

PARISH DIARY

TODAY 10th December 2017

Saffron Walden	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	President:	Jenny Tomlinson
	10.00am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	David Tomlinson
Sewards End	4.00pm	CHRISTINGLE SERVICE
	Leader:	David Tomlinson
	Talk:	Rachel Prior
Hadstock	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	Jenny Tomlinson
Little Walden	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	President:	Paula Griffiths
Ashdon	11.15am	FAMILY SERVICE
	Leader:	Tracey Nicholls
	Talk:	Richard Peet
Debden	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	Richard Spencer
Wimbish	4.00pm	CHRISTINGLE SERVICE
	Leader:	John Saxon
	11.00am	CHRISTINGLE SERVICE
	Leader:	John Saxon

NEXT SUNDAY 17th December 2017

Saffron Walden	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	10.00am	FAMILY SERVICE + BAPTISM
	11.45am	HOLY COMMUNION
	6.30pm	A SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS
Hadstock	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
Ashdon	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
	6.30pm	CAROL SERVICE
	6.30pm	CAROL SERVICE
Debden	6.30pm	CAROL SERVICE
Wimbish	3.00pm	CAROL SERVICE

Z261-66

*(Continued from page 1)***Gospel: Mark 1.1-8**

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 baptizer 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 baptized you with water; but he will baptize 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.

The Grapevine

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, ASHDONwww.allsaintsashdon.org.uk**Second Sunday of Advent
10th December 2017****Collect**

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

First Reading: 1 Kings 18:20-39

Ahab sent to all the Israelites, and assembled the prophets at Mount Carmel. Elijah then came near to all the people, and said, "How long will you go limping with two different opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." The people did not answer him a word. Then Elijah said to the people, "I, even I only, am left a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets number four hundred fifty. Let two bulls be given to us; let them choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire to it; I will prepare the other bull and lay it on the wood, but put no fire to it. Then you call on the name of your god and I will call on the name of the LORD; the god who answers by fire is indeed God." All the people answered, "Well spoken!" Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose for yourselves one bull and prepare it first, for you are many; then call on the name of your god, but put no fire to it."... As midday passed, they raved on until the time of the offering of the oblation, but there was no voice, no answer, and no response... Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD came, saying, "Israel shall be your name"; with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD. Then he made a trench around the altar, large enough to contain two measures of seed. Next he put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood. He said, "Fill four jars with water and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood." Then he said, "Do it a second time"; and they did it a second time. Again he said, "Do it a third time"; and they did it a third time, so that the water ran all around the altar, and filled the trench also with water. At the time of the offering of the oblation, the prophet Elijah came near and said, "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your bidding. Answer me, O LORD, answer me, so that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back." Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones, and the dust, and even licked up the water that was in the trench. When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The LORD indeed is God; the LORD indeed is God."

(Continued on page 4)

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The family and friends of those who have died recently:

Mary de Vries

Churches Together Prayer Cycle: In December please pray for New Life Pentecostal Church & Gt Chesterford Primary School

Those who are unwell: Dennis Sheldrick & Jenny Gallant

TEAM

AFTERSHOCK warmly invites you to **JIMMY'S FUND-RAISING MEAL** on **6th January** to raise money for Jimmy's Night Shelter. The evening will consist of a sumptuous three course dinner with entertainment between courses by the young people of Aftershock. There is no set price for the meal but all donations received will go to Jimmy's. Spaces are limited so please sign up as soon as possible at the back of St Mary's church or email Matt with your menu choice.

THURSDAY PRAISE – an evening of worship, teaching and getting to know each other better in St Mary's Parish Rooms on **Thursday 18th January**. Refreshments will be on offer from 7.45pm and we'll start at 8pm. All welcome. *David*

'COME WITH US TO ISRAEL AND SEE THE BIBLE COME TO LIFE' Rufus Barnes will be leading his sixth tour of Israel from the **4th to the 14th of October 2018**. Previous tours have been enjoyed by both clergy and members of congregations from Saffron Walden and the surrounding parishes, as well as elsewhere in the country. If you would like to join this exciting tour of many of the places referred to in the Bible, please contact Rufus for more information and a brochure. (523776 or loavesandfishes@ymail.com) Rufus has been approached by a lady in Saffron Walden who would be interested in sharing a room with another lady to avoid the single supplement. If this would be of interest to anyone, please contact Rufus.

Starting in the New Year: **THE PARENTING CHILDREN COURSE**. Free five week course for mums and dads of children 0-10 years on Friday mornings at 9.30-11.30, from **26th January**. For more information and to book your place, please contact Rachel, 500047.

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 needed to book. Don't miss out!

CLERGY TEAM

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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
www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org

ASHDON

321 Love divine, all loves excelling
311 Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us
237 I will sing the wondrous story
439 See amid the winter's snow
212 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

NO EVENSONG THIS EVENING (Carol Service at Ashdon Baptist Church)

Lo, I will send you the prophet Elijah before the great and terrible day of the LORD comes.
(Malachi 4:5)

For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John came; and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. (Matthew 11:13-14)
John answered and said to them all, "As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. (Luke 3:16)

Jesus said, "...for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." (Acts 1:5)

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.
(Acts 2:1-4)

Our Advent Housegroup continues this Wednesday for the next 2 weeks (13th, 20th December). This week will be in the Vicarage, on Radwinter Road. Everyone very welcome, please speak to Richard (584171) for more information.

Christmas Dates:

Saturday 16th December 10am: Work party to decorate the church
Sunday 17th December 6:30pm: Carol Service with mince pies and mulled wine
Sunday 24th December 4pm: Christingle (christingles made in the morning)
Sunday 24th December 11:30pm: Midnight Communion
Monday 25th December 9:30am: Christmas Communion