

PARISH DIARY

TODAY 8th March 2020

Saffron Walden	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	President:	Paula Griffiths
	10.00am	HOLY COMMUNION + TEAM JC
	President:	Rachel Prior
	Preacher:	Robin King
Sewards End	4.00pm	CHORAL EVENSONG
	Officiant:	Paula Griffiths
	Preacher:	Hilary Walker
	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	Chris Bishop
Little Walden	11.15am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	Chris Bishop
Hadstock	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	President:	Paula Griffiths
Ashdon	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	Caroline Currer
Debden	9.15am	FAMILY SERVICE
	Leader:	John Saxon
Wimbish	11.00am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	John Saxon
	Preacher:	Brian Kerrison

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

Monday 9th March

8.30am Morning Prayer

Tuesday 10th March

8.30am Morning Prayer

8.30am Morning Prayer *at Hadstock*

9.30am St Mary's Tinies in the Parish Room

5.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 11th March

8.00am Morning Prayer

9.30am Holy Communion

Thursday 12th March

8.30am Morning Prayer

Friday 13th March

8.30am Morning Prayer

Saturday 14th March

9.00am Morning Prayer

NEXT SUNDAY15th March 2020

Saffron Walden	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	10.00am	HOLY COMMUNION + TEAM JC
	12 noon	BAPTISM
	4.00pm	EVENSONG
	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
Hadstock	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
Ashdon	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
Debden	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION
Wimbish	11.00am	HOLY COMMUNION

See St Mary's church, SW, website at www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org to find out more.



Please 'Like' our Facebook page so we reach more people! Click on the link on our website, or go to: www.facebook.com/saintmaryschurchsaffronwalden

The Grapevine

COVERING THE PARISHES OF SAFFRON WALDEN, WIMBISH, DEBDEN, ASHDON AND HADSTOCK.

Welcome to our services today
Second Sunday of Lent
8th March 2020

Collect

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading: Genesis 12.1-4a

The LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

Gospel: John 3.1-17

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

Post Communion

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Churches Together Prayer Cycle: In March please pray for:
Abbey Lane & Newport URC, incorporating the Methodist Church, Dame Bradbury's School

The family and friends of those who have died recently:

Alan Cooper, Alan Dawson

Those whose wedding banns are being called:

Ian Millar & Patricia White, Mark Cornell & Karen Storey, David Cox & Charlotte Moffatt, James Nowell & Sarah Unthank (at St Mary's, Saffron Walden) and **Sam Shepherd-Barron & Anna Spooner, Samuel Body & Hilary Lester** (at All Saints, Ashdon)

EVENTS

WWW - Women who Wonder, 10th March @ 8pm; a group for Christian women. This month the topic is Lent - What does it mean for me? We meet at 59a Claypit Piece CB11 4DR. Any queries contact Gill Caswell 01799 520485.

Throughout Lent, the Bishops of our diocese will be presenting a **SERIES OF LECTURES ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND CREATION** in Chelmsford, Colchester and Stratford. On **10th March, 7.30pm** at St. John the Evangelist, Colchester, Edward Gildea will be taking part alongside Bishop Stephen on the theme of water. See www.chelmsford.anglican.org/lent-lectures-2020 or contact edward@gildea.co.uk

MEN'S WALK – 14th March Meet outside St Mary's, SW, at 10.00am. The walk will start at the Fleur de Lys in Widdington, through the woods and then following the River Granta. It will be about 5 miles long, and finish with lunch at the Fleur de Lys. Further info: contact Peter Cooper on 01799 550462 or peterg.cooper24@gmail.com

SPRING CONCERT Saturday 14th March, 7 for 7:30pm with drinks beforehand at St Mary's Church Wendens Ambo. Karin Fischer Buder (Soprano) and Stephen Penton (Keyboard) present a wide range of music on the theme of spring. Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Schubert, Britten, Piaff and others and a few lyrical poems read by members of the village. £5.00 for fund raising towards Church Building Fund and Shelter. *Tim*

LYNN TRENEARY'S VISIT TO ST MARY'S, SW, Sunday 15th March Lynn (Our CMS link partner) will be interviewed in the morning service and give a presentation in the Parish Rooms at midday followed by a Bring and Share Lunch. If you are attending, please use the sign-up sheet. Her last engagement will be with Aftershock in the evening. You are all welcome to all or any of the above. For more information please contact Sue Walker 01799 523007 or suewalker619@btinternet.com

COFFEE, CAKES AND COMPANY Sunday 15th March 3pm - in St Mary's Parish Rooms. All welcome.

EASTER CARD FOLDING We will be holding a working party to fold 7500 Easter cards on **Thursday 19th March 9.30am – 11.30am** in St Mary's Parish Rooms. ALL WELCOME to come and help for as little or as long as you are able. Refreshments and excellent company guaranteed! *Dawn Saxon*

There will be another time of **PRAYER** during the interregnum on **Thursday 19th March** at 7.30-8.00pm in St Mary's Parish Rooms. All welcome. For further information contact Sue Walker 523007.

ST MARY'S BOOK GROUP will hold their next meeting at 8.15pm on **Friday 20th March** at 4 Castle Street to discuss **Neil MacGregor's** book **Germany: Memories of a Nation**. Please contact me if you would like a copy (SW 520291).

Robin O'Neill

78TH SALE OF STAMPS The next sale, in aid of St Mary's Church Building and Music Funds, will be on **Saturday 21st March**. Thousands of individual stamps at the Town Hall Council Chamber from 9.30 to noon. A warm welcome (and a cup of coffee) - even to those who are not dedicated stamp collectors! *David Hoy*

FRIENDS OF THE PARISH CHURCH – DATE FOR YOUR DIARY Trip to Lincoln Cathedral **Mon 8th June**. Full details and forms are available on the Friends Bookstand at St Mary's Church, Saffron Walden. *Pamela Mugliston*

NOTICES

TODAY

WE WELCOME Robin King, Archdeacon of Stansted, who is preaching at the 10am service. *Denis*

The **SMMA AGM** will take place at approximately 11.45am (after the morning service) in St Mary's Parish Rooms All are welcome. *Bron Ferland*

"LET PRAISE ARISE!" CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GOSPEL CHOIR (finalists in the 2019 BBC Gospel Choir of the Year) will be at Chrishall Holy Trinity Church at 3.30pm followed by afternoon tea. All welcome.

RACHEL'S LAST SERVICE BEFORE SHE STARTS

MATERNITY LEAVE will be the 10am Holy Communion on **29th March**, at St Mary's, SW, when we will present her with a gift and enjoy wine and nibbles after the service.

Contributions to her gift should be given to one of the wardens or sent to the Parish Office in an envelope marked 'For Rachel's gift'. (Cheques payable to 'Saffron Walden PCC'.) There is a card to sign at the back of St. Mary's SW. *Denis & Gill*

THE TEAM RECTOR AND AREA DEAN VACANCY

advertisement and profile are now on St Mary's website at www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/teamrectorvacancy. The advertisement is in the Church Times this weekend and next. *Denis Tindley*

ANNE Bill and family thank everyone for the tremendous outpouring of love and support received during Anne's illness and for the messages of heartfelt sympathy when she lost her heroic battle with cancer. We have been overwhelmed by your kindness and concern. Your prayers continue to sustain and encourage us in our grief. A special thank you to Rachel for the beautiful funeral service for Anne, also to those who contributed to the occasion and to all of you who were able to attend.

MY APOLOGIES to those unable to hear the sermon clearly at the morning service on Ash Wednesday at St Mary's, SW. Printed copies are at the back of church. *Alan Currer*

WEEKEND AWAY 12th - 14th June, Belsey Bridge near Bungay Suffolk. There is still time to book our Weekend Away. Come for the day or the whole weekend and enjoy a time of friendship, learning together and fun for all the family. En-suite rooms as well as non-ensuite rooms still available. Our speaker is Bishop Roger Morris. There are activities for under 11s and 11-17 year olds, who can come for free. Pick up a booking form or go to St Mary's website (www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org) for more details. Any questions about room availability contact Sarah Nicholas s.nicholas180@gmail.com 07415 632658.

ECO-TEAM SPONSORING OF WILD FLOWER PLANTING

The Eco-team is planning to plant a wild flower section in St Mary's churchyard this spring and would like your support. On Mothering Sunday we will create a bank of native primroses and cowslips in the churchyard. If you would like to sponsor a small tray of flowers, wild flower plug plants or a bird/bat box, at £5 each, please mark your envelope accordingly and hand into the office FAO Jackie Damary-Homan. Cheques made payable to 'Saffron Walden PCC'. Please do consider joining this small group as we would really welcome you especially as Rachel will be stepping aside soon. Thank you.

CLERGY TEAM

Parish Administrator: Dawn Saxon	01799 506024
Email: office@stmaryssaffronwalden.org	
Revd Paula Griffiths	01799 599141
Revd Tim Hardingham	01799 542874
Revd Alex Jeewan	01799 531153
Revd. Angela Want	01799 540051
Revd Rachel Prior	01799 500047
Revd John Saxon	01799 541619