

# UNITED BENEFICE e-NEWS

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024 Easter 4

# THE WEEK AHEAD

#### SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup>

**09.00** Morning Prayer via Zoom **10.00-16.00** 'Earth Day', **Whisstocks Place** (see details below)

#### SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> (Easter 4; 'Vocations Sunday')

o8.oo BCP Eucharist, Woodbridge
10.oo Parish Eucharist, Woodbridge
10.30 Morning Prayer, Great Bealings
17.30 Evening Prayer, Woodbridge

MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> 10.00 Time to Reflect, Seckford Room

### TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> April (St George)

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

### THURSDAY 25<sup>th</sup> (St Mark)

10.00 Said Eucharist, Woodbridge
15.00 Funeral for Maureen Holmes,
Seven Hills
18.30 Choir rehearsal, SMH
19.30 Induction of Rev'd Mark Cresswell,
S Mary's, Grundisburgh

TODAY'S Readings Sunday 21st April (Easter 4) Acts 4. 5-12 1 John 3. 16 – end John 10. 11-18 FRIDAY 26<sup>th</sup> 11.30 Extended Communion, Grove Court

SATURDAY 27th

**09.00** Morning Prayer via Zoom **10.00-12.00** Bealings Spring Plant Sale, **Bealings Village Hall.** All welcome!\*

### SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup> (Easter 5)

o8.oo BCP Eucharist, Woodbridge10.oo Parish Eucharist, Woodbridge17.30 Evening Prayer, Woodbridge

\*Evening Prayer: Ps 81. 8-16 Exodus 16. 4-15 Revelation 2. 12-17

Readings for NEXT WEEK Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April (Easter 5) Acts 8. 26-end 1 John 4. 7 – end John 15. 1-8

#### NOTICES

**FAIRTRADE FOR WOODBRIDGE** will be having a stall at **Whisstocks Place** for **Earth Day Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April,** from **10am to 4pm**, and St Mary's Shop has been invited to share their stall and sell our lovely range of Fairtrade goods. The event is being organised by Transition Woodbridge and will have a focus on food. All welcome!

**ANNUAL CHURCH CRAWL** - The annual Church Crawl with Roy Tricker is on **Friday 14**<sup>th</sup> **June**. We are visiting Iken Church in the morning, lunch at The Plough and Sail and then Snape Church in the afternoon. Everyone very welcome. If you are interested please contact Anna Ashton on 01394 384299 or Margaret Lowe on 01394 383486 **before the end of May** at the latest.

**ORGAN RECITAL** - On **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April** our director of music will be giving the organ recital before Evensong at King's College Cambridge. All are welcome to attend: the recital begins at 2.30 and is followed by Evensong; tickets are not required. James would be delighted to see you there.

**ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION (WOODBRIDGE)** - The annual update takes place between **16th and 30th of April**, in time for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 14th May. Margaret Davidson, our Electoral Roll Officer, and is very keen that every eligible person (please see list on notice in church porch) is included. The form 'Application for Enrolment on the Church Electoral Roll' is available at the back of the church or from Margaret or Veronica. Please sign up and increase our numbers for representation on the Deanery Synod and be able to nominate, stand and elect members to the PCC. N.B. If you are already on the Electoral Roll you don't need to sign up again! P.S. Margaret leaves Woodbridge this week to go to live nearer her daughter in Sheffield. Thank you for all your help here, and every happiness.

**PCC VACANCIES** - There are currently three five-year vacancies and up to two 'casual' vacancies, each of two years, available, plus one two-year slot as one of our three representatives on the Deanery Synod. Please talk to any current PCC member or either Churchwarden for further information. Nomination papers for PCC and Deanery Synod roles are available from Parish Office or from Veronica.

**NEW 'SOCIAL' COORDINATOR** – This is an important role which now needs to be filled – someone with flair, imagination, good organisational skills, happy to 'muck in' and able to build a team to deliver our events. Our Summer Fair on 6<sup>th</sup> July is not so far away now... so teamwork needed please!

**BELL RINGERS' 'SPRING RING' TO CAMBRIDGE** last Saturday was a huge success, and you can read all about it in a <u>blog post on our website</u>.

LOCAL FOOD & ENVIRONMENT FAIR – Fairtrade for Woodbridge will be having a stall at Whisstocks Place at this event (organised by Transition Woodbridge and Woodbridge Ambient Music Festival), for Earth Day Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April, from 10am to 4pm, and St Mary's Shop has been invited to share their stall and sell our lovely range of Fairtrade goods. All welcome!

**SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY MALE VOICE CHOIR** – 'Spring Serenade' concert on **Sunday 28**<sup>th</sup> **April** at **3pm**, in **St Mary's, Woodbridge** (raising funds for Just42), including soloist Mark Saberton, and 'Simply Celli'. Tickets are £15, available <u>here</u>, and the Friends of St Mary's will be running a donation bar (proceeds to the Fabric Fund).

**SUNDAY COFFEE ROTA - AFTER THE 10 AM SERVICE** - There is currently a vacancy for someone to join the 4th Sunday team or become a 'reserve'. The rota operates on 2nd, 3rd, 4th (& 5th) Sundays. To find out more, talk to anyone 'on duty' and/or pass your name to Janet Symons, Veronica Howe or Caroline Hawksley. This is a really good way to get to know more people!

**NEW PLANS FOR ST MARY'S HOUSE & CHURCH** - Please have a good look around our Architect's plans and display... and take an accompanying in-house leaflet explaining our hopes for both historic buildings, subject of course, to different Planning permissions.

The PCC are busy researching prospective financial support from different Grants and Trusts and if you would like to help us in any way, please be in touch.

We are planning to launch a public Appeal: from Sunday June 30th onwards, by which time we will have a clearer picture of total costs - and the exciting challenges ahead! (Rector & Church Wardens)

**SUNDAY EVENING PRAYER** is very poorly supported to date, so it would be good to see more punters (including Elders)! We meet in the Epiphany Chapel.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Liz Prior! The children will present her with a special gift on Sunday!

**LIVING IN FAITH & LOVE** – The PCC have agreed (we are a little late coming to this CofE 'party') that we must as Churches, and a Benefice, have an opportunity to discuss this book / course on human relationships and sexuality (<u>click here</u>). It is hoped to find just five consecutive dates in the early summer on Wednesday evenings if possible. Each session will be 90 minutes, from 7.30pm to 9pm.

**\*NEXT SATURDAY'S BEALINGS SPRING PLANT SALE** is a big local event, and our advice is to get there in good time if you love your gardens!

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Give thanks on this Good Shepherd Sunday for all the leaders of our Churches, Diocese and Deanery, that God will guide them with all wisdom and kindness...

For forthcoming elections to our PCC, including a new Churchwarden, Deanery Secretary member, and Electoral Roll Officer

For blessing on our plans for SMH and Church, and our renewed mission and outreach in the years ahead...

For Mark Cresswell to be inducted this week as the new Rector for Carlford Benefice

For all political leaders negotiating for peace throughout the Middle East, and all Aid and Development workers seeking to feed the hungry and homeless...

Among the recently departed, for Maureen Holmes

COLLECT (PRAYER FOR THE WEEK) Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father. AMEN POST COMMUNION PRAYER Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; 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

Benefice Office Opening Hours are Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9am to 12.30pm, & Thursdays & Fridays 9am to 4pm. <u>www.stmaryswoodbridge.org</u> <u>Follow us on Facebook</u>