

KELVEDON & FEERING CHURCHES NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER 2024 to SUNDAY 5TH JANUARY 2025

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER – The FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT

9.30 am	ALL SAINTS'	SUNG HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE
11.00 am	ST MARY'S	SUNG HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE
3.00 pm	ALL SAINTS'	CRIB SERVICE
6.00 pm	ST MARY'S	CAROL SERVICE

PLEASE NOTE: All our Christmas Eve/Christmas Day Services plus the changes to our Sunday-service pattern in January-February 2025 are below, and also on our [Benefice Website](#)

OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE

At St Mary's: **4.00 pm Crib Service** – for families with younger children (pre-school & KS1). please bring **unwrapped** presents for HomeStart (toys) and/or presents for teenagers such as toiletries etc. for the Children's Society. *Thank you.*

6.00 pm Carols by Candlelight for older children (KS2 up), families and adults. Please bring presents as above.

11.30 pm Midnight Mass – the first Holy Communion of Christmas

At All Saints': **6.00 pm Carol Service** – a traditional but not-to-formal carol service with lots of favourite Christmas carols and readings. At the beginning of the service, children are warmly invited to help put the Christ-child in the Crib and light the last candle on our Advent Wreath.

CHRISTMAS DAY

At St Mary's: **10.00 am Family Holy Communion for Christmas** – for both Churches
NB No services at All Saints' on Christmas Day

SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS in the NEW YEAR – ALL MORNING SERVICES will be at 10.00 AM



As a way to worship together as a United Benefice (and to save on church heating bills!) once again we're going to **alternate Sunday services between our two churches in January and February 2025**. One 10.00 am service will be held **at St Mary's on the First and Third Sundays of each month**; then there will be one



10.00 am service on the Second and Fourth Sundays at All Saints'.

Some people still wish to worship at Feering every Sunday, so there'll be a short, said service of Evening Prayer (from the 1662 Prayer Book) at 5.00 pm in All Saints' on the "St Mary's Sundays", i.e. the first and third Sundays of both months. Everyone is warmly invited to come – but do wrap up warm as the heating won't be on! Unfortunately there'll be no 'warm' welcome...



ST MARY'S PRIMARY ACADEMY CAROL SERVICES

The church was full for two carol services for St Mary's Primary Academy last Thursday morning. With everyone in their sparkly Christmas jumpers (well, all except the Vicar...) ready to return to school for their annual Christmas Dinner, it was a very festive occasion. It was really good to see lots of parents and other family supporting their children at both services.

ALL SAINTS' CHRISTMAS MESSY CHURCH, SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER

Although we only had a small number at our Messy Church last Sunday the children (and adults!) enjoyed creating a collage of the Christmas journey, cutting and pasting Mary and Joseph and the donkey making their way to Bethlehem. And we all enjoyed singing our favourite Christmas carols at the end (accompanied by drums and bells of course). *Natasha*

SING-ALONG-A-CAROL AT ALL SAINTS', MONDAY 16TH DEC.

The annual Sing-Along-A-Carol at All Saints' was a truly joyous affair.

Over 75 people came, mainly from the local community. It was a lovely atmosphere – and some enjoyed the singing so much, they've decided to come to the carol service on Christmas Eve for the first time.

Keith entertained us with organ Christmas classics ranging from the *Shepherds' Farewell* by Berlioz to *Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer* and *Jingle Bells*. Otherwise the congregation were the stars! And they were certainly in fine voice... I think we could start a new choir! *Natasha*



TIPTREE FOOD BANK REQUESTS – [Tiptree Food Bank](#) | [Tiptree](#) | [Facebook](#)



The Food Bank is short of shampoo, toilet cleaner, kitchen cleaner & bathroom cleaner. Please leave all your donations at either church and they will be delivered to the Foodbank by our volunteers. Many thanks for your generosity and to Betty, Jill and Fleur for taking them to Tiptree.

[KEEPING UP WITH K & F](#)

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

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

***Our two-weeks-at-a-glance Benefice Diary
is on the last page below***

BENEFICE DIARY SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER 2024 to SUNDAY 5TH JANUARY 2025

Sunday 22nd Dec.	9.30 am	All Saints'	Sung Holy Communion Service
<i>The Fourth Sunday</i>	11.00 am	St Mary's	Sung Holy Communion Service
<i>of Advent</i>	3.00 pm	All Saints'	Crib Service
	6.00 pm	St Mary's	Carol Service with the Choir, mulled wine & mince pies

NB on Sunday 22nd, both 9.30 & 11.00 am services are taken by Natasha, as Simon is taking services in Wickham Bishops (8.00), Tollesbury (9.30) and Tolleshunt D'Arcy (11.00).

CHRISTMAS EVE	4.00 pm	St Mary's	Crib Service
Tuesday 24th	6.00 pm	St Mary's	Carols by Candlelight taken by Natasha
<i>We are collecting Christmas gifts for HomeStart (pre-school/primary-aged children) & for the Children's Society (early-to-mid-teens) at both these services. Please bring gifts unwrapped as both charities must check them before they can be given to families and children. Thank you very much.</i>			
	6.00 pm	All Saints'	Carol Service taken by Simon
	11.30 pm	St Mary's	Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY	10.00 am	St Mary's	All-Age Christmas Communion Service
Wednesday 25th			

Thursday 26th St Stephen's Day/Boxing Day NO Morning Prayer in St Mary's this morning

Friday 27th Holy Innocents' Day Payback Team at St Mary's, approx. 8.30 am – 3.30 pm

Sunday 29th Dec.	10.00 am	All Saints'	United Benefice Sung Holy Communion Service*
<i>The First Sunday of Christmas</i>			NB NO SERVICE at St Mary's this Sunday

**Natasha is on post-Christmas leave after the 10 am service on Sunday 29th, returning on Monday 6th January*

2025

Thursday 2nd January	8.30 am	St Mary's	Morning Prayer
Friday 3rd January	2.30 pm	St Dominics Care Home	Holy Communion Service
Sunday 5th January	8.00 am	St Mary's	Said Holy Communion Service (1662 Prayer Book)
	10.00 am	St Mary's	United Benefice 'Worship for All' Epiphany Service
	11.00 am	St Mary's	United Benefice Said Holy Communion Service
			NB NO MORNING SERVICE at All Saints' this Sunday
	5.00 pm	All Saints'	Said Evening Prayer (1662 Prayer Book)*

**Simon is on post-Christmas leave after services on Sunday 5th January, returning on Tuesday 14th January*

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