

## PARISH DIARY

TODAY 15<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Saffron Walden	8.00am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION 1662</b>
	President:	Michael Lovegrove
	10.00am	<b>FAMILY SERVICE</b>
	Leader:	Rachel Prior
	11.45am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
	President:	Richard Spencer
	4.00pm	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b> with <i>prayers for wholeness &amp; healing</i>
	President:	Rachel Prior
Hadstock	9.30am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
President:	Paula Griffiths	
Ashdon	9.30am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
President:	Richard Spencer	
Debden	9.15am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
President:	John Saxon	
Wimbish	11.00am	<b>MATINS</b>
	Leader:	John Saxon

THIS WEEK (All at St Mary's Saffron Walden, unless stated)

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

8.30am Morning Prayer

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

8.30am Morning Prayer

8.30am Morning Prayer *at Hadstock*

11.30am Baptism

5.00pm Evening Prayer

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

8.00am Morning Prayer

9.30am Holy Communion

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

8.30am Morning Prayer

1.00pm Funeral of Marjorie Mackie

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

8.30am Morning Prayer

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December**

9.00am Morning Prayer

5.00pm Carol Service *at Swards End*5.00pm Carol Service *at Little Walden*NEXT SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2019

Saffron Walden	8.00am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION 1662</b>
	10.00am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
	12 noon	<b>BAPTISM</b>
	6.30pm	<b>CAROL SERVICE</b>
Hadstock	9.30am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
Ashdon	9.30am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
	6.30pm	<b>CAROL SERVICE</b>
Debden	6.30pm	<b>CAROL SERVICE</b>
Wimbish	3.00pm	<b>CAROL SERVICE</b>

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# The Grapevine

**All Saints' Church, Ashdon**[www.allsaintsashdon.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsashdon.org.uk)**Third Sunday of Advent****15<sup>th</sup> December 2019****Collect**

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**First Reading: Isaiah 35.1-10**

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**Gospel: Matthew 11.2-11**

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:

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

**Those who are unwell:** Ken Ryles, Anne Rose, Lillian Maddams, Mark O'Neill

**The family and friends of those who have died recently:** Denise Johnson, Marjorie Mackie, Vera Presland, Margaret Thorn

**Those who are being baptised at St Mary's SW:** Penelope Brett on 17th December & Ashton Clyburn on 22nd December

**Those who are getting married at St Mary's SW on 28th December:** Thomas Price & Charlotte Campbell

## TEAM

Wondering what your gifts are and how you might use them in God's service? The **Deanery SHAPE course** will be starting in January 2020. If you are interested, please pick up a flyer at the back of the church, SW, for more information and speak to me. *Rachel*

All items for the **GRAPEVINE** should be sent to [secretary.swrectory@ntlworld.com](mailto:secretary.swrectory@ntlworld.com) by 9am on Wednesdays.

Copies of the revised **"WHO'S WHO AT ST MARY'S"** are now available at the back of St Mary's church, SW, or from the Parish Office. This use to appear on the inside cover of the old style Parish News magazine, but because of GDPR and the fact that the new Parish News magazine is available via the web we can no longer include it. Please let me know of any amendments. *Dawn Saxon*

**HADSTOCK QUIZ** The ever-popular Hadstock Quiz returns again this year to test your brains over the Christmas and New Year break. All proceeds to the Friends of St Botolph's Church Hadstock. Quiz sheets (£2 each) available from St Mary's Parish Office, Janice Snell ([jimjanhadstock@outlook.com](mailto:jimjanhadstock@outlook.com) , tel. 01223 892338) or Paula Griffiths ([paula.greatford@btinternet.com](mailto:paula.greatford@btinternet.com) , tel. 01799 599141), to be returned to Janice or Paula by 11<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

## CLERGY TEAM

Parish Administrator: Dawn Saxon	01799 506024
Email: <a href="mailto:office@stmaryssaffronwalden.org">office@stmaryssaffronwalden.org</a>	
Revd Paula Griffiths	01799 599141
Revd Tim Hardingham	01799 542874
Revd Alex Jeewan	01799 531153
Revd Richard Spencer	01799 584171
Revd. Angela Want	01799 540051
Revd Rachel Prior	01799 500047
Revd John Saxon	01799 541619

## ASHDON

199 Hark, the herald angels sing  
34 Angels, from the realms of glory  
377 O little town of Bethlehem  
403 Once in royal David's city  
477 The first Nowell the angel did say

*John the Baptist said, "I baptize 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."* (Matthew 3:11)

*Jesus said, "Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."* (Matthew 6:10)

*The angel said to Zechariah, "You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit."* (Luke 1:14-15)

*Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me."* (John 10:27)

*John the Baptist said, "I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel."* (John 1:31)

*Jesus said, "On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you."* (John 14:20)

**He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.** (Colossians 1:13-14)

Our **Advent Study Course**, in conjunction with Ashdon Baptist Course, will continue at Gavin Walter's house, The Manse, Radwinter Road, on the Wednesday (at 7:30pm):

The funeral of **Olive King** will take place at 12noon tomorrow at the Cam Valley Crematorium. Our prayers are with her nephews Alan and Paul, and their families.

### Christmas Services 2019

- Sunday 22nd December, 6:30pm: Carol Service (**please bring mince pies, speak to Rob if you can help with mulled wine**)
- Tuesday 24th December, 4pm: Christingle
- Tuesday 24th December, 11:30pm: Midnight Communion
- Wednesday 25th December, 9:30am: Christmas Communion

**Richard and Bozy** are planning to move to Old Harlow in January, and will be here for all the services up to Christmas Day. Rev. Caroline Curren will be taking most of the services in the new year. Please give a very warm welcome to Caroline and her husband Alan, who is a licenced Reader.