

SUNDAY 12th JANUARY – SUNDAY 19th JANUARY

SUNDAY 12th JANUARY: The BAPTISM of CHRIST (*The 1st Sunday of Epiphany*)
10.00 am SUNG HOLY COMMUNION UNITED BENEFICE SERVICE AT ALL SAINTS'
NO SERVICES AT ST MARY'S

SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY



Once again, to save heating costs at the coldest time of the year, the Parochial Church Councils of our two churches decided to alternate services during January and February. For the first and third Sundays of the month, the main service will be at St Mary's and on the second and fourth Sundays at All Saints'. This is also a good opportunity for the two congregations to worship together. After this decision was taken at a joint PCC meeting, All Saints' decided they would like a service every week in their church and decided to hold a said

Evening Prayer service on the Sundays when there is no main service in All Saints'. This will be at 5.00 pm, the church will not be heated so, wrap up warmly for these 5.00 pm services.

Here are our January-February services in full:

Sunday 19th January – 10.00 am United Benefice Holy Communion Service at **St Mary's**
5.00 pm Evening Prayer at **All Saints'**

Sunday 26th January – 10.00 am UB HC at **All Saints'**
4.00 pm Epiphany to Candlemas service at **All Saints'**

Sunday 2nd February – 8.00 am Holy Communion & 10.00 am Worship for All at **St Mary's**
5.00 pm Evening Prayer at **All Saints'**

Sunday 9th February – 10.00 am UB HC at **All Saints'**

Sunday 16th February -10.00 am UB HC at **St Mary's**
5.00 pm Evening Prayer at **All Saints'**

Sunday 23rd February –10.00 am UB HC at **All Saints'**

CHANGES TO OUR BENEFICE

A Special Meeting for all Church Members on Sunday 19th January after the 10 am Service

Some major changes to our Benefice will be taking place later this year. Essentially our small two-parish benefice will be joining with several other churches to create a new large benefice of about 18 parishes, staffed by 4 full-time stipendiary clergy (along with several associate self-supporting clergy and lay ministers). Simon will be explaining the reasons for this and looking at the options that the PCCs of all 18 parishes (including our own) are now considering at this **special meeting on Sunday 19th January in St Mary's after the 10.00 am service. The**

meeting will start as close to 11.00 am as possible and will last no more than half an hour; there will be ample time for people to ask questions. Everyone who attends worship at either St Mary's or All Saints' and is concerned for the future of our churches is warmly encouraged to come. This is the biggest change to our two parishes since we joined together as a United Benefice in 2003: if you care about our churches do please make every effort to attend.

WORSHIP FOR ALL EPIPHANY SUNDAY SERVICE AT ST MARY'S



We had a pretty full church for our first Worship for All service of the year at St Mary's. The theme was Epiphany and we are so grateful to Geraldine for arranging an excellent Epiphany service which was led by our group of lay leaders, known as #hometeam. The focus wasn't just on the placing of the kings in the crib, but on the alignment of the planets, Jupiter, Saturn and Mars which meant the star leading those wise men, was particularly bright.

The children were very much involved in the service and we are so grateful for their enthusiasm and willingness to join in. It is good to see we also have a growing number of adults who come to this service, as they are looking for a non Communion service.

Many thanks to everyone involved, there was a lot of work behind this service, and a lot of people who made it happen, all of them volunteers. Do remember, Worship for All is what it says...for ALL. Do come and give it a try, it isn't just for families, far from it. If you don't feel you want to come to a Communion service, then this is a really good service to come to. The next one on 2nd February at 10.00 am, takes Candlemas as its theme.



SAFE ACCESS TO ST MARY'S

I must have walked into St Mary's thousands of times, never giving the entrance a second thought, that is until had arthritis in my hip, then... I understood that the ramp in was lethal. It was too steep, the surface of the ramp was slippery, especially when wet, I felt vulnerable and unsafe, so I researched what we should, as a building open to the public, have in place to make access safe and lawful. Finally, just before Christmas a new ramp was installed. It's the correct gradient, the surface is non slip, there is no lip where the ramp reaches the floor. I am fortunate that with a

brand new hip, I don't rely so much on a proper ramp, but I am so glad to see it being used by those who need it. *Sarah Openshaw*



THE FOODBANK

The Food Bank are short of anti perspirant, hand soap and pasta sauce. They also need shampoo, toilet cleaner, kitchen cleaner & bathroom cleaner.

Please leave donations at either church and they'll be delivered to the Foodbank by our volunteers. Many thanks for your generosity and to our volunteers Betty, Jill & Fleur for transporting the things to Tiptree.

Keep up to date with information, service times, events and information about both churches at our United Benefice website kelvedonandfeeringchurches.co.uk

Please send church information/photos/events from both parishes to me [Sarah Openshaw](#) by Wednesday, for inclusion in that week's newsletter. Also same email for any church events to go on the Benefice Website.

BENEFICE DIARY SUNDAY 12TH to SUNDAY 19TH JANUARY 2025

Sunday 12th January	10.00 am	All Saints'	United Benefice Sung Holy Communion Service
<i>The Baptism of Christ/Epiphany 1</i>			
NB NO SERVICE at St Mary's this Sunday			
<i>*Simon returns from post-Christmas on Tuesday 14th January</i>			
Wednesday 15th	9.30 am	St Mary's	Teddy Bear Club
	1.00 pm	St Mary's	Memorial Service for Janet Cullen <i>(following a family funeral in Weeley Crematorium at 11.00 am)</i>
	4.45 pm	St Mary's	Junior Christian Club
Thursday 16th	8.30 am	St Mary's	Morning Prayer
	4.00 pm	All Saints'	PCC meeting
	8 for 8.15 pm	St Mary's	Worship Group in the Church Rooms
Friday 17th	12.15 pm	Colchester Crematorium	Funeral of Linda Fraser
Sunday 19th January	10.00 am	St Mary's	United Benefice Sung Holy Communion Service
<i>Epiphany 2</i>	<i>c. 11.00 am</i>	<i>St Mary's</i>	<i>Meeting for all about the future of our United Benefice</i>
			NB NO MORNING SERVICE at All Saints' this Sunday
	3.00 pm	All Saints'	Baptism of Henry Nicholls
	5.00 pm	All Saints'	Said Evening Prayer (1662 Prayer Book)
			<i>NB there will be no heating for this service so do wrap up warm!</i>
			<u>ADVANCE NOTICE</u>
Thursday 23rd	11.00 am	All Saints'	Memorial Service for Elizabeth Pailthorpe
Sunday 26th	4.00 pm	All Saints'	'From Epiphany to Candlemas' <i>A reflective service of hymns and readings, with St Mary's Choir</i>

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