



# 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](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 8<sup>TH</sup> – 15<sup>TH</sup> 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](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>

### NOTICES

#### SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup>

9.00 a.m.  
10.00 a.m.  
11.00 a.m.  
11.15 a.m.  
6.30 p.m.

#### SECOND OF ADVENT

Eucharist St. John's Padworth  
Sung Eucharist St. Johns Mortimer & Online  
Choir Practice Vestry  
Advent Workshop planning meeting St. John's  
Evensong (BCP) St. Saviour's MWE

#### Readings for Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Baruch 5 Benedictus  
Second Reading: Philippians 1.3-11 Gospel: Luke 3.1-6

#### 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 9<sup>TH</sup>

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

#### TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup>

9.15 a.m. Eucharist St. John's Mortimer & Online  
12 noon Chapter  
1.15 p.m. School rehearsal St. John's Mortimer

#### WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> Ember Day

9.15 a.m. Eucharist St. John's Mortimer & Online  
10.00 a.m. Vicar attends Collective Worship Schools  
1.15 p.m. School rehearsal St. John's Mortimer  
2.00 p.m. Full Governing Board meeting St. Mary's School  
6.00 p.m. Vicar's meeting St. John's Mortimer

#### THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup>

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

#### FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup>

*Lucy, martyr & Samuel Johnson, moralist*

#### Ember Day

9.15 a.m. Morning Prayer Online  
11.00 a.m. School rehearsal St. John's Mortimer

#### SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup>

*John of the Cross, poet, teacher of the faith*  
Ember Day

#### SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> 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  
6.30 p.m. Evensong (BCP) St. John's Padworth

**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](mailto: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

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 2 p.m.**

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

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 2 p.m.**

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

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 4 p.m. at St. Mary's Mortimer**

The Carol Service – The Festival of Lessons & Carols

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>TH</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk)

**WEST BERKS FOOD BANK** See [www.westberks.foodbank.org.uk](http://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](mailto:admin@mortimerbenefice.co.uk).

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

*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 lives of*

*Thomas Bailey, Harry Stringer, Kitty Walton and Richard Esslemont*

*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*