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Notices Sheet - 23rd January 2022

Notices

No streaming this week

Unfortunately, Rich has tested positive this weekend, and no-one else is available who can operate the Standon streaming kit. This means that the service this Sunday will not be available online. We apologise, and hope that we will be back online next week.

Choral evensong this Sunday, 6.30

Our benefice choir will lead a service of choral evensong in St Mary's this weekend. Please join us for this peaceful, contemplative service if you can.

New benefice administrator

As we know, Marion will retire from the post of benefice administrator in mid February. We are delighted that Rebecca Legg will be taking on the role. She will start on 1st February, so that she has a couple of weeks' handover time with Marion. Please pray for Rebecca as she gets to grips with the role, and for Marion as she steps down after many years of faithful service.

Soup 'n' Snowdrops

Sacombe is planning to have its Soup 'n' Snowdrop event on 19th February 12.00-2.00pm. Please come along and enjoy the soup and the wonderful display of snowdrops in the churchyard.

Sunday Bible readings

When the notices sheet was distributed at services, we used to include the Bible readings for the week. At the readers and intercessors' training, we were asked whether reinstating this might be helpful. Some people like to look up the readings before they're read, but because the sheet comes out in advance, we're not sure whether including them here would help. If you have a view on this, please let Caroline know.

Trip to Jordan

Plans are proceeding apace for the trip to Jordan planned for May 9th to 18th. Please pray for the arrangements and for the people who are booked to go.

Mexico trip

Our young people's trip to Mexico is also scheduled to take place this summer, postponed from 2020. The youngsters will be involved in building houses for families with no hope otherwise of affording to live independently. Please pray for them as they make preparations, and for the RBF team and their partner organisations as they make the arrangements.

Cleaning team at All Saints

We've had someone drop out of our church cleaning rota at All Saints, so would be very grateful to hear from potential volunteers. If you would like more information or are able to help, please call Pauline on 01920 438518.

Area Dean appointed

Rev Tim Weeks has been appointed as Area Dean of Bishops Stortford (Interim) until 30th April 2022. Please pray for Tim as he undertakes this role.

Continuing precautions

New guidance will come into force next week, but the danger remains and **for this week there is no change**. As we stand, the precautions are as follows.

- For services inside our churches, if the numbers make it necessary, the doors will be open, so please wrap up warmly; it may be cold!
- We are all advised by the government to take a lateral flow test before we meet with people outside our household, and that applies to services too; please test if you can
- We must wear masks at all our services (unless the person is exempt). Disposable masks will be available in church in case someone forgets. We request that you wear them even to sing
- We will continue to administrate Holy Communion as we have been doing; please leave at least a metre between you and the next person as we move around the church, and please observe the one-way system and wear a mask as you move. Individual elements will be available as usual for those who prefer to stay put
- We are not moving round the church to share the peace. Please use gesture rather than touch to share God's peace with others.
- We are not sharing a common chalice. Instead, we each receive a wafer that has been dipped in the consecrated wine (intincted). Please remember to give others space as we move about the church.

Coffee after services

We have resumed refreshments after church **on a service only basis**, as we did earlier in the pandemic. Those serving will be masked, and we ask that you keep your mask on until you have been served. Please do not crowd round the coffee serving area; instead, please find a seat and your coffee or tea will be brought to you. If you would rather opt out of helping for now, please just say so. We don't want anyone to do anything with which they're not comfortable.

If you would be more comfortable bringing your own tea or coffee, please feel free to do so.

Services for the next few weeks

Midweek services each week:

Tuesdays, 9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Catherine's
Wednesdays, 9.30 am	Morning worship & Bible study	St Mary's

Please note that the Centre has moved from the Community Centre to All Saints, Little Munden.

Sunday 23rd January

10.30 am	Morning worship	St Mary's
4.00 pm	The Centre	All Saints
6.30 pm	Choral evensong	St Mary's

Sunday 30th January

10.30 am	Morning worship	St Catherine's
4.00 pm	The Centre	All Saints

Sunday 6th February

8.00 am	Holy communion	St Mary's
10.30 am	Morning worship	All Saints
4.00 pm	The Centre	All Saints

Sunday 13th February

10.30 am	Holy communion	St Mary's
4.00 pm	The Centre	All Saints

Sunday 20th February

8.00 am	Holy communion	St Mary's
10.30 am	Holy communion	All Saints
4.00 pm	The Centre	All Saints

Prayers

On this sheet, we suggest focus points, but please continue to pray for the work of our churches and missionary partners around the world (found at <https://www.ubsms.org.uk/who/mission-partners.>)

Praise God

- that we have appointed a new benefice administrator!
- For the opportunity for Christians from across Hertfordshire to join in prayer on 25th January at 7.30 pm at an online event hosted by Churches Together in Hertfordshire at the start of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- that Charlie is continuing to get better

Pray for our Mission Partners and the world

A violent earthquake in the sea off the island of Tonga struck last Saturday. Shock waves were felt as far as India, New Zealand and South America. Two people died in Peru.

- Communications were lost with Tonga
- Homes and businesses were destroyed
- There is a great need for clean water and food
- Ships have now arrived bringing aid

Please pray that more help will be available very soon.

Pray for our outreach, our service and our churches

Please pray:

- for Rebecca as she prepares to start work as our administrator, and for Marion as she prepares to hand over the role
- for our Wednesday groups as Covid cases affect attendance
- for the choir, singing this weekend with reduced numbers

Pray for our community

- for our schools, dealing with high numbers of Covid cases
- for those concerned about the lifting next week of Plan B restrictions
- for our local surgery staff, as pressures continue to strain capacity
- for those isolating or isolated from loved ones

Pray for those in pain or distress

- for the bereaved, including the family and friends of Brian Lynch, Ray Yorke and Colin Martyn (Jo's Dad, Thomas and Emma's Grandad)
- for Glenis, back in hospital after taking ill again while on her way home from being discharged
- for the many in our community who have Covid, including Caroline, Lizzy and Rich (pray that Cate doesn't succumb)
- for all who are waiting for tests or treatment, that it will be able to go ahead as planned
- for all who have been listed here in recent weeks, and who still need our prayers
- for those who have chosen not to be named here, but who also need our prayers
- for all those struggling through ill health, especially those who have asked you to pray for them
- for those who care for any who are unwell

If you are aware of anyone who would like our prayers, or who would like the church family to share in some news, good or bad, please let Caroline know.

Dates coming up

23 rd January, 12.15 pm	Sunday lunch	The Star
25 th January, 10.00 am	Funeral of Brian Lynch	St Mary's
27 th January, 7.00 pm	Choir practice	St Mary's
29 th January, 7 for 7.30 pm	FOSM Quiz Night	St Mary's
31 st January, 2.30 pm	Memorial service for Ray Yorke	St Mary's
19 th February, 12-2.00	Soup 'n' Snowdrops	St Catherine's

Regular notices

Groups in the Benefice

Sundays, 4pm (at the Centre): Bible club groups for children and young people of all ages: contact John.

Tuesdays, 2:00pm: Benefice Group for World Mission prayer: contact Peter A.

Tuesdays, 7.30pm: Small group - Grace: contact John or Marion.

Wednesdays: Children's and Young people's Bible clubs: contact Caroline.

3.15 pm Lakes - Primary aged children

5.30 pm Lagoons – Young people in school years 5-8

Wednesdays, 4:00pm: Small Group - Reflections: contact John or Marion.

Wednesdays 7:30pm: Small Group - M&Ms (Marthas and Marys): contact Marion.

Wednesdays 7.30pm: Men's Group: contact John.

Please Continue to Support our Churches

You can make a donation directly to any of our churches using the bank details on the website, or you can send donations to any of our treasurers. Whatever you give will be used to spread the good news of Jesus.

If you would like your donation to be used for the work of the Centre, please send it to the Standon PCC bank account and use the reference 'Centre'.

Funds donated through the 'give online' button on the website will be used for benefice-wide expenses.

Gift aid forms are available from any of our treasurers: Standon treasurer@ubsms.org.uk; Little Munden

Treasurer.lm@ubsms.org.uk; Sacombe Treasurer.sac@ubsms.org.uk.

Contacts:

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