

*Our Benefice church family is welcoming and inclusive to all.
We aim to reach and serve our communities and work lovingly in friendship and partnership. Together, we 'travel with' our Lord faithfully and sacramentally.*

THE WEEK AHEAD

FRIDAY 26th

18.30 Building Oversight Group meeting,
Seckford Room
19.00 & 21.00 Classical Coldplay Tribute
by Candlelight (see details below)

SATURDAY 27th

09.00 Elders' Communion, **Woodbridge**
followed by Elders' Meeting in Church
10.30 Gardening Group in churchyard,
Woodbridge. All welcome.

SUNDAY 28th (St Michael & All Angels)

08.00 BCP Eucharist, **Woodbridge**
10.00 Parish Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

MONDAY 29th

18.00 Finance Meeting, **Seckford Room**

TUESDAY 30th

10.00 – 14.30 Poppy's Pantry, **SMH**
10.30 Communion at **Seckford Chapel**
17.00 Christian Meditation, **Epiphany Chapel**
17.30 St Mary's CE Primary Governors' meeting
19.00 Practical Mysticism course continues, **SMH**
19.00 New Learners' bellringing, followed by Bellringers' Practice

WEDNESDAY 1st OCTOBER

18.00 Friends' Committee Meeting,
Seckford Room
19.30 Fabric Committee Meeting,
Seckford Room

THURSDAY 2nd

10.00 Said Eucharist, **Woodbridge**
11.15 Woodbridge School Prep Harvest Service, **St Mary's, Woodbridge**
18.30 Choir rehearsal, **SMH**

FRIDAY 3rd (George Bell, Bp of Chichester)

11.30 Communion at **Grove Court**

SATURDAY 4th (St Francis of Assisi)

08.30 – 12.30 Churchyard clear up, **Great Bealings**

SUNDAY 5th (Harvest)

09.30 Harvest Festival Eucharist, **Great Bealings**
10.00 Harvest Festival Eucharist, **Woodbridge**, followed by Harvest Lunch in **SMH** (tickets available from the Church Shop) for our Benefice family & friends

NOTICES

OUR HARVEST LUNCH is **NEXT Sunday 5th October** at **12.30pm** in **St Mary's House**, to be kindly prepared by Kirsten Berridge, and tickets are £10 each (available in the Church Shop, or let us know **THIS SUNDAY** that you're coming). The lunch will consist of roast ham served with salad and new potatoes (there will be a vegetarian alternative), followed by apple pie.

THANK YOU to the Friends of St Mary's who ran the bar at the Woodbridge Ambient Music Festival on Saturday, and all who supported the event. The bar raised £391.00 towards our Building Project 'Heating' Appeal.

CLASSICAL COLDPLAY TRIBUTE BY CANDLELIGHT – On **Friday 26th September** in **St Mary's Woodbridge**, featuring a String Trio. There will be two performances, at **7pm and 9pm**. This is organised by [Lumos Experiences](#), who hold these events all over the country, so we are delighted that they have chosen our beautiful church to host this one. You can see more details and [book tickets here](#).

GREAT BEALINGS CHURCHYARD CLEAR UP - Join us **THIS Saturday 4th October**, starting around **8.30am** and finishing at lunchtime. Mid-morning coffee and lunch will be provided on site, as usual, as a thank you. You don't have to commit to the whole morning, any help is greatly appreciated. Inside 'tidy-uppers' also very welcome. All sorts of implements useful, particularly rakes, strimmers, secateurs, shears, bonfire kit. The main jobs are grass strimming, raking and burning, hedge control, path clearance, and some grave maintenance. Please contact Norman Porter: nhp@rillcott.co.uk

CHURCH COLLECTIONS / DONATIONS - We no longer take a collection during services, but regular giving remains vital to running St Mary's, Woodbridge. Please support us through regular giving via the Parish Giving Scheme, by placing a donation (ideally in a Gift Aid envelope) in the plate at the back, or by using our contactless donation station. Thank you for your generosity. Please contact the Treasurer (Alison), Giving Steward (Sarah) or one of the Churchwardens (David or Michelle) if you require assistance.

NEW ORGAN 'SWELL ENGINE' – Our thanks to Sarah for her demonstration last week, and to our two kind donors to date! Please have a confidential word with James or Fr Nigel if you would like to 'boost' our PCC Organ Fund (which continues to pay for the maintenance and upkeep of our 'biggest instrument').

JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY GARDENING GROUP in **St Mary's, Woodbridge Churchyard**. Our first meet up is **THIS Saturday 27th September** at **10.30am**. Please bring your own tools and appropriate shoes! Thank you.

SUNDAY COFFEE ROTA – We are looking for more helpers, please, to join our team. Please have a word with Michelle if you would like to help us. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGN COMPETITION – Churches Together (CTWA) have asked members of our church congregations to design a Christmas Card that will be delivered throughout Woodbridge and neighbouring parishes. The design must:

- be suitable to be reproduced on an A5 (148 x 210 mm) postcard
- be landscape orientation
- represent Jesus' birth

This is for all ages and can be **either a painting or photograph**. All entries should be submitted to the Parish Office by 27th October, and the winning design will be chosen by CTWA shortly thereafter.

WOODBIDGE BANKING HUB is available **Monday to Friday, from 9am to 5pm** in **Woodbridge Library** (New Street IP12 1DT). There is a counter service, operated by the Post Office, where customers from all major banks and building societies can carry out regular cash transactions. The 'community bankers' work on rotation, with a different bank available on each day of the week, if you wish to speak to someone from your own bank about more complicated banking issues:

- Mondays – Barclays
- Tuesdays – Natwest
- Wednesdays – Lloyds
- Fridays – HSBC

It appears that not many people are aware of this facility, so please pass on this information to anyone who may find it useful. It's a case of 'use it, or lose it!'

MOTHERS' UNION - our next meeting is on Thursday 9th October at 2.15pm in Church for Corporate Communion followed by 'A Discussion' in SMH lead by Anne Wright. Topic on the day!! All are very welcome to attend, refreshments will be provided.

'HERITAGE MORNING' & 'GIFT DAY' (for our Heating Appeal) will take place on **Saturday 8th November**, from **9.30am to 12.30pm** at **St Mary's, Woodbridge**. More details to follow.

WEEK BEGINNING 6TH OCTOBER (in preparation for 'Prison Sunday' on 12th October) we are hoping to sell some craft items made in our local prisons from our Shop foyer.

ST MARY'S SHOP - 22nd September to 5th October is Fairtrade Fortnight - you might have spotted the 'posters' outside the shop and the banner on Shire Hall! Last Saturday we joined Fairtrade for Woodbridge at the Woodbridge Food Festival and were able to showcase, and sell, the Fairtrade products that we have on our shelves. We have good stocks of coffee, tea, drinking chocolate, cocoa and, of course, bars of chocolate, so please come and see us and support Fairtrade Fortnight 2025.

RIDE 'N' STRIDE – Please give all remaining sponsorship monies to Samson or Tony (Woodbridge) or Jonathan (Great Bealings). Thank you again for your support.

DEFIBRILLATOR (at the side of St Mary's House) is now operative again, and our thanks to David Sharples for all his work on this. He is also hoping to soon 'add' another one for inside St Mary's Church (Woodbridge).

OUR CATHEDRAL YOUTH CHOIR are coming to lead Evensong for us on Sunday 19th October at 6.30pm. Further details to follow.

TODAY'S Readings
Sunday 28th September
St Michael & All Angels
Genesis 28. 10-27
Revelation 12. 7-12
John 1. 47-end

Readings for NEXT WEEK
Sunday 5th October
Harvest Festival
Genesis 1. 1-3, 24-31a
John 6. 25-35

AMONG YOUR PRAYERS

(*Intercessors*, please [click here](#) for the Diocesan Prayer Diary)

- For our Michaelmas Season, and all Churches in our Diocese whose Feast Day is celebrated today; our Meditation Group; our Building Oversight Group
- Staff and Residents of Grove Court; staff and governors of St Mary's CE Primary School
- For an end to war and hunger in Sudan, Gaza, and Ukraine
- To celebrate the gifts of creation and countryside around us; for greater biodiversity and 'green' values; scientific and medical research to improve how we live and care for one another

Among the sick: for Betty Richardson, and Paul Cherry

Among the recently departed: for Cyril Wardrop & Sylvia Stiles

COLLECT FOR THIS WEEK

Everlasting God,
you have ordained and constituted the
ministries of angels and mortals in a
wonderful order:
grant that as your holy angels always
serve you in heaven,
so, at your command,
they may help and defend us on earth;
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

Lord of heaven,
in this eucharist you have brought us
near to an innumerable company of
angels
and to the spirits of the saints made
perfect:
as in this food of our earthly
pilgrimage we have shared their
fellowship,
so may we come to share their joy in
heaven;
through 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
Usual Benefice Office Opening Hours are Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9am to 12.30pm, and
Thursdays & Fridays 9am to 4pm.

www.stmaryswoodbridge.org
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