

**PARISH DIARY**

**TODAY 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

<b>Saffron Walden</b>	8.00am President: 10.00am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION 1662</b> Rachel Prior <b>HOLY COMMUNION + TEAM JC</b>
	President: 12 noon Officiant: 6.30pm Leader:	Andy Colebrooke <b>BAPTISM</b> Rachel Prior <b>ADVENT CAROL SERVICE</b> Rachel Prior
<b>Hadstock</b>	6.30pm	<b>ADVENT MUSIC &amp; READINGS</b>
	Leader:	Paula Griffiths
<b>Ashdon</b>	8.00am President: 9.30am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION 1662</b> Richard Spencer <b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
	President:	Richard Spencer
<b>Debden</b>	4.00pm	<b>ADVENT &amp; CHRISTINGLE SERVICE</b>
	Leader:	John Saxon
<b>Wimbish</b>	11.00am President: Preacher:	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b> John Saxon Brian Kerrison

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

<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	
8.30am	Morning Prayer
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</b>	
8.30am	Morning Prayer
8.30am	Morning Prayer <i>at Hadstock</i>
2.00pm	St Mary's Tinies
5.00pm	Evening Prayer
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	
8.00am	Morning Prayer
9.30am	Holy Communion
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b>	
8.30am	Morning Prayer
1.00pm	Healing Service
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	
8.30am	Morning Prayer
2.30pm	Funeral of Chris Ferland
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	
9.00am	Prayer Meeting in the Parish Rooms

**NEXT SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

<b>Saffron Walden</b>	8.00am 10.00am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION 1662</b> <b>HOLY COMMUNION + TEAM JC</b>
	4.00pm	<b>CHRISTINGLE SERVICE</b>
<b>Sewards End</b>	9.30am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
<b>Little Walden</b>	11.15am	<b>FAMILY SERVICE</b>
<b>Hadstock</b>	9.30am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION 1662</b>
<b>Ashdon</b>	9.30am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
<b>Debden</b>	9.15am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
<b>Wimbish</b>	11.00am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>

See St Mary's church, SW, website at [www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org](http://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](http://www.facebook.com/saintmaryschurchsaffronwalden)

# The Grapevine

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

**Welcome to our services today**  
**First Sunday of Advent**  
**1<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

**Collect**

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. All Amen

**First Reading: Isaiah 2.1-5**

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

**Gospel: Matthew 24.36-44**

Jesus spoke to his disciples: 'About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

**Post Communion**

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## 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, Lilian Maddams

**The family and friends of those who have died recently:** Ella Martin

**Chris Ferland** died suddenly on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November, after being admitted to hospital with pneumonia. The funeral will be held on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December @ 2.30pm** at St Mary's, Saffron Walden. Mark, Bron, Elke & Josefine would appreciate support from any of the congregation who might wish to attend.

**Those who are being baptised today at St Mary's SW:** Cody Christopher Cann

## EVENTS

**CHRISTMAS CARD WORKING PARTY Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**, 9.30am-11.30am in St Mary's Parish Rooms. The cards will already be folded and have to be counted into bundles for delivery. Please sign up at the back of St Mary's church, SW, if you would like to help. Many thanks. *Dawn Saxon*

**THE NEXT TIME OF SILENT PRAYER** will be on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December** at 10am in St Mary's Parish Rooms. All welcome. *Judith Hasler*

**A SERVICE WITH PRAYERS FOR WHOLENESS & HEALING** will take place on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December** at 1 o'clock in St Mary's Church, SW. All welcome whether you seek healing for yourself or another.

**PRAYER EVENING Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December**, 7.30-8.00pm in St Mary's Parish Rooms. The prayer team are organising prayer times during the interregnum, with an emphasis on praying for the appointment of a new Rector. As the Bishop will be meeting the Church Wardens and PCC on 4<sup>th</sup> December we thought it would be a good idea to begin after that date. We hope this will be the first of many, so do come and join us in prayer. All welcome. *Sue Walker*

Saffron Walden Churches Together are once more arranging a **HUSTINGS FOR THE ELECTION CANDIDATES**. It will be on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December** at 7.30pm in the Baptist Church. Doors open at 7pm. Questions can be submitted at the door until 7.20 or by email in advance to [waldenhustings@gmail.com](mailto:waldenhustings@gmail.com) *Edward Gildea*

**HELP IS NEEDED** in assembling the Christingle at 9am on **6<sup>th</sup> December** in the downstairs Parish Room. Contact Sheilah Girgis-Hanna 07985 560338 or 522864. Tea and biscuits provided. Thank you. *Jenny Hallinan*

**THE DEANERY CLERGY WIVES** will meet for a light lunch on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December** from 12-2pm at the home of Gill Lovegrove, 8 Beck Road, Saffron Walden, CB11 4EH. I do hope you will be able to join us. Please let me know if you will be coming, if you would like a lift, and of course, of any dietary requirements. *Lesley Sibson tel.520007*

**WWW WOMEN WHO WONDER.** This is a group for Christian women to discuss, share and learn together. We have a social on **10<sup>th</sup> December** at 8pm. We meet at 59a Clay Pit Piece. For further details contact Gill Caswell on 01799 520485.

**ST MARY'S BOOK GROUP** will hold their next meeting at 8.15pm on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December** at 4 Castle Street to discuss **Thomas Hardy's** novel **Jude the Obscure**. Please contact me if you would like a copy (SW 520291). *Robin O'Neill*

**STREET PRAYER/PASTOR PRAYER MEETING Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December** 8-9.30pm at the Community Church lounge, Castle Street, SW. All welcome. *Dawn Saxon*

**EVENING PRAYER OVER CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR** Due to Tuesdays falling both on Christmas Eve (24<sup>th</sup> December) and New Year's Eve (31<sup>st</sup> December) there will be no evening prayer. We start back on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January**, which will be followed by mulled wine and nibbles at 3 Springhill Road. *Sue Walker*

## NOTICES

### TODAY

**AMNESTY CHRISTMAS CARDS** Cards on table by the pulpit in St Mary's church, Saffron Walden. Please come and sign both before and after 10.00am service. *Gill*

**MEMBERS OF THE PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM** are available to offer prayer for yourself or someone you care about. Simply go to the clergy vestry after you have been to the altar for communion or a blessing. *Rachel*

**THANK YOU** so much for a wonderful final weekend. The Barn Dance, the glorious celebration of Christ the King on Sunday, and the cards, gifts and affirmation. I'll enjoy riding the state-of-the art bike, the picture of Saffron Walden and spending the generous cheque. Working with and knowing you have been such a joy. With love and prayers. *David*

**DAVID'S FAREWELL** Photos can be seen in the News section of the website. *Martin*

**A HUGE THANK YOU** to all who helped with the Barn Dance. I know David and his family really enjoyed the occasion as I am sure all who attended did. It was a great success and shows what team work can do. *Gill and Denis*

**ST MARY'S PARISH OFFICE - LOOKING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WEEKDAY MORNINGS.** We would like to invite a few more people to join our dedicated Parish Office Team. The office is open weekday mornings 9.30am – 12 noon. Have you a couple of mornings each month to spare? You need to be able to work independently as well as part of a team. If this could be you, or to enquire further, please speak to *Dawn Saxon*.

The **WEST ROAD HOME GROUP** currently has room for new members. It meets on Tuesday evenings during term time and uses the readings from the previous Sunday as the basis for reflection, exploration and discussion. If you are interested please speak to Alan and Caroline Currer. For more information see the home group page of St Mary's church website. *Rachel*

**RICHARD PEET IS STEPPING DOWN AS THE SIDESMAN CO-ORDINATOR** on 31<sup>st</sup> December after five years and hopes that a volunteer will step forward before this date in order to facilitate a handover. The position is mainly administrative and only requires a pc, Excel spreadsheet, 'phone and a couple of hours. If you are interested please contact Richard at [richardpeet@btinternet.com](mailto:richardpeet@btinternet.com)

**JIMMY'S** Please consider Jimmy's this Christmas. We are hoping to use any money donated to purchase sleeping bags and blankets as there is a need this winter. Please see the notice board at the rear of St Mary's church, SW, for more information. *Timothy Game*

**"PARISH NEWS"** is published this weekend and is available on St Mary's church, Saffron Walden, Book Stall.

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

Foreign and British commemorative **STAMPS, CURRENCY & BRITISH COINS** and notes that are no longer in circulation, please hand to me or St Mary's Parish Office. All proceeds go to Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. *Margaret Walter*

## 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