

PARISH DIARY

TODAY 15th March 2020

Saffron Walden	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	President:	Michael Lovegrove
	10.00am	HOLY COMMUNION + TEAM JC
	President:	Rachel Prior
	Preacher:	Andy Colebrooke
Hadstock	12 noon	BAPTISM
	Officiant:	Rachel Prior
	4.00pm	EVENSONG
Ashdon	Officiant:	Alan Currer
	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
Debden	President:	Paula Griffiths
	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
Wimbish	President:	Caroline Currer
	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	John Saxon
	11.00am	HOLY COMMUNION
	President:	John Saxon

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

Monday 16th March

8.30am Morning Prayer

Tuesday 17th 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 18th March

8.00am Morning Prayer

9.30am Holy Communion

Thursday 19th March

8.30am Morning Prayer

9.30am Holy Communion - Joseph

Friday 20th March

8.30am Morning Prayer

Saturday 21st March

9.00am Morning Prayer

NEXT SUNDAY

22nd March 2020

Saffron Walden	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION 1662
	10.00am	FAMILY SERVICE
	11.45am	HOLY COMMUNION
	4.00pm	HOLY COMMUNION with prayers for wholeness & healing
Sewards End	9.30am	FAMILY SERVICE
	10.30am	AGM
Little Walden	11.15am	FAMILY SERVICE
	9.30am	FAMILY SERVICE
Ashdon	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION
Debden	9.15am	MORNING PRAISE
Wimbish	11.00am	MORNING PRAISE

Post Communion Cont'd from front page

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



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

Third Sunday of Lent

15th March 2020

Collect

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading: Romans 5.1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Gospel: John 4.5-42

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink," you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.' Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.' Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.' Many Samaritans from that city believed in Jesus because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

Cont'd on back page

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:

Mary Knight, Clare Kenny, Daisy Peach

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)

Those who are being baptised today at St Mary's SW:

Stanley Michael Palmieri

EVENTS

There will be an **EASTER CARD WORKING PARTY** on **Thursday 19th March** 9.30am - 11.30am in the Parish Rooms; please sign up if you can help. The cards will be in St Mary's Church, SW, from 20th March ready to be delivered to every house in Saffron Walden. Feel free to take extra to give out to family, friends, etc. Thank you. *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*

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SAFFRON WALDEN

COFFEE MORNING, Saturday 21st March, 10am-noon at URC Hall, Abbey Lane, CB10 1AG. "Christian Aid and Climate Change" talk by Ben Selfe at 11am. Refreshments, books, raffle. **STAINER'S CRUCIFIXION** Come and Sing! (or just listen) on **Saturday 28th March** at 2.00pm at Abbey Lane Chapel, followed by light refreshments. All welcome.

SWSO @ ST MARY'S Saffron Walden Symphony Orchestra will be performing a concert of Weber, Tchaikovsky and Brahms on **Saturday 28th March** at 7.30pm. Donations for interval drinks will go to St Mary's Music Association funds, so please support this event if you can! Tickets are available from the Saffron Walden Tourist Information Office, and will also be available on the door. Alternatively, tickets can be purchased from Hannah Razzell (07779 005842).

Linking with the 24/7 prayer movement we are creating a **24/2 PRAYER ROOM**, i.e. 48 hours of continuous prayer from 7.45pm on **Thursday 2nd April** until 7.45pm on **Saturday 4th April** at Saffron Walden Community Church. All welcome to come along to pray at any time between the hours of 7am-11pm. If you would like to commit to a particular hour of prayer there are sign-up sheets. Please email

jennydoohan525@gmail.com for more info. *Jonathan Burton*
GET HAPPY - CHARACTER COMEDY SHOW, Wednesday 29th April 7.30-8.30pm at St Mary's Church, SW. Written and performed by Anna Nicholson, piano Bobby Goulder. Tickets £10/8 from Parish Office or Caroline Goulder, after most 10am services or 07775 518892.

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*

SOUND SYSTEM We are aware of intermittent problems with the sound system. This is being looked into and hopefully a remedy will soon be found. *Gill and Denis*

NOTICES

TODAY

LYNN TRENEARY'S VISIT TO ST MARY'S, SW, 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. Her last engagement will be with Aftershock in the evening. You are all welcome to all or any of the above.
COFFEE, CAKES AND COMPANY 3pm - in St Mary's Parish Rooms. All welcome.

CORONAVIRUS GUIDANCE In line with current Church of England guidance, Communion will, for the time being, be offered only in the form of consecrated wafers. Wine will also be consecrated but the priest alone will take it on behalf of the congregation. We have also been advised to avoid handshaking or other direct physical contact during the sharing of the peace. Smiles and waves are still permitted!
Judith Hasler

TRIP TO BIRMINGHAM, Saturday 20th June There will be a limited number of spaces on the coach leaving Swan Meadow at 9am, returning about 8pm. Cost £15. The choir will sing evensong at 3.30pm and there will be an opportunity to see David and Jenny after the service. Please sign up on the sheet on the noticeboard if you'd like to come. *Caroline Goulder*

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. *Denis*

EASTER LILIES Would those wishing to contribute towards the cost of Easter Lilies in memory of loved ones please give donations to any of the Welcomers on duty at services at St Mary's, SW, or the Parish Office before Palm Sunday. Last year the cost was over £300. Cheques should be made payable to: 'St. Mary's Church Fund Trust'. Thank you. *Pam Russell*

ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION: in anticipation of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 26th April 2020, the roll will be revised between 29th March and 4th April 2020. As well as expressing your commitment to the church, entry on the electoral roll entitles you to vote at the APCM. Application forms are available at the back of St Mary's Church, Saffron Walden. No action is required if your name is on the new roll completed in 2019. No names may be added to the roll between 4th April 2020 and the end of the APCM. The list of names, but not addresses, will be published for 14 days after completion of the revision and will be available for inspection thereafter. *Clifford Want*

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