



# 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 12<sup>TH</sup> – 19<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 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>

<b>SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>SECOND BEFORE LENT</b>	
9.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St. John's, Padworth
10.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	St. John's Mortimer & Online
6.30 p.m.	Evensong (BCP)	St. Saviour's, MWE

<b>Readings for Second Sunday before Lent</b>		
First Reading: Genesis 1.1-2.3		Psalm 136
Second Reading: Romans 8.18-25		Gospel: Matthew 6.25-end

**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, Sue  
**WE COMMEND TO GOD WITH PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING R.I.P.**

<b>MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup></b>		
9.15 a.m.	Morning Service	Online

<b>TUESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>in honour of Cyril &amp; Methodius, missionaries &amp; Valentine, martyr at Rome</i>	
9.15 a.m.	Morning Service	Online

<b>WEDNESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>in honour of Sigfrid, bishop &amp; Thomas Bray, priest</i>	
9.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St. John's Mortimer & Online

<b>THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup></b>		
9.15 a.m.	Morning Service	Online

<b>FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>in honour of Janani Luwum, archbishop, martyr</i>	
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**SATURDAY 18<sup>TH</sup>**

<b>SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>NEXT BEFORE LENT</b>	
9.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St. Saviour's, MWE
10.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	St. John's Mortimer & Online
6.30 p.m.	Evensong (BCP)	St. John's, Padworth

**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

**NOTICES**

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

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

**LENT EXTRAS** are now available - £2.00. Please see Roger Jones in church or ring 01189 9333136 to reserve a copy.

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

**BENEFICE SHROVE TUESDAY SUPPER 21<sup>ST</sup> 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 meat & vegetarian dishes accompanied by green salad & crusty bread. Pancakes will be served with a variety of toppings followed by tea & coffee. Fruit juice & water will be on the spring-themed tables but bring your own drinks if you prefer. A basket will be available for donations. Each table will have a fun picture/catchphrase quiz to feed the mind. If you are able to come, it would help with catering if you would please let the Benefice Office know by 13<sup>th</sup> February. [admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk](mailto:admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk) or 01189 333704.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2 PM AT ST. MARY'S SULHAMSTEAD**

The theme this year is 'I have heard about your faith'. All welcome. Refreshments will be served.

**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  
**In short supply:** female deodorant, sanitary products, ambient long life sponge puddings, tinned fruit

**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.

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*

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