

Hertingfordbury & The Five Greens Parish News



Full Christmas details inside

December 2024 / January 2025

Here with you - Here for you

Printed copies are available from St Mary's church

PARISH OF ST. MARY'S, HERTINGFORDBURY

www.hertingfordburystmary.org

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I believe

When somebody says they don't believe in God, I sometimes ask them to describe the God they don't believe in. Nine times out of ten, I don't believe in that God either.

Everyone believes in something. Historically the Church has put its beliefs into words by composing creeds or statements of faith. If you were to write your own creed beginning with the words 'I believe...', what would you write?

During this time of Advent as we prepare to celebrate perhaps the most un-believable of stories, I've found a creed that speaks for me...

'I believe in God; the God of all creeds, with all their truths; but above all, in the God who rises from the dead words to become part of life.

I believe in a God who accompanies me along every step of my path on this earth; many times walking behind me, watching me and suffering with my mistakes; other times walking beside me, talking to me and teaching me; and other times walking ahead of me, guiding and marking my pace.

I believe in the God of flesh and blood, Jesus Christ; the God who lived in my skin, and tried on my shoes;

The God who ate and starved, who had a home and suffered loneliness, who was praised and condemned, kissed and spat on, loved and hated; the God who went to parties and funerals; the God who laughed and cried.

I believe in the God who looks at the world and sees the hatred that segregates, hurts and kills; who sees the dirty rivers and the dead fish, the destruction of the earth and the piercing of the sky; who sees the future mortgaged and man's debt growing.

I believe in the God who sees all this... and cries.

But I also believe in the God who sees a mother giving birth – a life born from pain; who sees two children playing – a seed growing; who sees a flower blooming out of the debris – a new beginning; who sees the sun rising every morning – a time of opportunity.

I believe in a God who sees all this ... and smiles, because in spite of it all, there is hope.'

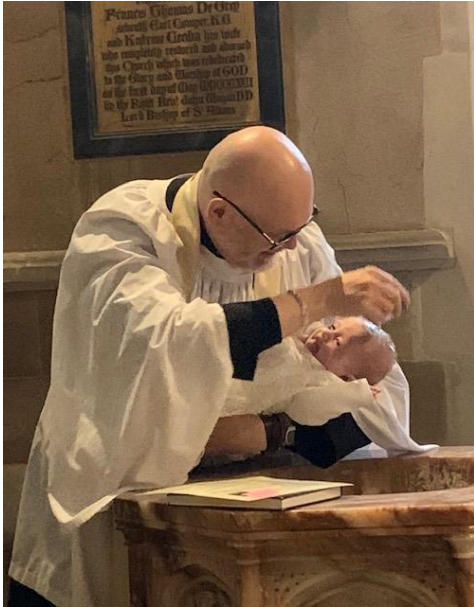
This Christmas, may we all know something of that hope.

Rev Alan

Registers

Baptism – Welcome into the family of the church

3 November – Emma Amanda Seymour



Rev Alan baptising Emma – Baby Emma with Mum & Dad and brother Freddie

Funeral

7 November – Audrey Georgina Eustance – 87 yrs



Audrey just qualified as a State Registered nurse & Lady Captain at the golf club

Audrey Georgina Eustance (10.12.1936 – 20.10.2024)

Audrey was a much loved and respected member of our church and the wider community so it is only right that we pay tribute to her life and achievements here. We do so below with some of the loving words and memories spoken by her family at her funeral.

Audrey Georgina Eustance

Audrey was born on 10th December 1936 in West Norwood in the London Borough of Lambeth on the day that King Edward VIII abdicated. Educated at Southgate County school she left school at 16 on her fathers advice to work in an office.

However on 6th November 1956 she cycled into a stationary vehicle whilst searching for spent fireworks on her way to work and woke up in hospital! After seeing how happy the nurses were, it confirmed her desire to be a nurse. Audrey promptly signed on for the nursing course and qualified as a State Registered Nurse in 1960.

Before entering Midwifery, Audrey mainly worked in 'Casualty' at Chase Farm Hospital. During this time she was the Casualty nurse that sat with Ross McWhirter after he was shot by the IRA! Nothing could phase her. She was always so calm, reassuring and level headed under pressure.

So Audrey was able to bring up 4 demanding (yet wonderful!) children and study to be a Midwife at the same time. She proudly started Midwifery in the GP unit at Chase Farm hospital - the full Midwife package: antenatal, baby delivery and postnatal care. She quickly progressed to become a Community Midwife which she loved and in turn her "Mums" loved her. It would always take her a long time to shop in Enfield, as so many of her Mums wanted to share the progress of their 'babies'. Even in her last days at Isabel Hospice, a nurse popped in to share that Mum had delivered her son 34 years ago!

Audrey pioneered Parent Classes, with a colleague, for expectant couples before she retired in 1996 when they dispensed with community midwives.

Audrey met Jim, a greengrocer, at the Royalty Ballroom in 1957 and they were married on Easter Monday 1960. She chose well! Apparently when she agreed to marry Jim, he said "Great you can help me with the deliveries" BUT babies wasn't what he meant! They adored each other and had 4 children between 1961 & 67. He never let that trust and love down and cared for her right to the very end.

They went on to have 12 grandchildren, who loved her quirkiness. Her tradition was always to give them their first bath and given half a chance she would have delivered them too! Recently Audrey had become a Great-Grandmother and even with late stage dementia, being told she had a great grandchild, Remy, brought her great joy.

Two of Audrey's great loves were family and caravan holidays although always leaving at Greengrocer O'clock (4AM). She loved the family all being together.

When two of the children and their families moved to Australia she and Jim embraced that and made regular visits to Melbourne and Adelaide. She was forever learning new things, cake making, art, embroidery, knitting, veggie meals etc. She kept up with the latest gadgets and was always one step ahead on social media and photography.

Audrey was also a very talented sports person. She excelled at tennis, badminton and golf. She was the Crews Hill Golf Club Ladies Captain in 2004 - who honoured her last week, by lowering their flag to half-mast

We'll miss you Audrey. God Bless you. Rest in Peace

Some Dates for your Diary

Sunday 1st December – **Advent Candlelit Service** with hymns, readings and reflection.
St Andrews 6.30pm

Saturday 14th December – **Beer & Carols at St Andrews**

Monday 16th December – **A Mindful Christmas** 7.30pm at St Andrews

Wednesday 18th December – **Carol Service** 7.30pm at St Andrews

Thursday 19th December – **Carol Service** 7.30pm at **St Marys**

Saturday 21 December – **Beer & Carols in the churchyard** 4pm at **St Marys**

Sunday 22 December – **Zoom Carols** at 10.30am

Christmas Eve – **Crib & Christingle Service** 12.30 & 2pm at **St Marys**

Christmas Eve – **Midnight Service** 11.15pm at St Andrews

Christmas Day – **Christmas Communion** for all ages at 9.15am at **St Marys**

Wednesday 1st January – **New Year's Day Walk** starting 10.30am from the Golden Griffin,
Sele Farm

Sunday Services at St Mary's

Sung Eucharist 9.15am every Sunday

Zoom Sunday Service at 10.30am (joining details from Robin Bishop)

All Age Service & Young Church 9.15am on 2nd Sunday of the month



St. Mary's Churchyard Regulations – Christmas

We are very conscious that this is a sensitive area – and we are most grateful for the care shown by many people tending graves and memorial plaques – but as Churchwardens we are required to ensure that the regulations, as laid down by the diocese relating to the churchyard are adhered to. The rules relating to churchyards are very stringent compared to those applying to local authority cemeteries. The full regulations are displayed on one of the noticeboards inside the South Door porch.

We would therefore ask that you remember that the placing of the likes of Father Christmases, Reindeers, flashing lights and so on, on graves/plaques is not permitted. Similarly floral remembrances should consist of natural flowers. Also, please do not use glass vases or jars as they might be accidentally broken leading to difficulties when maintaining the churchyard.

Whilst we should be reluctant to do so, we will, if necessary, remove items. We would always be happy to explain our reason for doing so. Please do speak with us if you would like advice about what is permitted.

Tributes should be removed by the end of January

Thank you. David & Robin



Christmas Services 2024 - all dates December

Sunday 1st 6.30pm - A candle-lit service for Advent at St Andrew's

Monday 16th 7.30pm at St Andrew's - A Mindful Christmas - In the rush leading up to Christmas, a space to reflect, recharge and find comfort in this short candle-lit service with readings, poems, prayers and music.

Thursday 19th 7.30pm - Candle-lit Service of 7 lessons and Carols followed by mulled wine at St Mary's

Saturday 21st 4pm - Beer and Carols sing-a-long in our beautiful churchyard at St Mary's

Christmas Eve at St Mary's

12.30pm - A Quieter Crib and Christingle Service

2pm - Crib and Christingle Service

Christmas Day at St Mary's

9.15am - Christmas Communion for all ages

Have a wonderful Christmas !





The Friends of Hertingfordbury St Mary

Upcoming Events 2024 & 2025

Friday 13 December 2024

Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir St Mary's Church (19.30)

Tickets £10 - Kay Juniper 07776 340932



Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir founded in 1935

Saturday 22 February 2025

Race Night at St Joseph's in the Park - Bar open at 19.00 First Race 19.30

David Gorton 07544 702241- more information to follow

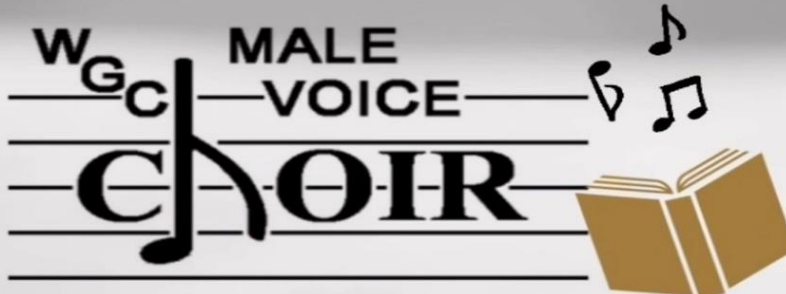
Becoming a Friend

The Friends of Hertingfordbury St Mary was granted charitable status just before Christmas 2023 (Charity number 1206041).

The purpose of The Friends is to raise money for the restoration and preservation of the church building and churchyard. The funds are not for the day to day running of the church. That's the responsibility of the congregation. We should like to make sure that this beautiful church is here for future generations.

Membership forms, with the FoHSM account details, are available inside the church by the south door should you like to become a Friend or make a donation. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like more information. Thank you for your support.


Bishop thefobury@outlook.com 07746 694890



WGC MALE VOICE CHOIR

**Welwyn Garden City
Male Voice Choir**

will be performing on



Friday 13th December @ 19.30
St. Mary's Church
Hertingfordbury

*tickets £10 msg Kay Juniper
07776340932*

We had a wonderful concert back in June when The Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir came to sing for us and again helped to raise significant funds for St Mary's church. At that concert they introduced many new faces of local men who were going to sing as a separate choir in aid of Prostate Cancer UK, and were clearly excited at the prospect. As a result we were also able to make a donation towards this very worthwhile charity and this new choir sang in two further concerts along with four other similar choirs and raised a staggering £100,000 for the charity.

Many of these men enjoyed their experience so much that they joined the WGC Male Voice Choir resulting in a doubling of the singing membership! We are delighted therefore that they are returning to St Mary's on Friday 13th December to provide a pre-Christmas treat for us all. They will be singing some of their newly learned repertoire plus a selection of Christmas songs and carols, some with audience participation! There will be two young soloists performing and they are hoping to involve local primary school pupils with some of the Christmas numbers.

Do come along, join in the fun and get in the Christmas spirit! Tickets for this concert will be on sale (see poster above) from the beginning of November priced at £10 (£5 under 16 and under 10's free)



Jane Brooke

Malcolm and Kay recently went to see Jane at Bentley House to have coffee and a good chat. Jane is seen here perusing the latest Parish News.

She misses coming to church and sends her love to all her friends



Joint St Andrew's & St Mary's Away Day Sunday, 4th May 2025 All Nations College, Ware.

We will once again be having a joint church away day in 2025 and it will be held in the beautiful setting of the All Nations Christian College in Ware. More details will follow in due course but please make a note of the date. Everybody is very welcome



BIG CHRISTMAS

CHURCH CLEAN

Christmas church clean this year will be on Saturday 7th December between 10am - 12noon. Everything provided - Dusters, Mops, along with Coffee, Cake, Music and the necessary ingredient - Laughter!
Your help will be very much appreciated - everyone welcome

Virginia 01992 583560



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- 🌿 Venue Hire

When watching becomes Judging

We are continuing to highlight some of the very meaningful messages from our church sermons, not only by Revs Alan & Bill, but also by our inspiring team of Lay Readers of Worship. This month Forbes Mutch focuses on something we are maybe all guilty of – Judgement!



Reflection by Forbes Mutch, 20 October 2024, based on John 4: 1-42. The gospel reading at the start of John 4, where Jesus enters a town in Samaria and meets a Samaritan woman by a well, is a masterclass in how not to be prejudiced.

I've always thought of myself as not being a prejudiced person but I have to admit that there are some occasions when I doubt the validity of my own values.

I recently found myself sitting in the departure lounge of London Heathrow Terminal 5. Travelling is romantic and exciting but, as anyone with any experience of journeying can tell you, travelling often involves a lot of sitting around waiting – waiting at bus stations, waiting in traffic jams, waiting on trains, waiting at airports.

The other day, I had a particularly fast-track experience going through check-in and security and so, there I was, in the airport departure lounge with over two hours to kill. I looked around, I selected my Pret a Manger cauliflower cheese. I found a seat in sight of a departure board. And then it began: the waiting. And this is when a darker, irritable side to my nature emerged.

Why? Because, when I'm sitting in a busy airport lounge, I pretend to look at my phone or read a book, but what I'm actually doing, is 'people watching'. And the danger with people watching is that it can turn very quickly into 'people judging'.

Be honest: how often have you sat, looking at the people around you, and found yourself making judgements? We don't voice those judgements out of politeness but we categorise people; we herd them into 'types' or 'groups', making sweeping assumptions and generalisations about strangers based on superficial characteristics such as gender, age, weight, clothes, nationality, all the things that we as Christians say aren't important but which we as humans sub-consciously observe and which we use to influence our attitudes. Or am I the only person prepared admit to this?

When watching becomes Judging

In the airport lounge, I look around me. Why is that man on his second pint of beer at this time of the morning? Honestly! That girl is wearing such a skimpy T-shirt and shorts, she might as well not be wearing any clothes at all. It's disgusting. Why on earth can't that woman stop her two-year toddler from crying like that? Honestly, young mothers today don't know how to say 'no' to their children. Doesn't she realise that we don't want to listen to her screaming brat?

Jesus, on the other hand, sets a much better example.

He turns up in a town in Samaria. He sits down by the well and is joined by a Samaritan woman. I thought about this story the other week, when I was sitting by the well of Pret a Manger in London Heathrow Terminal 5. I like the story for several reasons.

First, the woman is not only a Samaritan, but she is not a respectable, religious woman either. She is an outcast from her own community, drawing water from the well in the heat of the midday sun when no-one else is around. But Jesus, typical Jesus, says hello.

In those days, in that society, a man speaking to a woman he has not been introduced to was very unusual, even scandalous. More than that, this woman is a Samaritan – somebody a respectable Jew would never speak to. But Jesus does. Jesus is not concerned with the customs or taboos or the prejudices of the time. Jesus, as always, breaks the rules.

And this story confirms that Jesus mixes with all people; not just with respectable people, and religious people. Jesus mixes with every kind of person. Jesus mixes with everybody and talks to everybody because he cares for people. That is a pretty good business model for our lives even today.

This story also reminds me that while God's son was on Earth, he was completely human. Christ is thirsty, so he sits by a well and asks for a drink. How ordinary is that?

And finally, a fourth point about this story, which is probably more important than Christ's calm lack of prejudice and his all-seeing nature, is the way God uses the most unexpected people to build his kingdom on earth.

In the Palestinian culture of the day, women were on a social level below men; a Samaritan woman in a Jewish society would have been seen as even lower, and a Samaritan woman with a tarnished reputation in a Jewish society would be even lower still. And yet, it is this same person that God chooses to meet Jesus; it is this unlikely person who receives the Water of Life, and it is this unwanted person who rushes back to her estranged community, overflowing with such enthusiasm for what has happened that the townspeople go out to the well in the heat of the day to meet Christ and hear his teaching first hand. This tarnished Samaritan woman has evolved from being an outcast to an effective missionary.

I remember this story in the airport departure lounge and I stop judging people I don't know. I concentrate on my cauliflower cheese and, eventually, I board the plane. I get priority boarding because I have a false leg, and I am one of the first passengers on board. I find my seat.

Because of my leg, it's hard to balance sometimes and I find it difficult to place my luggage in the overhead locker. I turn to the person behind me in the gangway. It's the woman who couldn't control her two-year-old toddler.

'Hello', I say. 'I see your boy has calmed down, then'.

When watching becomes Judging

She smiles sweetly and says: 'Yes, he's slightly autistic and doesn't like airports. Too much going on. But he's calm on the plane. He'll be fine. Would you like some help with your bag? Let me lift it up for you.'

And I say: 'thank you, that would be a great help'.

I say thank you for more than one reason. I say: 'You remind me of the Samaritan woman who offered Jesus a drink of water'. I don't think she quite understands, but she smiles. It is the smile of the Kingdom of God.

***Forbes Mutch, Lay Leader of Worship** - With thanks to Rev Peter Thomas of North Springfield Baptist Church, Chelmsford for his February 2017 sermon on the same gospel reading.*



Tributes of Remembrance November 2024 at St Mary's



“We Will Remember Them”

The British Legion send a big THANK YOU to our church and wider community for your response and generosity as the Poppy appeal raised just under £600. The poppies on the west door of the church looked beautiful and are so visible to those just passing by



What a happy occasion! This year's Market was held on Saturday 16 November and raised valuable funds for The Friends of Hertingfordbury St Mary. It was super to have new stall holders from the village and Greens. We were pleased to welcome Leyla and Linda with their stall selling preloved items; Dawn and Mark selling Hertingfordbury gin and Liz selling lavender products.



This is always an enjoyable morning and this year was no exception. The refreshments team worked hard serving drinks and a delicious array of cakes. There was a constant buzz of conversation as people met up with old friends and made new ones. A huge thank you to all the stall holders, helpers and all of you came and made it such a splendid event.





Hertingfordbury Cowper C of E (VA) Primary School

'ROOTED IN JESUS, GROWING IN WISDOM,
OVERFLOWING WITH THANKFULNESS'
(COLOSSIANS 2:2)

Remembrance Service

On Monday 11th November, we had our school Remembrance Service at the War Memorial in Birch Green. It was lovely to be joined by our school and local community. During this time, we shared poems, prayers and reflections with the children. We held a minute's silence together, after which the Year 6 children sang a very touching song for us. This was followed by our Year 6 Captains and Vice Captains laying the school's poppy wreath on the memorial. The children's behaviour was truly beautiful and showed great respect.



In class, our Year 4 children explored the messages of Remembrance Day and wrote some prayers as reflections.



Hertingfordbury Cowper C of E (VA) Primary School

Ofsted Inspection

Just before the half term break, we had a 2-day ungraded inspection visit by Ofsted. We are extremely proud of our report, which is available on our school website (<https://hertingfordbury-cowper-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/ofsted-report/>). Our Ofsted inspector was repeatedly complimentary of our children - their manner, their learning and their conversations with him.

Children in Need

Our Year 6 captains and vice-captains led a special time of collective worship to celebrate 'Children in Need'. They shared with the school how this charity helps many children in lots of different ways and this was linked to our current Christian value of 'Justice'.

The children came to school dressed in spots and stripes to help our fundraising.



Reception Class September 2025

The online system to apply for a Reception place for September 2025 is now open and the closing date is Wednesday 15th January 2025.

We are booking tours of our school for those wishing to visit prior to applying. Please contact the school office for dates and availability.



Friends of Panshanger Park

Panshanger Park is a wonderful natural area within our wider community and so we have been in contact with Friends of Panshanger Park and are going to run some segments of it's history - some of which will include the village and greens and some not - but it will all be about Panshanger and the people there. It has, as you know, a long history and this month we continue with Charles Runcie on the memories of his remarkable Godmother

MEMORIES OF 'MISS MIDD'

Godson Charles Runcie tells the story of a remarkable horsewoman, and the vibrant life of Panshanger Stables during the 1950-80's.

Panshanger Stables has probably had many characters through the entrance gates during its long history, but none more so than a certain Joan Middleton. Universally known as 'Miss Midd' to the hundreds of friends and families who passed through her hands, she spent a lifetime involved with horses and ponies, with the compact and versatile Panshanger Stables a perfect base for her from the early 1950's to the mid-1980's. It became a second home not only for the thousands of children who helped, rode for, and were taught by Miss Midd, but also their parents. They willingly gave up much of their spare time to help in a multitude of ways, both in and out of the show or riding school ring.

Born in 1910, Joan Middleton had a privileged early life. Brought up in Gloucestershire, she was the daughter of a leading music teacher. She went to school at the nearby Malvern Girls College, which gave her a lifelong love of the Malvern Hills area. After school she came to Hertfordshire, firstly as assistant to Mr Falconer at his Holwell Stables near Hertford, taking over the yard aged just 22. When instructing children it turned out she had an amazing ability to inspire confidence. Coupled with the use of well-schooled quality ponies it meant her riding school flourished from the start. Welfare of animals was always one of her first considerations. They were consistently well cared for in every respect, and she passed this discipline onto her riding pupils.

When the Second World War broke out in 1939 the riding school had to be given up, and instead she looked after the horses and hounds of the local Enfield Chace Hunt. When war ended in 1945 she moved to Bury Farm near Tewin to restart her riding school, finally settling into the beautiful stables of the soon-to-be-demolished Panshanger House. She lived in the grooms flats above the Stables along with her mother Middy and brother Miles. As her reputation spread and riding school numbers at Panshanger grew, Miss Midd bought back many young Welsh ponies for her riding school. Having a good eye for a pony they were all beautifully trained by her for young children to ride, and these combinations won many Championships during this time. The gentle rolling slopes of Panshanger were perfect for all this.

In 1957, at the suggestion of the then Duke of Edinburgh, the Pony Club inaugurated the Prince Philip Cup, designed to find the country's best equine mounted games team. Miss Midd became trainer of the Enfield Chace team, and they reached the first final at the Horse of the Year Show where they came second.

“MISS MIDD”

Four years later the team went one better, not only being crowned winners at Wembley, Empire Pool in 1961 but with her and her team receiving the trophy in the main ring from the Duke himself. Through the 1960's and 70's her teams regularly reached the finals week, enhancing her reputation even further. Miss Midd's generosity in loaning land around Panshanger Stables for weekly practices, and very often her own ponies for those in need of one, cannot go unrecorded. All were given free of charge.



Miss Midd riding one of Panshangers beloved ponies Geraint in 1963 (left)

With one of the Pugs she loved (right)

She also enjoyed many other types of fun with her ponies and pupils. She created Riding Party teams, comprising a line of similar looking ponies performing set routines. She entered many fancy dress competitions, with horses and riders sporting spectacular costumes lovingly created by parents and friends depicting anything from a nursery rhyme to a historical event. Activity rides, quadrilles, gymkhanas, local shows - all these and more were presided over by Miss Midd with enthusiasm, fun and flair. Panshanger Stables was a daily hive of equine activity for all of these events. Ponies came in and out by foot and lorry, stables were mucked out, children furiously swept the floor of straw, more ponies were tacked up and mounted by their riders, ready for a riding lesson or mounted games training session. Laughs were aplenty though, with plenty of tea and biscuits dispensed by her from the tack room around 4pm daily.

In the mid-1970's Miss Midd was involved in other equine activity, and decided to sell the riding school she'd established way back in the late 1930's. The stables continued to operate at Panshanger Stables under several different owners, and she enjoyed meeting the many friends, admirers and visitors who would pop in at her upstairs flat. It had been agreed she could live there even when stables and park were sold by Redland in 1997 to Lafarge.

Miss Midd died in March 2002, aged 92. As a person she had an immense influence on the lives of countless children who she taught to ride, not only with skill but with good manners. She was always patient, kind and helpful, never flustered, a born leader. During her association with Panshanger Stables its atmosphere was full of fun and friendship between rider and pony, human and horse.

And always there, in charge, loved and respected by all, was my Godmother - Miss Midd.

charles@charlesruncie.co.uk

We bring people together through a shared curiosity for the arts. We meet on the last Thursday of the month to hear arts related lectures in a comfortable, friendly atmosphere at the The Spotlight in Hoddesdon. We meet for coffee at 10am, followed by the lecture at 10.30. **Visitors are very welcome at the lectures for a small fee.** Contact Philip Juniper at kpjuniper@yahoo.co.uk for more information on joining

Upcoming lectures

30 January – **Mixed Double: How to look at Doubles Portraits**

27 February – **Michelangelo, Copernicus & the Sistine Chapel: The Last Judgement**

27 March – **Becoming Jane Austin: The Making of a Literary Superstar**

For more information please go to our website

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will be CLOSING DOWN ON
15TH DECEMBER
Until then it will be open weekends only
9am to 2pm. Thank you for your support**



Recreation Ground Library

A library, containing books, both fiction and non-fiction, including a good children's section, DVD's and games has been set up in the tennis pavilion on the Hertingfordbury recreation ground.

This is a free resource for all Hertingfordbury residents. Access can be gained at any time by the use of keys that are kept in a key-safe at the pavilion. Should anyone have any books, DVD's, or games to donate to the library new stock is always welcome.

If you are interested in using this facility please contact Penny or Mick Barratt on 07715 378212 and they can provide you with the key safe access code.

Hertingfordbury Parish Council

Chairman – Paul Rochford

Vice Chairman – Haidy Blake

Councillors – Niki Gordon, Roger Morris, Simon Bostock, Lesley Clark

Member of Parliament – Chris Hinchliff

County Councillor – Ken Crofton

District Councillor – Bob Deering

If you wish to contact the Parish Council please contact the Clerk

Clerk: Katie Eyre at clerk@hertingfordbury.org.uk

Next Meeting

Meetings are at Hertingfordbury Cowper School between 7pm – 9pm. Members of the public are welcome. Please see website for latest dates

To report an issue with fly tipping, highway fault, overflowing rubbish, street lighting etc, please call East Herts District Council directly on 01279 655261 or go to <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/faultreporting/>



Defibrillators

Please note that Defibrillators are housed on the outside walls of the.....

- Parish Room (The Brace Room) at St Mary's Church, Hertingfordbury
- Cowper School, Birch Green – outside the school gate



Church Cleaners

We really need people (men or women!) to join our church cleaning rota

It takes a couple of hours every few weeks. We want our beautiful church to always look its best

If you can help please contact Virginia on 01992 583560



Churchyard Volunteers Needed



Volunteers required for grass cutting

Between 9 - 12 noon on a Saturday, we are now trying to coordinate dates to coincide with our weddings at St Mary's

Reward is a picnic lunch and good company..... and a laugh!

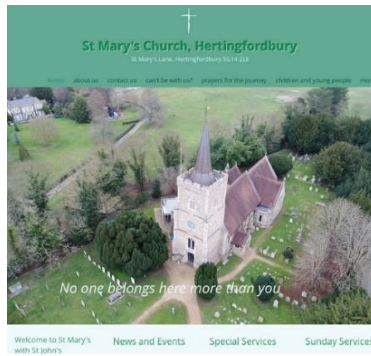
Please contact David Gorton for more information and timings if you think you can help



Volunteers needed to open/close St. Mary's



As part of St. Mary's commitment to be 'Here with you, Here for you' we are pleased that we have been able to keep the church open during the day. However, to do so requires volunteers to open and close the building every day. As a village if we want the church to be open – and I think we do - we need some new volunteers. It is not an onerous task. Please give serious thought to joining the rota and speak to one of the Churchwardens. Thank you for considering this



www.hertingfordburystmary.org

The St Mary's website features all the church news including the latest digital Parish News in full colour

This website is a vital communication tool to be able to follow updates on the church. If you wish to contribute in any way please contact Rachel via e mail raich.carter@yahoo.co.uk



WhatsApp Groups

If you would like to be part of the **St Mary's Church WhatsApp Group** please contact David Gorton on 07544 702241

Hertingfordbury Village WhatsApp Group is a sociable community group. For more information please contact Mick Barratt

Brace Room

The Brace Room at St Mary's Church is available for hire for anybody in our community. This could be for meetings, exercise sessions or any other purpose. Includes excellent toilet and kitchen facilities. For more information contact David Gorton 01992 551430 or dgorton1@btinternet.com



This publication was kindly printed by St Andrew's church



Zoom Services

While we welcome you to services at St Mary's, Zoom services available for your worship

Please contact the church office if you'd like to be added to our mailing list and receive the service or meeting invitation details: standrew.hertford@btinternet.com or contact Robin Bishop to be added to the St Mary's distribution list

Twice monthly on Wednesday

Mindfulness & Meditation 7.30pm

Every Sunday

Service of the Word 10.30am

(Every 3rd Sunday will offer Communion)

Compline 7.00pm

Please note that a recording of the Reading, Sermon and Prayers from the Sunday morning service is now available on the St Mary's website

www.hertingfordburystmary.org

WALTER WALLINGER CHARITY

Walter Wallinger died in 1709 leaving "Four hundred pounds for the placing of poor children of this Parish as Apprentices."

Times have moved on and the trustees of the charity now take the view that the income from the endowment should be used to give grants for educational purposes to people under 25 who have for at least two years lived, or been educated, within 'the ancient parish of Hertingfordbury' which today roughly means Hertingfordbury village and the five Greens and outlying houses.

Something of the order of £1500 is available annually. Typically grants are one-off payments not exceeding £450 for something that will help with the applicant's education in a broad sense, such as a musical instrument, specialist equipment, a field or other course. Grants are available to anyone in school, FE or Higher Education.

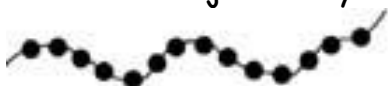
An application form is obtainable from Robin Bishop, the Chairman of Walter Wallinger's charity at robinhbishop@gmail.com

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Mindfulness & Meditation

Explore the riches of Christian Meditation and how it fits with the practice and insights of Mindfulness

Each weekly session is free and lasts for about 45 minutes. We begin with some gentle exercises to help still the mind and then a guided meditation, followed by some silence. Beginners especially welcome!

Online by Zoom on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm except for the first Wednesday which will also be in person at St Andrew's church

For further details and Zoom codes please see our website

www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk

or contact the church office 01992 504373 standrew.hertford@btinternet.com

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ALFS – Animal Food Bank



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ALFS is also supporting people along the way in this process

ALFS is also supporting Ukraine by supplying humanitarian, medical and animal aid

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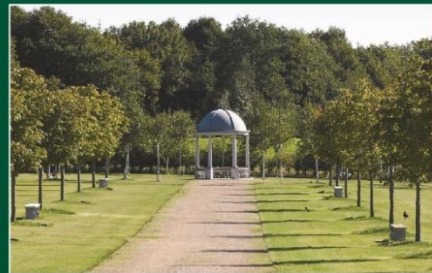
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