



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 21ST – 28TH JANUARY 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 21 ST	THIRD OF EPIPHANY	
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
5.00 p.m.	Padworth PCC meeting	St. John's, Padworth
6.30 p.m.	Evensong (BCP)	St. John's, Padworth

Readings for Third of Epiphany

First Reading: Genesis 14.17-20 Psalm 128
Second Reading: Revelation 19.6-10 Gospel: John 2.1-11

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

WE COMMEND TO GOD WITH PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

R.I.P. Janet Alexander, Susan Awbery

MONDAY 22ND in honour of Vincent of Saragossa, deacon, martyr
9.15 a.m. Eucharist St. John's Mortimer & Online

TUESDAY 23RD
9.15 a.m. Eucharist St. John's Mortimer & Online
7.30 p.m. Clarke's Educational Trust meeting

WEDNESDAY 24TH in honour of Francis de Sales, bishop, teacher of the faith
9.15 a.m. Eucharist St. John's Mortimer & Online
10.00 a.m. Clergy join Collective Worship Schools

THURSDAY 25TH Conversion of Paul
9.15 a.m. Eucharist St. John's Mortimer & Online
2.00 p.m. Funeral for Janet Alexander
Easthampstead Park Crematorium

FRIDAY 26TH in honour of Timothy & Titus, companions of Paul
9.15 a.m. Morning Prayer Online

SATURDAY 27TH

SUNDAY 28TH PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE - CANDLEMAS
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
6.00 p.m. Afternoon Tea followed by
6.30 p.m. Songs of Praise St. John's, Padworth

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 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

CANDLEMAS SUNDAY 28TH JANUARY

St. John the Baptist, Padworth will celebrate Candlemas 'Songs of Praise' on Sunday 28th January at 6.30 p.m. Afternoon tea will be served at 6.00 pm. All welcome.

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.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2024 This is an annual initiative traditionally observed 18 - 25 January - the octave of St. Peter and St. Paul - whereby Christian communities throughout the world are invited to pray for one another and for greater Christian Unity. The chosen theme is 'You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself' (Lk 10:27). Daily resources can be found at www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer

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

WEST BERKS FOOD BANK 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 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.

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

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 Becky Ray
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