

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

SUNDAY 21st JANUARY – SUNDAY 28th JANUARY 2024

At St Mary's: 10.00 am Holy Communion Service

No service at All Saints' on Sunday 21st January



WINTER COMBINED SERVICES

There was a good turn-out for the combined service at All Saints' last Sunday. This winter pattern helps both our churches save on heating costs and provides a chance for the people of our two parishes to meet up, chat and to exchange ideas. Thanks to Anne (and Trevor) for the delicious lemon drizzle cake which was much enjoyed.

ALL SAINTS' "THANK YOU TO VOLUNTEERS" EVENT – THIS SUNDAY, 21st JANUARY at 3.00 pm

All Saints' is hosting a 'Thank you' event on Sunday 21st January for all the volunteers who work so hard and give up their time to support the church. A live band, 'Three's Company', will shake the January blues away and homemade refreshments will be served.



ST MARY'S ROOF DAMAGE



Walking by the church on the south/main path side, you may have noticed that there has been quite a lot of damage to the chancel roof. The stone cross on the apex of the nave roof (which is on the left in the photo) fell onto the roof and broke several of the tiles. Many thanks to John Elliott and Hugh Toler for moving so quickly on this – specialist church builders Bakers of Danbury have already made the damage watertight before the rain forecast for this weekend. We are expecting Bakers to return next week to complete the roof repairs. It will be expensive but we hope much of the costs will be met by our church insurance. Replacing the stone cross is a much more long-term – and potentially even more expensive – project.

ST MARY'S 'WORSHIP FOR ALL' SERVICE, SUNDAY 4th FEBRUARY at 10.00 am

The theme of St Mary's next Worship for All service is Candlemas, when Mary and Joseph bring the 40-day-old Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem to give thanks for his birth. It's just past the official Candlemas date (2nd February) but the theme fits well with our 'Worship for All' pattern: a more informal service without Communion, and aimed at those who prefer. We're delighted our monthly services are becoming very popular and the congregation is growing. Geraldine provides craft bags in the service for any children who would like one. Please let us know as soon as possible if your child would like a craft bag, as we don't want anyone to be disappointed.



From Epiphany to Candlemas
All welcome



4th February 2024
4pm

Service of carols, hymns and readings,
celebrating the journey of the three
wise men, and ending with the
presentation of Christ in the Temple.



St Mary the Virgin
Kelvedon

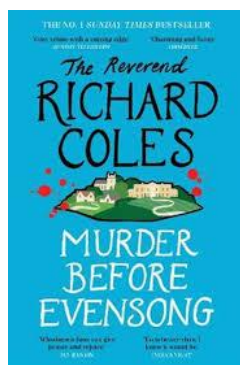
ST MARY'S 'EPIPHANY TO CANDLEMAS' SERVICE, 4th FEBRUARY, 4.00 pm

Put a date in your diary for Sunday 4th February: a special afternoon service to celebrate the whole season from Epiphany to Candlemas. Caroline Strange and St Mary's Choir have put together Bible readings, poems, carols, hymns and choir anthems celebrating all the main events of the season, which begins with the Star and the journey of the Wise Men and the story of the Presentation in the Temple, or the Candlemas story – see the item above if you don't know it!

NEW CARD READER MACHINE AT ALL SAINTS'

Once again with many thanks to Jack Linstead, All Saints' now has a working card reader machine: people can now donate by card rather than needing to bring cash. A lot of people no longer carry much cash with them, and many never carry it at all, so this card machine is a useful really addition to Feering Church, especially for weddings, baptisms and funerals.

Of course, this also means All Saints' now has a WiFi connection. Who knows what this might lead us to be able to do in the future?



ST MARY'S BOOK CLUB

Our next Book Club meets on **Tuesday 30th January at 7.30 pm**. We're reading two books this month, Richard Coles' *Murder Before Evensong* and Stephen Cottrell's *Do Nothing to Change Your Life* (which is very short indeed!).

You still have time to read them, and enjoy a glass of wine and nibbles with us as we discuss them. Don't worry if you've only read one of the books, there'll still be plenty to discuss in our very friendly group, which is led by Natasha – new people are always welcome.

TIPTREE FOODBANK

The Foodbank is running short of: **long-life fruit juice, gluten free biscuits and strong carrier bags**. Please leave all Foodbank donations at either church and our volunteers will take the items to Tiptree, which supports local people in need, including people in our own villages. Very many thanks.



BENEFICE DIARY Sunday 21st to Sunday 28th January 2024

Sunday 21st	10.00 a.m. 3.00 p.m.	St Mary's All Saints'	Sung Holy Communion for both churches 'Thank you' Tea for all Church Volunteers
Tuesday 23 rd	11.00 a.m. 2.00 p.m.	All Saints' All Saints'	PCC Meeting in the Vicarage Funeral of Brian Cross, followed by burial
Wednesday 24 th	9.30 a.m.	St Mary's	Teddy Bear Club
Thursday 25 th	8.00 p.m.	St Mary's	PCC Meeting in the Church Rooms
Sunday 28th Epiphany	10.00 a.m.	All Saints'	Sung Holy Communion for both churches NB no service at St Mary's on this Sunday <i>NB 2 Simon not at this service – he is away on Area Dean duties</i>

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