



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 25TH FEBRUARY – 3RD MARCH 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>

Benefice Lent Prayer

As the days lengthen and we spend longer in the light of day

Grant that I may spend longer in the Light of Your Presence O Lord

and may those seeds of Your Word which have been long buried within me

grow like everything around us into love for You and love for all Your people.

Grant, Lord, that this Lent there may be a Springtime for my life in Christ. Amen

SUNDAY 25TH

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
11.30 a.m.	Marriage Preparation	St. John's, Mortimer
5.00 p.m.	MWE PCC meeting	St. Saviour's, MWE
6.30 p.m.	Evensong (BCP)	St. Saviour's, MWE

SECOND OF LENT

NOTICES

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

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

LENT EXTRAS are now available. Please see Roger Jones or ring 01189 333136 to reserve a copy.

Readings for Second Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16 Psalm 22.23-end
Second Reading: Romans 4.13-end Gospel: Mark 8.31-end

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>

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE BEREAVED

Christa, Richard, Chris, Heather, Jenny, Julia, Rita, Catherine, James, Joanne, Fiona, Julie, Grace, Alissia-Rose, Rosey, Sally, Gary, Charles, Mya, Thomas, Dorothy, Nicola, Michelle, Mollie, Graham, Delphine, Jill, David, Mitchell, Colleen,

WE COMMEND TO GOD WITH PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

R.I.P. Joan Gibbs

BENEFICE GARDEN FELLOWSHIP We are planning a trip to The Savill Garden, Windsor on Tuesday 7th May 2024. Please speak to Lorna Jones or telephone 01189 333136 for more details.

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.

MONDAY 26TH

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

TUESDAY 27TH in honour of George Herbert, priest, poet

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

WEDNESDAY 28TH

9.15 a.m. Eucharist St. John's Mortimer & Online
10.00 a.m. Clergy join Collective Worship Schools
11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Reading Branch Ringers St. Mary's Church

THURSDAY 29TH

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

FRIDAY 1ST MARCH in honour of David, bishop, patron of Wales

9.15 a.m. Morning Prayer Online
2.00 p.m. World Day of Prayer Service Burghfield Methodist Church

SATURDAY 2ND in honour of Chad, bishop, missionary

SUNDAY 3RD

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

THIRD OF LENT

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.

ELECTORAL ROLLS for all three parishes will soon be revised. If your name isn't on the current roll and you would like to be, please contact the office – admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk or 01189 333704.

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 lives of

Jim and Lillian Stephenson

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