

THE UNITED BENEFICE OF KELVEDON AND FEERING
NEWSLETTER
[Benefice Website](#)

SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER – SUNDAY 10th DECEMBER 2023

SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER: Advent Sunday

- 8.00 a.m. SAID HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE (Prayer Book) at St Mary's
9.30 a.m. SUNG HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE at All Saints'
10.00 a.m. WORSHIP FOR ALL (All-age Service) at St Mary's
Please note the earlier time
5.00 p.m. CLOSING SERVICE for the Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's

OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT A GLANCE

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| SUNDAY 10 TH DECEMBER | 4.00 pm | Christingle Service at All Saints' |
| SUNDAY 17 TH DECEMBER | 3.30 pm | Children's Crib Service at All Saints' |
| SUNDAY 17 TH DECEMBER | 6.00 pm | Traditional Carol Service at St Mary's |
| CHRISTMAS EVE | 4.00 pm | Children's Crib Service at St Mary's |
| CHRISTMAS EVE | 6.00 pm | "Carols by Candlelight" (All-age Carol Service) |
| CHRISTMAS EVE | 6.00 pm | Carol Service at All Saints' at St Mary's |
| CHRISTMAS EVE | 11.30 pm | Midnight Mass at St Mary's |
| CHRISTMAS DAY | 10.00 am | Christmas Communion Service at St Mary's |

ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL SATURDAY 2ND AND SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER
Saturday 11.00 am – 6.00 pm Sunday 11.00 am – 5.00 pm ending with a short closing service



The Christmas Tree Festival is here at last! Come and enjoy the spectacle. There'll be refreshments both days and we'll be entertained by St Mary's Primary Academy Choir, the Single Reed Choir and Feering Singers. Money raised will be divided between the church, [Emmaus](#) Colchester (a charity helping the homeless) and the [UNICEF](#) Yemen Appeal. With so much suffering currently in the world, it is hoped each tree will display a heart.



MESSY CHURCH AT ALL SAINTS'

Thanks to everyone who came to and everyone who helped at last Sunday's All Saints' Advent and Christmas Messy Church. As ever with Messy Church, a great time was had by all, delicious home-made refreshments were largely demolished, a fun closing service was enjoyed by all and the children went home with some lovely Christmassy crafts they had made.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO BUY CHRISTMAS GOODIES FOR THE FOODBANK – PLEASE LEAVE THEM AT EITHER CHURCH. THANK YOU

ST MARY'S ADVENT GRATITUDE PILGRIMAGE



Advent begins this Sunday and is a time of preparation for Christmas – the coming of Christ. On St Mary's Facebook page, join us for an [Advent Gratitude Pilgrimage](#), (please click the link to go to the church Facebook page) as each day we open photographs to reveal what we might like to be grateful for in our village. Pilgrimages are currently very popular: not all of us can walk the Camino to Santiago de Compostela, but we can follow this local pilgrimage either walking it, or online. Find the Pilgrimage Map on our Benefice website from Advent Sunday.



ALL SAINTS' CHRISTINGLE SERVICE, Sunday 10th December at 4 pm

All Saints' popular annual Christingle service is back. Christingles will be made in the service, Feering Primary School Choir will sing, and the collection will go to the [Children's Society](#) for their work with vulnerable children of all ages. All welcome!

CHILDREN'S CRIB SERVICE AT ALL SAINTS', Sunday 17th December at 3 pm

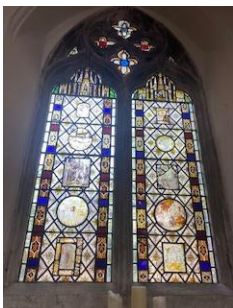


We do hope lots of families with young children will join us for our first Children's Crib Service at All Saints. As we prepare during Advent for Jesus' coming at Christmas, it's a great chance to introduce children to the lovely Feering Crib figures. The children will help put the animals and characters in place under the altar. Everyone is very welcome, with or without children. Come and hear and see the Christmas story.



ST MARY'S CAROL SERVICE, Sunday 17th December at 6 pm

Join St Mary's choir as they lead this traditional and popular carol service. Alongside favourite and familiar carols for everyone to sing, the choir will sing special Christmas on their chosen theme of "Christmas animals". In between will be the traditional Christmas Bible readings. Mulled wine and mince will be served in the church after the service.



'SING-ALONG-A-CAROL' AT ALL SAINTS', Monday 18th December at 7 pm

Come and sing carols with us at All Saints' to raise funds for the church. Please bring your favourite carol requests for our organist Keith to play – he knows almost all of them! There will be some instrumental interludes plus one or two festive readings in between the carols, plus mulled wine and mince pies too. **£10.00 per person on the door, no need to book.**



COUNT CAMELS in CHURCH STREET

As you walk with your children up Church Street in Advent, look out for colourful camels to cheer you on your way. They will be lurking in the windows of Church Street houses, easily visible from the street. Count the camels and jot down their names if you would like to and Natasha will tell you how many camels there are at the 4.00 pm St Mary's Crib Service on Christmas Eve.

ST MARY'S CHILDREN/FAMILY SERVICES ON CHRISTMAS EVE, AND GIFTS TO BRING



St Mary's now has a Crib Service at 4.00 pm for younger children (up to KS1) and then a slightly different service for older children (KS2 and above) and their families. For both these services we ask you to bring unwrapped presents please for children from toddlers to teens.

Younger children love toys, but for the teens please bring: shower stuff, shampoo soaps etc. Some young people the [Children's Society](#) supports have recently set up home on their own, a huge and frightening step for them to take, so practical stuff is needed, but of course some fun things too. Very many thanks for your generosity.



ALL SAINTS' TRADITIONAL CAROL SERVICE CHRISTMAS EVE, at 6 pm

All Saints' Christmas Eve Carol Service has long been very popular, with traditional readings and well-known carols. Everyone is very warmly invited, but we do suggest that you come early to make sure of a good seat!

All Saints' doesn't have a service on Christmas Day, but you'll be made very welcome at St Mary's for their 10.00 am Christmas Day service.

BENEFICE DIARY *Sunday 3rd December – Sunday 10th December*

For services on Sunday 3rd December, please see the top of this Newsletter

**Simon is away at an Area Deans' conference on Monday 4th, returning in the afternoon of Tuesday 5th*

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| Wednesday 6th | 9.30 a.m. | St Mary's | Teddy Bear Club |
| | 11.00 a.m. | All Saints' | PCC Meeting in the Vicarage |
| | 2.30 p.m. | St Mary's Primary Academy – | Christingle Service (Years 2-3 only) |
| | 8.30 p.m. | Zoom | Night Prayer (Compline) |

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83398813389?pwd=UitzYjRnQzh5ZlJCRjgyMStyTU8ydz09>

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| Thursday 7th | 2.30 p.m. | St Dominic's | Holy Communion Service for Advent |
| | 4.30 p.m. | St Mary's | Wreathmaking Workshop |

Friday 8th 12.00 noon Great Bardfield Church Funeral of Ernest Cattle

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| SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER: ADVENT 3 | 9.30 a.m. | All Saints' | Sung Holy Communion |
| | 11.00 a.m. | St Mary's | Parish Eucharist (Sung Holy Communion) |
| | 4.00 p.m. | All Saints' | Christingle Service <i>With Feering Primary School Choir</i> |

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