



# The Stratfield Mortimer Benefice of

St Saviour  
Mortimer West End

St Mary and St John  
Stratfield Mortimer

St John the Baptist  
Padworth

St Mary's Church of England School

St John's Church of England School

Diocese of Oxford

Vicar: The Reverend Paul Chaplin

Associate Priest: The Reverend Derek Spears

The Benefice Office: St John's Church Mortimer, RG7 3SY Tel.: 0118 9333704

Email: [admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk](mailto:admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk)

Website: [www.mortimerbenefice.org.uk](http://www.mortimerbenefice.org.uk)

**Our vocation as individuals and together as the Body of Christ is:  
to love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our soul and with all our strength;  
and to love our neighbours as ourselves. (Mark 12.29-31)**

Called to be Christ-like; contemplative, compassionate and courageous.

## BENEFICE DIARY 10<sup>TH</sup> – 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2023

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by email, please let us know by sending an email to [admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk](mailto:admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk).

To be kept informed of our life and worship here, please complete one of the forms on our website – [www.mortimerbenefice.org.uk](http://www.mortimerbenefice.org.uk)

To maintain the life and worship of the Church in this community and to share and extend the love God has shown for us in Jesus Christ, the Church depends on the Christian giving and generous contributions of members and friends. To set up a regular payment by Standing Order, please see our website where full details are available. To make the most of your giving please use the Gift Aid scheme by placing your donation in one of the orange envelopes, adding your name and address or number or completing the Gift Aid form also available on the website. The Church can reclaim for its use the tax paid on the money given.

The Eucharist is offered daily at 9.15 am & Night Prayer each weekday at 9 pm & the Eucharist each Sunday at 10 am via Zoom. See below for link details.

Everyone is welcome to join with the clergy and to take part in these services. Details are also available on the website: [www.mortimerbenefice.org.uk](http://www.mortimerbenefice.org.uk)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Confessions – please telephone The Vicar, Fr. Paul Chaplin 01189 331718.

Zoom link for services <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6931233940>

### NOTICES

**CONFIRMATION** If you would like to explore the next step in the journey & find out more, please contact Fr. Paul or telephone the office 01189 333704.

### BENEFICE CHRISTMAS SERVICES

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 2 p.m.**

St. John's School Christmas Service at St. John's Church  
**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 4 p.m. at St. Mary's Church**

The Carol Service – The Festival of Lessons & Carols  
Please stay for mulled wine, juice & mince pies after the service

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 2 p.m.**

St. Mary's School Christmas Service at St. Mary's Church

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

3 pm & 5 pm Christingle Services at St. John's, Mortimer  
4 pm Christingle Service at St. Saviour's, MWE  
11.30 pm Midnight Mass at St. John's, Mortimer

**Christmas Day**

9 a.m. Eucharist at St. John's, Padworth

10 a.m. Sung Eucharist at St. John's, Mortimer

**CHRISTINGLE SERVICES** will take place on Christmas Eve at St. John's, Mortimer at 3 pm & 5 pm & at St. Saviour's, Mortimer West End at 4 pm. If you wish to attend, please contact the parish office on 01189 333704 or email [admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk](mailto:admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk) to request a form.

**WEST BERKS FOOD BANK** [www.westberks.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.westberks.foodbank.org.uk)

Please visit the Food Bank website for full details of how and what to donate.

Collection from Tesco Burghfield, Co-Op Mortimer or ring 07955 626621 for collection

**Urgently needed:** chocolate Advent calendars, tinned meat meals (stew, meatballs, spaghetti bolognese), confectionary (sweets, chocolate, treats), tinned ham or corned beef

**Short supply:** ambient sponge puddings, tinned fruit, Mug Shots, shaving foam

**PATHWAYS** The latest edition of the Diocese of Oxford magazine can be viewed at this link <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/pathways/>

**CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP FINANCIAL GIVING** Please donate regularly to support the Church's mission & work. The church here needs your help in order to serve our villages, our diocese, our nation & our world in the future. Please see [www.mortimerbenefice.org.uk](http://www.mortimerbenefice.org.uk)

**BENEFICE PLANNER** Please make sure all dates for services, meetings, events, etc., for the year ahead are in the planner to avoid clashes. Send details to the benefice office or by email to [admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk](mailto:admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk)

Notices for inclusion in the newsletter should be submitted in writing/by email to the Benefice Office no later than the Wednesday of the week in which they are to appear.

*Eternal Lights before the Blessed Sacrament burn to the Glory of God and this week*

at St John the Evangelist, Mortimer – in thanksgiving for the lives of  
Kitty Walton, Richard Esslemont & Harry Stringer

at St John the Baptist, Padworth – in thanksgiving for the lives

Bernard & Irene Fishwick

and at St Saviour's, Mortimer West End – in thanksgiving for the life of the Parish

SUNDAY 10 <sup>TH</sup>	SECOND OF ADVENT	
9.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St. John's, Padworth
10.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	St. John's, Mortimer & Online
11.00 a.m.	Choir Practice	Vestry
12 noon	Vicar's meeting	
6.30 p.m.	Evensong (BCP)	St. Saviour's, MWE

Readings for Second Sunday of Advent		
First Reading: Isaiah 40.1-11		Psalm 85.1-2, 8-end
Second Reading: 2 Peter 3.8-15a		Gospel: Mark 1.1-8

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE BEREAVED		
Christa, Chris, Richard, Heather, Niamh, the Bowyer Family, Jenny, Gwen, Alan, Julia, Terry, Rita, Christopher, Catherine, James, Jay, Joanne, Lucas, Kay, Tom, David, James, Fiona, Pat, Julie, Grace, Alissia-Rose, Rosey, Sally, Brian, Gary, Charles, Susan, Mya, Rob, Sarah, Frances, Eddie, Shirley, Clive, Andy and Sue, Thomas, Dorothy, Nicola, Carol, Roger, Michelle, Mollie, Graham, Delphine, Maureen, Steve, Mary, Joan, Dennis, David, Jill, Mary, Fr. Derek, David, Helen, Mitchell		
<b>WE COMMEND TO GOD WITH PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING</b>		
<b>R.I.P.</b> Cynthia, Jenny Martin, Susan, Phil Tester, Dennis Noel Leaver		

MONDAY 11 <sup>TH</sup>		
9.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St. John's, Mortimer & Online

TUESDAY 12 <sup>TH</sup>		
9.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St. John's, Mortimer & Online
12 noon	Chapter	
2.00 p.m.	St. John's School Christmas Service	St. John's, Mortimer

WEDNESDAY 13 <sup>TH</sup>	<i>in honour of Lucy, martyr</i>	
	<i>Ember Day</i>	
9.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St. John's, Mortimer & Online
10.00 a.m.	Vicar attends Collective Worship	Schools
2.00 p.m.	Federation Governing Board meeting	St. John's, School

THURSDAY 14 <sup>TH</sup>	<i>in honour of John of the Cross, poet, teacher of the faith</i>	
9.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St. John's, Mortimer & Online

FRIDAY 15 <sup>TH</sup>	<i>Ember Day</i>	
9.15 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Online

SATURDAY 16 <sup>TH</sup>	<i>Ember Day</i>	

SUNDAY 17 <sup>TH</sup>	THIRD OF ADVENT	
9.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St. Saviour's, MWE
10.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	St. John's, Mortimer & Online
11.00 a.m.	Choir Practice	Vestry
11.45 a.m.	Holy Baptism	St. Mary's, Mortimer
2.00 p.m.	Choir practice	St. Mary's, Mortimer
<b>4.00 p.m.</b>	<b>THE CAROL SERVICE AT ST. MARY'S, MORTIMER</b> <b>The Festival of Lessons and Carols</b>	