



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

Website: 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 4TH – 11TH FEBRUARY 2024

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by email, please let us know by sending an email to 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

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

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

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

SUNDAY 4TH

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
11.15 a.m.	Mortimer PCC meeting	St. John's, Mortimer
12.30 p.m.	Vicar's meeting	St. John's, Mortimer
6.30 p.m.	Evensong (BCP)	St. John's, Padworth

SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Readings for Second Sunday before Lent

First Reading: Proverbs 8.1, 22-31 Psalm 104.26-end
Second Reading: Colossians 1.15-20 Gospel: John 1.1-14

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, Mitchell, Sarah, Colleen, Jack

WE COMMEND TO GOD WITH PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

R.I.P. Joan Gibbs

MONDAY 5TH

9.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St. John's Mortimer & Online
5.00 p.m.	Personnel & Pay meeting	St. Mary's School

TUESDAY 6TH

in honour of Martyrs of Japan
9.15 a.m. Eucharist St. John's Mortimer & Online

WEDNESDAY 7TH

9.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St. John's Mortimer & Online
10.00 a.m.	Clergy join Collective Worship	Schools
6.00 p.m.	Baptism Preparation	St. John's, Mortimer
7.00 p.m.	Marriage Preparation	St. John's, Mortimer

THURSDAY 8TH

9.15 a.m. Eucharist St. John's Mortimer & Online

FRIDAY 9TH

9.15 a.m. Morning Prayer Online

SATURDAY 10TH

in honour of Scholastica, abbess

SUNDAY 11TH

SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

ALTAR SERVERS' LENT MISSION BEGINS

9.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St. John's, Padworth
10.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	St. John's, Mortimer & Online
11.00 a.m.	Good Friday Workshop meeting	St. John's, Mortimer
11.00 a.m.	Choir Practice	Vestry
6.30 p.m.	Evensong (BCP)	St. Saviour's, MWE

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.

GOOD FRIDAY WORKSHOP There will be a short planning meeting immediately following the Eucharist on Sunday 11th February at St. John's, Mortimer. Please do join if you are willing to help/interested in helping at the workshop. Thank you.

BENEFICE PLANNER Please make sure all dates for services, rehearsals, meetings, events, etc., for the year ahead are in the planner to avoid clashes. Send details to the benefice office by email to admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk

PALM CROSSES Please bring to St. John's, Mortimer, any Palm Crosses you may have so that preparations can be made for Ash Wednesday. Thank you.

BENEFICE SHROVE TUESDAY SUPPER 13TH FEBRUARY

You are warmly invited to food & fellowship at the Benefice Shrove Tuesday Supper at 7.30 pm in St John's Church, Mortimer. There will be homemade dishes & pancakes will be served with a variety of toppings followed by tea & coffee. Fruit juice & water will be available but bring your own drinks if you prefer. A basket will be available for donations. If you are able to come, it would help with catering if you would please let the Benefice Office know by 5th February. admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk or 01189 333704.

The Diocese of Oxford invites everyone to join 'Come and See' each Lent. The theme this year is 'The Way of Love'. Resources can be found at <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see>

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY 1ST MARCH 2 PM AT BURGHFIELD COMMON METHODIST CHURCH The theme this year is 'I beg you, bear with one another in love'. All welcome.

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

WEST BERKS FOOD BANK From the Food Bank: 'Thank you for your amazing support, we are fully stocked'. Please make donations when you are able to help maintain stock levels. See www.westberks.foodbank.org.uk for full details of how & what to donate. Collection from Tesco Burghfield, Co-Op Mortimer or ring 07955 626621 for collection.

ETERNAL LIGHT at St. John's, Mortimer – if you would like to have the eternal light lit in memory of a loved one anytime throughout the year, please contact the office to book a date – each week £5.00.

Notices for inclusion in the newsletters 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 life of the Parish
at St John the Baptist, Padworth – in thanksgiving for the life of Bernice Cooper
and at St Saviour's, Mortimer West End – in thanksgiving for the life of the Parish*