

UNITED BENEFICE e-NEWS

Sunday 21st January 2024 Epiphany 3

THE WEEK AHEAD

FRIDAY 19th (St Wulfston)

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

SUNDAY 21st (Epiphany 3)

o8.oo BCP Eucharist, Woodbridge

10.00 Parish Eucharist, Woodbridge

10.30 Morning Prayer, Great Bealings

15.00 Refreshments prior to:

15.30 Our CTWA* Service for Week of

Prayer for Christian Unity, Woodbridge (this replaces our usual Evening Prayer

at 5.30pm)

MONDAY 22nd

10.00 Time to Reflect, SMH

10.30 Coffee prior to:

11.00 CTWA Morning Prayer for Christian

Unity, Great Bealings. Please support.

TUESDAY 23rd

10.00 – 14.30 Poppy's Pantry, **SMH**

15.45 Funeral of Andrew Skirving, **Seven**

Hills

17.00 Christian Meditation, SMH

19.00 Bellringers' practice

19.30 CTWA* at St John's

WEDNESDAY 24th

14.00 CTWA* at Salvation Army Hall

THURSDAY 25th (Burns' Night)

09.30 CTWA* at St John's

10.00 Said Eucharist, Woodbridge,

followed by coffee

18.30 Choir rehearsal, SMH

FRIDAY 26th

12.30 'Soup & Sarnies' 'Welcome' in the

main Hall at SMH.

Free & open to all (although donations

welcome)

SATURDAY 27th

09.00 Morning Prayer via Zoom

SUNDAY 28th (Epiphany 4)

o8.oo BCP Eucharist, Woodbridge

10.00 Parish Eucharist, Woodbridge

17.30 Evening Prayer, Woodbridge

TODAY'S Readings Sunday 21st January

unday 21° January (Epiphany 3)

Revelation 19. 6-10

John 2, 1-11

Readings for NEXT WEEK Sunday 28th January

(Epiphany 4)

Revelation 12. 1-5a

Mark 1. 21-28

NOTICES

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY (18th to 25th January) with daily services in all our churches. We are delighted to host our main 'Churches Together' service THIS SUNDAY 21st January at 3.30pm (Woodbridge) (with refreshments beforehand, from 3pm). We need two more readers, please, to make it go with a swing! Please contact the rector ASAP. Thanks.

On **Monday 22nd January** at **11am (Great Bealings)** (with coffee from 10.30am) Morning Prayer will be led by Fr Nigel and, again, all our Churches are warmly invited. (*CTWA = Churches Together Woodbridge Area)

'WATCH AND PRAY' WEBINAR on **Wednesday 24 January at 11.00am** – If you would like to join to learn more about this year's national CoE resources for please <u>register here</u> to receive the Zoom link. This will help us all to decide whether this is the right way forward for us as a Benefice, and for potential house group use.

GUIDING has taken place at St Mary's since 1922, with provision currently for girls of 4-18. Unfortunately, through illness, one of our Rainbow (4-7) Units has had to be suspended temporarily. We are therefore looking to re-build the leadership team.

Potential leaders and helpers are invited to chat to Meg (bellringer), Jess (server) or Veronica (churchwarden), or go to girlguiding.org.uk to find out more (or even to register your interest there). Please get in touch if you would like to help us to give all of our younger girls confidence and experiences to help them know they can do anything – and please pass on this request to anyone you know who may be interested!

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. Each edition contains nine themes explored in different ways. These Bible Notes are published three times a year at £4.99 a copy, and a sample of each is at the back of the church. If you are 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

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.

THE BOUNDARY WALL – Further details and drawing (bordering Woodbridge Prep School) are now posted at the west end. Investigative work has begun, directed by Tim Buxbaum (our architect for Great Bealings, St Mary), on behalf of East Suffolk Council. It's going to be a big job!



PLACE OF WELCOME – 'Soup & Sarnies' (& tea / PLACES OF PLACE OF WELCOME – 'Soup & Sarnies' (& tea / coffee) on Fridays (during January and February)

WELCOME
in the main hall at St Mary's House, from 12.30pm to 2pm. Please take a poster and spread the word!

THANK YOU to our supporters for helping with the first one!

LAST WEEK'S 'SUPERSTAR' THEATRE TRIP was very successful, and nobody was lost! Our thanks to Linda in the Parish Office for organising our bookings and tickets.

NEW QUARTERLY SERVICE SCHEDULE has now been distributed. Hard copies are available in both our Churches. If you would like to join our Readers or Intercessors list of volunteers, please have a word with the Rector.

BELLRINGING AT ST MARY'S WOODBRIDGE - Have you ever thought you might like to learn to ring? 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!

TWINNING WITH MUSSIDAN (Nouvelle Aquitaine in the Dordogne) – Stephen Cole has kindly agreed to act as our Benefice representative on a small group to revive our Woodbridge links with Mussidan (near Bordeaux). Thanks very much, Stephen.

SUFFOLK SINGERS – Saturday's concert in Woodbridge Community Hall (in aid of FIND) has SOLD OUT!

SPECIAL EVENTS & SERVICES CALENDAR – These are being sent out with the e-News this week, but there are also hard copies available from both our Churches. Revised and updated editions will appear in due course, no doubt!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

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

For all couples preparing for weddings with us in the coming year, and their families and friends. For the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

For the national work of the Church Urban Fund and our 'Place of Welcome' initiative on Fridays in St Mary's House. For any in our community who feel isolated.

For former Post Office staff who ask only for just compensation and swift action.

For peace throughout the Middle East and an end to children's suffering.

For all our care homes and those in hospital.

Among those who are sick for: Ann Stent and Cath Eaden

Among the departed for: Herbert Golding, June Bussey and Andrew Skirving

COLLECT (PRAYER FOR THE WEEK)

God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to
the poor,
release to the captives,
and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord.
AMEN

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty Father,
whose Son our Saviour Jesus
Christ is the light of the world:
may your people,
illumined by your word and
sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his
glory,
that he may be known,
worshipped, and obeyed to the
ends of the earth;
for he is alive and reigns, now and
for ever.
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
Follow us on Facebook