

UNITED BENEFICE e-NEWS

Sunday 14th January 2024 Epiphany 2

THE WEEK AHEAD

SATURDAY 13th (Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, 367) **09.00** Morning Prayer via Zoom

SUNDAY 14th (Epiphany 2) 08.00 BCP Eucharist, **Woodbridge 10.00** Parish Eucharist, **Woodbridge 17.30** Evening Prayer, **Woodbridge**

MONDAY 15th
10.00 Time to Reflect, SMH

TUESDAY 16th
10.00 – 14.30 Poppy's Pantry, SMH
17.00 Christian Meditation, SMH
19.00 Bellringers' practice

WEDNESDAY 17th

14.30 Trip to see 'Jesus Christ Superstar' (for those who have booked tickets), Regent Theatre, Ipswich (see details below)

THURSDAY 18th
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
begins
10.00 Said Eucharist, Woodbridge
18.30 Choir rehearsal, SMH
18.30 CTWA Compline at St Andrew's,
Melton

TODAY'S Readings
Sunday 14th January
(Epiphany 2)
Revelation 5. 1-10
John 1. 43-end

FRIDAY 19th

11.30 Communion at Grove Court
12.30 Our first 'Soup & Sarnies'
'Welcome' in the main Hall at SMH.
Free & open to all (although donations welcome)
19.00 CTWA at Quay Church

SATURDAY 20th

09.00 Morning Prayer via Zoom
15.30 CTWA at Methodist Church
19.30 Concert in aid of 'Find' with Suffolk Singers, Woodbridge Community Hall (see p.8 of 'Inside Out' for details)

SUNDAY 21st (Epiphany 3)
08.00 BCP Eucharist, Woodbridge
10.00 Parish Eucharist, Woodbridge
10.30 Morning Prayer, Great Bealings
15.00 Refreshments prior to:
15.30 CTWA Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Woodbridge
17.30 Evening Prayer, Woodbridge

Readings for NEXT WEEK
Sunday 21st January
(Epiphany 3)
Revelation 19. 6-10
John 2. 1-11

NOTICES

'JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR' trip to Regent Theatre in Ipswich on Wednesday 17th January at 2.30pm – for those who have booked tickets. Please meet in the foyer at the theatre, from 2pm, when Fr Nigel will have all the tickets to give out.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY begins on Thursday 18th January with daily services in all our churches. We are delighted to host our main 'Churches Together' service on Sunday 21st January at 3.30pm (Woodbridge) (with refreshments beforehand, from 3pm). If you can help with refreshments or would like to help with readings or prayers, please contact the Parish Office.

On **Monday 22nd January** at **11am (Great Bealings)** Morning Prayer will be led by Fr Nigel and, again, all our Churches are warmly invited. Further publicity and details out now!

The BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP publishes a variety of Daily Bible Notes each year. They include New Daylight in which a full bible text is included each day and the passage explained. 'Guidelines' is for people who are keen for deeper study. 'Upper Room' contains meditations provided by Upper Room readers from all over the world. 'Day by Day with God' provides a woman's viewpoint on the Bible. Each edition contains nine themes explored in different ways. All of these Bible Notes are published three times a year at £4.99 a copy A sample of each of these is at the back of the church. If you think you would be interested in having one of these regularly to read at home please contact Sandra Schur on 07909 142495, or email sandraschur@btinternet.com. It would be helpful to know by 1st February. For more general information visit www.brf.org.uk

BELLRINGING AT ST MARY'S WOODBRIDGE - Have you ever thought you might like to learn to ring? Our latest cohort of learners has now progressed to the novice stage so we have the capacity to take on a few more learners. Practices take place on Tuesday evenings and we would welcome anyone who would like to come along, initially to see what we do and maybe to have a go.

Bellringing is for people of all ages, although our bells are on the heavy side. There is no upper age limit, you just need to be able to climb the 52 steps to the ringing chamber! Ringing is really good for you, physically, mentally and socially and we are a friendly, welcoming group.

If you are interested please contact the Tower Captain, Bruce Wakefield (brucewakefield@tiscali.co.uk) or any member of the ringing team. We'd love to hear from you!

ADULT CONFIRMATION REMINDER – Please let the Rector know if you are interested in taking this next step of faith. The next Deanery Confirmation will be in April / May. It will involve just 6 weeks, and end with a shared meal at the Rectory.



PLACES OF PLACE OF WELCOME – We officially launch our start for 'Soup & Sarnies' (& tea / coffee) on Friday

19th January in the main hall at St Mary's House,

from 12 2000 to 2000. from 12.30pm to 2pm, and weekly thereafter. Please take a poster and get the word out!

THE BOUNDARY WALL – Further details and drawing (bordering Woodbridge Prep School) are now posted at the west end. No work has started as yet!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS & SPECIAL OCCASIONS 2024 - We are hoping to have this printed very soon! Please let the Parish Office know if you have any pressing dates for Church events you want mentioned. Hurry, please!

NEW DIRECTOR OF MUSIC - We hope to make an announcement very soon!

TWINNING WITH MUSSIDAN – One of our Councillors has asked that one of us from St Mary's is a representative on a small group to revive our Woodbridge links with Mussidan (near Bordeaux). It will not be a huge commitment, but if you would like to represent us, please speak with the Rector asap. Merci!

CAR INSURANCE! Fr Nigel thanks everyone for their help and advice. He is now sorted, and thinking of working for "Which?"!! Part-time, of course...!



Feast of Epiphany – Photo courtesy of Janice Poulson

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

(please <u>click here</u> for the Diocesan Prayer Diary)

Help us, Lord, to make this new year a priority for our children and young families, that they will feel more included in our worship and in our outreach... for St Mary's Primary School – teachers, governors & pupils

For peace throughout the Middle East; for their leaders, ambassadors, and negotiators

For the work of the Church Urban Fund nationally and their 'Places of Welcome' initiative locally. Help us to bring company and friendship for all who visit us on Fridays this winter.

Among the sick for: Brenda Prior, Ann Stent, Cath Eaden, Sybil Craik

Among the departed for: June Bussey and Andrew Skirving

COLLECT (PRAYER FOR THE WEEK)

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature
by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
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.
AMEN

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of glory,
you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your
glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus
Christ our Lord.
AMEN

Please contact the Benefice Office for all Baptism, Wedding and Funeral enquiries, and enquiries regarding bookings for the church or St Mary's House, on 01394 388820 or parish.office@stmaryswoodbridge.org

Benefice Office Opening Hours are Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9am to 12.30pm, and Thursdays & Fridays 9am to 4pm.

www.stmaryswoodbridge.org
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