



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

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 15TH – 22ND DECEMBER 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 15 TH	THIRD OF ADVENT	
9.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St. Saviour's MWE
10.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	St. Johns Mortimer & Online
11.00 a.m.	Choir Practice	Vestry
11.45 a.m.	Baptism preparation	St. John's Mortimer
6.30 p.m.	Evensong (BCP)	St. John's Padworth

Readings for Third Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Zephaniah 3.14-end Psalm 146.4-end
Second Reading: Philippians 4.4-7 Gospel: Luke 3.7-18

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, Geoff

WE COMMEND TO GOD WITH PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

R.I.P. Jessica Jacobs, Ivan Nascè, Heather Gibbs

MONDAY 16 TH		
9.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St. John's Mortimer & Online
2.00 p.m.	St. Mary's School Christmas Service	St. Mary's Mortimer

TUESDAY 17 TH	<i>O Sapientia</i> <i>Eglantyne Jebb, social reformer, founder of</i> <i>'Save the Children'</i>	
9.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St. John's Mortimer & Online

WEDNESDAY 18 TH	<i>O Adonai</i>	
9.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St. John's Mortimer & Online
10.00 a.m.	Vicar attends Collective Worship	Schools

THURSDAY 19 TH	<i>O Radix Jesse</i> School term ends	
9.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St. John's Mortimer & Online

FRIDAY 20 TH	<i>O Clavis David</i>	
9.15 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Online
9.45 a.m.	Advent Workshop	St. John's Mortimer

SATURDAY 21 ST	<i>O Oriens</i>	
9.30 a.m.	Choir practice	St. Mary's Mortimer

SUNDAY 22 ND	FOURTH OF ADVENT	
9.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St. Saviour's MWE
10.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	St. Johns Mortimer & Online
2.00 p.m.	Choir Practice	St. Mary's Mortimer
4.00 p.m.	THE CAROL SERVICE AT ST. MARY'S, MORTIMER The Festival of Lessons and Carols	

NOTICES

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

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.

ADVENT EXTRAS £2.60. See Roger Jones or telephone 01189 333 136.

BENEFICE CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Monday 16th December at 2 p.m.

St. Mary's School Christmas Service at St. Mary's Mortimer

Sunday 22nd December at 4 p.m. at St. Mary's Mortimer

The Carol Service – The Festival of Lessons & Carols

Tuesday 24th December

3 pm & 5 pm Christingle Services at St. John's, Mortimer

4 pm Christingle Service at St. Saviour's, MWE

11.30 pm Midnight Mass at St. John's, Mortimer

Christmas Day

9 a.m. Eucharist at St. John's, Padworth

10 a.m. Sung Eucharist at St. John's, Mortimer

ADVENT WORKSHOP AT ST. JOHN'S, MORTIMER

FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER 9.45 – 11.45 A.M.

Children are invited to participate in songs/carols & craft. To register telephone 01189 333704 or email admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk

CHRISTINGLE SERVICES ON CHRISTMAS EVE

St. John's, Mortimer at 3 pm & 5 pm and St. Saviour's, Mortimer West End at 4 pm. If you wish to attend, please ring 01189 333704 or email admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk

STEWARDS FOR CHRISTINGLE SERVICES If you are able to help at the 3 pm or 5 pm (or both) please sign the list at the back of the Church.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH CHRISTMAS DECORATION If you've long pieces of greenery, i.e. yew, variegated ivy & holly etc., we would be grateful if you could leave some in the church porch on Saturday 21st. Donations towards the cost of flowers also welcome. If you'd like to help decorate, please come to St. John's for 10 am on Monday 23rd. Thank you.

WEST BERKS FOOD BANK See www.westberks.foodbank.org.uk for full details. Collection from Tesco Burghfield, Co-Op Mortimer or ring 07955 626621. See Food Bank website for Reverse Advent Calendar details.

Urgently needed: sugar, stuffing/gravy/cranberry sauce, tins of biscuits, tins of sweets/chocolates, cooking oil, toilet paper

Short supply: savoury biscuits, uht milk, milk powder, Pringles or sharing crisps, cooked meat with ring-pull, custard/rice pudding pots, Christmas cake (long dates), non-bio washing powder

FAMILY LIST Our Family List is being updated. Please take a form from the back of the churches, complete and return it to the office, even if you have signed a form previously or email admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk.

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP FINANCIAL GIVING Please donate regularly to support the Church's mission & work. Please see www.mortimerbenefice.org.uk

*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 Sidney Draper

at St John the Baptist, Padworth – in thanksgiving for the life of Josie Jones

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