br><a href="mailto:judithhasler@btopenworld.com">judithhasler@btopenworld.com</a>               | 01799 525041 |
| Associate Administrator: Claire Dunn<br><a href="mailto:admin@stmaryssaffronwalden.org">admin@stmaryssaffronwalden.org</a>        | 01799 506024 |