



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 Dr. Derek Spears

The Benefice Office: St John's Church Mortimer, RG7 3SY Tel.: 0118 9333704

Email: admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk

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**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 2ND – 9TH MARCH 2025

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 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 2ND

SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

ALTAR SERVERS' LENT MISSION BEGINS

9.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St. Saviour's MWE
10.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	St. John's Mortimer & Online
1.30 a.m.	Vicar's meeting	St. John's Mortimer
3.00 p.m.	Service of Welcome for Bishop Mary	Reading Minster
5.00 p.m.	Padworth PCC meeting	St. John's Padworth
6.30 p.m.	Evensong (BCP)	St. John's Padworth

Readings for Sunday before Lent

First Reading: Exodus 34.29-end	Psalm 99
Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2	Gospel: Luke 9.28-36 (37-43a)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE BEREAVED

Christa, Richard, Chris, Heather, Jenny, Julia, Rita, Catherine, James, Joanne, Fiona, Julie, Alissia-Rose, Rosey, Sally, Gary, Charles, Mya, Thomas, Dorothy, Nicola, Mollie, Graham, Delphine, Jill, David, Mitchell, The Bowyer Family, Anne, Pam, Margaret, Jazz, Mary, Roger, Nicola, Kevin, Vera

WE COMMEND TO GOD WITH PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

R.I.P. Terry Davis, John Wells, Wendy Darlison

MONDAY 3RD

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

TUESDAY 4TH

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

7.15 for 7.30 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Supper St. John's Mortimer

WEDNESDAY 5TH Ash Wednesday

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

10.00 a.m. Ashing services Schools

7.30 p.m. Eucharist with Ashing St. John's Mortimer & Online

THURSDAY 6TH

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

5.00 p.m. Full Governing Board meeting St. Mary's School

FRIDAY 7TH in honour of Perpetua, Felicity & companions, martyrs

9.15 a.m. Morning Prayer Online

2.00 p.m. World Day of Prayer Service St Oswald's B'field

SATURDAY 8TH in honour of Edward King, bishop; Felix, bishop & Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy, priest, poet

SUNDAY 9TH FIRST OF LENT

9.00 a.m. Eucharist St. John's Padworth

10.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist St. Johns Mortimer & Online

11.30 a.m. Mortimer PCC meeting St. John's Mortimer

5.30 p.m. Mortimer West End PCC meeting St. Saviour's MWE

6.30 p.m. Evensong (BCP) St. Saviour's MWE

NOTICES

CONFIRMATION If you would like to explore the next step in the journey, please contact Fr. Paul or telephone the office 01189 333704.

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

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND'S LENT THEME FOR 2025 is Living Hope. Daily resources will be available at <https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/what-we-believe/lent-holy-week-and-easter/living-hope-lent-reflections>

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FRIDAY 7TH MARCH 2 P.M. AT ST. OSWALD'S BURGFIELD COMMON The theme this year is 'I made you wonderful'. Psalm 139:14. All welcome.

GOOD FRIDAY WORKSHOP 9.45 am to 12 noon at St. John's Mortimer To book a place, telephone the office 01189 333704 or email admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk with your child's name, age, emergency contact numbers & any additional needs.

WEST BERKS FOOD BANK See www.westberks.foodbank.org.uk for full details. Collection from Tesco B'field, Co-Op Mortimer or 07955 626621.

Urgently needed: UHT milk, long life fruit juice, baby food 4-6 & 12 months, meat meals with ring pulls, mug shots, toothbrushes, adult & children, nappies sizes 5/6/7/8, non-bio laundry tablets, toilet cleaner

ELECTORAL ROLL This year an entirely new Roll must be prepared & the old Roll withdrawn. All who wish to be included in the new Roll must complete an application form. Application forms will be sent out to all those on the current Roll & there is also a supply of forms at the back of the church for those not on the existing Roll but who would like to apply to be included. All application forms should be returned to the Benefice Office.

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP FINANCIAL GIVING Please donate regularly to support the Church's mission & work. 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.

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

BENEFICE PLANNER Please make sure you send to the office admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk all your proposed dates for meetings, activities, events etc., in order that we can avoid unnecessary clashes.

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

Barbara and Ian Rose

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