



*Our Benefice church family is welcoming and inclusive to all.
We aim to reach and serve our communities and work lovingly in
friendship and partnership. Together, we 'travel with' our Lord faithfully
and sacramentally.*

THE WEEK AHEAD

FRIDAY 17th

11.30 Funeral for Stan Poulson,
Woodbridge, followed by a reception in
SMH

12.30 to 14.00 'Place of Welcome' Soup &
Toasted Sandwiches, **Small Hall**. All
welcome (see details below).

17.30 Building Project Meeting, **SMH**
(Hall)

SATURDAY 18th (Beginning of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity)

09.00 Morning Prayer, via Zoom

09.30 Elders' Eucharist (**Woodbridge**)
followed by 10am meeting, **Epiphany**
Chapel

SUNDAY 19th

08.00 Said Benefice Eucharist,
Woodbridge

10.00 Parish Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

10.30 Morning Prayer, **Great Bealings**

15.30 Service for Week of Prayer for
Christian Unity (CTWA), **Methodist**
Church, Woodbridge

17.30 **Choral Evensong** to celebrate
Thomas Seckford on the anniversary of
his burial, **Woodbridge** (Town Mayor &
Deputy Lord Lieutenant in attendance)

MONDAY 20th

10.00 Time to Reflect, **Seckford Room**

TUESDAY 21st (St Agnes, 304)

10.00 – 14.30 Poppy's Pantry, **SMH**

10.30 Communion at **Seckford Chapel**

17.00 Christian Meditation, **SMH**

19.30 Bellringers' Practice

19.30 PCC Meeting (Gt Bealings),
Bealings Village Hall

WEDNESDAY 22nd

19.30 Fabric Committee Meeting,
Seckford Room

THURSDAY 23rd

10.00 Said Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

18.30 Choir rehearsal, **SMH**

FRIDAY 24th

12.30 to 14.00 'Place of Welcome' Soup &
Toasted Sandwiches, **SMH**. All welcome.

SATURDAY 25th (The Conversion of Paul)

09.00 Morning Prayer, via Zoom

11.30 Memorial service for Archie
Groom, **Woodbridge**

SUNDAY 26th (Epiphany 3)

08.00 Said Benefice Eucharist,
Woodbridge

10.00 Parish Eucharist, **Woodbridge**

15.00 'Deer Parks Talk,' our next Building
Project Appeal event, **SMH** (see below)

17.30 Evening Prayer, **Woodbridge**

NOTICES

A SPECIAL SERVICE OF EVENSONG to celebrate Thomas Seckford on the anniversary of his burial is **THIS Sunday 19th January at 5.30pm in St Mary's, Woodbridge**. Music of the period performed by St Mary's Church Choir & the Ravenscroft Consort, followed by mulled wine. Preacher: Fr Nigel. All welcome!

ARCHIE GROOM'S THANKSGIVING - Archie lived in Woodbridge at an address in Mussidan Place until quite recently. His family are holding a service in his memory here in **St Mary's, Woodbridge at 11.30am on Saturday 25th January**. If you knew him and would like to attend, please feel free to come. Everyone is welcome.

DEBEN CLIMATE CENTRE is holding its 'Energy Hub' from **10.30am to 2pm** Mondays to Saturdays in the **Small Hall in St Mary's House**. It's a great opportunity for anyone to pop in, have a cuppa, and get free advice from their 'Community Energy Champions' – on home energy efficiency, solar panels, home insulation, heat pumps, and more. You can also find out about their projects and get involved. They are also raising awareness by having a presence at the Thursday market. All welcome.

ST MARY'S SHOP - 2025 is off to a good start in the Shop but we could really do with a few more volunteers to make sure that we can keep open every day. If you could spare 3 hours a month, either from 10am to 1pm or 1pm to 4pm, we would love to hear from you! No retail sales experience is required, and training will be given. If you would like to know more please speak to Jackie Shipley, Tony Waller, David Berridge or Veronica Howe or email shop@stmaryswoodbridge.org

DEER PARKS TALK – Our next event in aid of our Building Project Appeal is on **Sunday 26th January at 3pm** (*please note revised start time*) in **St Mary's House**. A talk entitled "The Medieval Parks of Suffolk's Ecclesiastical Nobility" by Rosemary Hoppitt Ph.D about the history and importance of deer parks in Suffolk, followed by tea & cake. More details available [here](#). All welcome. Please sign up to volunteer a cake for the occasion and/or to make tea etc.

NEXT SAFEGUARDING TRAINING (in person) on Domestic Abuse is planned for **Friday 31st January from 9am to 1pm** at **St Felix, Rendlesham** for Clergy, Elders, PCC members, etc. Please let the Parish Office know as soon as possible if you will be attending. Transport will be available if required.

SINGAPORE EVENING – Rescheduled for **Saturday 1st February at 7pm** in **St Mary's House**, and also in aid of our Building Project Appeal. Helena Lim-Poole will be cooking a buffet style menu of her favourite hawker foods. There will be a raffle (donations of prizes appreciated) and donation bar. **SOLD OUT!**

ST MARY'S SHOP - New stock for 2025 is now arriving, including some lovely soft Fair Trade alpaca socks. Just the job to keep your feet warm in church! And, if your lips are getting chapped, how about some Yare Valley Lip Balm? We also have a 'Clearance Sale' table, so please call in and have a look!

HEATING UPDATE – Following the PCC's approval to fund works to provide additional electrical capacity for an extra 'blower' and to purchase two new 'blowers,' David Sharples, with help from James Rolls (the Diocese's Net Zero Carbon Officer), has accelerated a grant application to cover the costs. In the meantime one heater has been ordered, and should arrive shortly. Please continue to bear with us as we work through this process in the months ahead.

BUILDING PROJECT APPEAL UPDATE – a big thank you to everyone who completed our Community Survey for our National Lottery Heritage bid. Our Building Oversight Group (chaired by Stephen Cole) is putting together our application 'tome' for the end of February.

In the meantime we are advised to press on with our separate applications for Grant and Trust funding from other national bodies. This is for **both** buildings (St Marys' House and Church) because, without modernisation and development of St Mary's House e.g. like Quay Street Church), our community outreach and mission will stop!

If you can offer any help at all (with just one single application) please have a word with Andrew Pickthorn or Neil Logan Green. Thank you.

CONCERTS COORDINATOR – We are still looking for Romy's replacement, and soon, please? It is a very sociable and fulfilling 'post,' especially if you love music of all kinds!

AN EVENING WITH GRIFF RHYS JONES raised a wonderful sum of around £4,000, so we are very grateful to one of our Appeal Patrons who has really made his mark on our efforts to save St Mary's House and Church. It isn't true what h said about the Rector at his mum's funeral!

TODAY'S Readings
Sunday 19th January
1 Corinthians 12. 1-11
John 2. 1-11

Readings for NEXT WEEK
Sunday 26th January
1 Corinthians 12. 12-31a
Luke 4. 14-21

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

(please [click here](#) for the Diocesan Prayer Diary)

- For our Deanery & Diocese; our Parish family & Benefice here, and our prayers for a new Treasurer...
- For the gift of Christian Unity where there is division or suspicion; for Churches Together in the Woodbridge Area, and our shared pilgrimage in faith and fellowship...
- For the work of the Seckford Foundation and the charitable work across Woodbridge to strengthen 'community'
- For a lasting ceasefire in Gaza and rebuilding of trust despite the religious and political 'divides'

Among the sick and housebound we pray for: Chris Springford, Bridget Fairley, and Sue Hubbard

Among the recently departed we pray for: Michael Tyler, Jan Meryon, Carol Coldham (Grove Court), Stan Poulson, and Kay Yule. For all who have died in recent wars across the Middle East.

COLLECT

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by
the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our
Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
AMEN

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of glory,
you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your
glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus
Christ our Lord.
AMEN

Please contact the Benefice Office for all Baptism, Wedding and Funeral enquiries, and enquiries regarding bookings for the church or St Mary's House, on 01394 388820 or parish.office@stmaryswoodbridge.org

Benefice Office Opening Hours are Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9am to 12.30pm, and Thursdays & Fridays 9am to 4pm.

www.stmaryswoodbridge.org

[Follow us on Facebook](#)