



# 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

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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.**

## HAPPY AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS

### BENEFICE DIARY 25<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022 – 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 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>

**SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> CHRISTMAS DAY**  
9.00 a.m. Eucharist St. John's, Padworth  
10.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist St. John's, Mortimer & Online

#### NOTICES

Online services will resume from 3<sup>rd</sup> January

**CONFIRMATION** If you would like to explore the next step in the journey & find out more about Confirmation please contact Fr. Paul.

#### Readings for Christmas Day

First Reading: Isaiah 52.7-10

Psalm 98

Second Reading: Hebrews 1.1-4

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, Fr. Jonathan SSM, Clive, Andy and Sue, Thomas, Dorothy, Nicola, Carol, Roger, Michelle, Mollie, Graham, Delphine, Maureen, Steve, Mary, Joan, Jessica, Roger

#### WE COMMEND TO GOD WITH PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

R.I.P. Margaret Munson, John Cregan

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

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

**Urgently needed:** tinned meat – ham/spam/corned beef, stuffing mix,

gravy granules, sponge puddings (not chilled), toothbrushes (adult & child)

**In short supply:** tinned tomatoes, tinned custard, shaving foam, razors,

long life uht milk, long life fruit juice, ketchup, tinned fruit, shampoo,

household cleaning products, brown sauce, tinned fish

**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)

**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.

**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)

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

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.

The Benefice Office will be closed until 9 am on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January. For all urgent matters during that time, please send an email to [admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk](mailto:admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk) or telephone 01189 333704 and leave a message.

*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*

*Michael Esslemont-Palmer and for the life of the Parish*

*at St John the Baptist, Padworth – in thanksgiving for the life of the Parish*

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

**MONDAY 26<sup>TH</sup>** *in honour of St Stephen, deacon, first martyr*  
**BANK HOLIDAY**

**TUESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup>**

**WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup>**

**THURSDAY 29<sup>TH</sup>**

**FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup>**

**SATURDAY 31<sup>ST</sup>**

**SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY**

#### NAMING AND CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS

10.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist

St. John's, Mortimer



**Light a candle in Thanksgiving  
at Christmas**

*The Light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not overcome it.*

*John.1.5.*