

## Dates for your Diary

12 Nov	PCC meetings
14 Nov	Libury Hall service
14 Nov	Deanery Eucharist service
15 Nov	Dane End village lunch
22 Nov	Funeral of Linda Davis
24 Nov	Sacombe Christmas coffee morning & sale
25 Nov	Choral evensong
27 Nov	BGWM meeting

### Knit & Natter 8th November

If you like knitting or crocheting, come and join us for a couple of hours in the Sargent's room (at the back of the village hall) at 2pm usually on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Tea & cakes will be available.

Our meeting in November will be on Thursday 8th. For more information or if you would like a lift please contact Diane Moss ( 01920 821130 or 07949 665365) or Marion Timmons (01992 505513).

### Milk Bottle Tops

For a long time, we collected plastic milk bottle tops to be recycled for charity. Unfortunately, our human chain for directing those to the charity concerned was interrupted some months ago (one of the links moved!), and we haven't been able to go on with this.

However, our professional youth work partners, the Red Balloon Foundation, can use them for craft work with the many groups they run throughout the north London area as well as locally here. We can therefore invite you, once again, to collect them and leave them in church. Please will you leave them with the foodbank donations, as before, and Caroline will pick them up from there.

### Reverse Advent Calendar

For the last few years we have encouraged people to take part in the 'Reverse Advent Calendar'. Each day, rather than receiving a gift from the calendar, we set aside a gift for the food bank, and pray especially for the family which will receive it. Whether or not you support this initiative, please remember our year-round commitment to collecting for the food bank. Specifically Christmas items need to be received quite early in December if they're to get to the final recipients in time. Donations can be left in any of our churches at any time.

### Giving to St Mary's by text message

It is now possible to give to St Mary's by text message! More and more churches are using this as a method of receiving donations and we hope and pray that it will allow more people who would like to give, but don't have cash, to contribute to the life of our church. To give, text SMCS01 £2/£5/£10 to 70070.

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**Please take this notice sheet home with you. If you know of someone who is unable to be here today, please take a spare one for him or her.**

Please contact Caroline Franks (telephone 01920 822723 or e-mail [caroline.franks@f152.co.uk](mailto:caroline.franks@f152.co.uk)) with any items for the next notices sheet.

## The United Benefice of Standon and The Mundens with Sacombe Notices Sheet - 4th November 2018

Welcome to our service today. We welcome Rev Sarah Forrest, who will lead our 8.00 service this morning in St Mary's. We also welcome Jeremy Aknai this morning. He will play the organ in All Saints for our united service. Rev Mark Dunstan will speak at St Mary's at the school. Rev Robert Thompson will lead both of our mid-week services this week, at St Catherine's on Tuesday, and St Mary's on Wednesday.

Our readings this morning are:

Revelation 21:1-6a (p 1249)

John 11:32-44 (p 1078)

### Notices for the coming week

Prayers are said in St. Mary's at 9.15 on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and in All Saints on Thursdays. You are very welcome to join us. All of our churches are open for private prayer during daylight hours.

Sunday, 4.30 pm

Village Youth Club - Community Centre

Sunday, 4.45 pm

St Mary's at the school - Roger de Clare

Tuesday, 9.30 am

Holy communion - St Catherine's

Tuesday, 7.45 pm

Oasis - All Saints

Wednesday, 9.15 am

Holy communion - St Mary's

Wednesday, 1.00 pm

Funeral service for Caroline Crisp - St Mary's

Wednesday, 6.30 pm

TSOG young people's discipleship group - All Saints

Thursday, 2.00 pm

Knit & Natter - Village Hall

Sunday, 9.15 am

Morning worship for Remembrance Sunday - All Saints after which we will walk to the war memorial in Dane End for a short act of remembrance at 11.00

Sunday, 10.45 am

Remembrance Day service - St Mary's

Sunday, 3.00 pm

Act of remembrance - St Catherine's

Sunday, 4.30 pm

Village Youth Club - Community Centre

Sunday, 4.45 pm

St Mary's at the School - Roger de Clare

### Little Munden Calendars

All Saints members are selling 2019 calendars with photos taken locally. They're priced £5 each and are available in All Saints or from any member of The Mundens PCC.

**Please note that we ask you not to take photographs or video recordings, whether on cameras or phones, during any of our benefice services.**

### Telephone numbers:

Church Wardens:	Standon -	Angie 07915 549312 and Michael 01920 821281
	The Mundens -	Jeremy 01920 438575 and Colin 01920 438379
	Sacombe -	Peter 01920 438379 and Derek 01920 438875
Administrator:	Marion 01920 821281, <a href="mailto:benefice.administrator@ubsms.org.uk">benefice.administrator@ubsms.org.uk</a>	
	Office hours: Mon-Thu 10:00 - 13:30	
Benefice Safeguarding Officer:	Lizzy 01920 823420, <a href="mailto:safeguarding@ubsms.org.uk">safeguarding@ubsms.org.uk</a>	

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Follow us on Twitter @unitedbenefice3 Web site: [www.ubsms.org.uk](http://www.ubsms.org.uk)

## Operation Christmas Child

There are now 130 packed shoeboxes in Lizzy's living room. This is quite a bit lower than usual, so if you would still like to be involved, these are your options:

1. Wrap and fill a whole shoebox. Lists of what is and is not allowed are in the leaflets available in our churches, and on the OCC website.
2. Donate items for Lizzy to pack. We are particularly short of toys and games - small jigsaws, card games that don't rely on English, cars and small dolls are all good.
3. Donate money towards postage. Please give your money to any member of the Franks family.

The boxes will be collected in a couple of weeks, so you still have time to be involved if you would like to be! Thank you to everyone who has already donated items or cash.

## For your Prayers

As a church family, we pray regularly for each other and for our world. On this sheet, we suggest focus points for prayer for each week.

These suggestions are not exclusive. Please continue to pray for the work of our churches and for those who have been listed on previous sheets.

This week we learnt that our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes will be distributed in Liberia and the Middle East. Liberia has a population of 4.7 million, of which 44% are under the age of 15. 54% of the population of Liberia live beneath the poverty line, and it has one of the highest rates of primary school aged children not in education. Often, this is simply because their families cannot afford the paper, pencils, calculators and other equipment they need.

Due to political and religious sensitivities within some of the countries they deliver to, Operation Christmas Child is not able to list the countries in the Middle East where shoeboxes are delivered. We do know, however, that they are delivered to remote areas where people have nothing. The ministry partners in those areas are not able to speak openly about their faith, but describe the shoebox gifts as a key to open locked doors.

## Praise God

Praise God for the 678,942 shoeboxes sent from the UK through Operation Christmas Child in 2017, including the 77,709 sent to Liberia and the 24,012 boxes sent to the Middle East. Praise God for the generosity of people in the UK, as well as other countries who send gifts through OCC. Thank God that most of us in our communities have enough money for food, shelter, and for gifts for loved ones at Christmas.

## Pray for our world

Pray for Christians living in Liberia and in the Middle East. Pray for the local partners working with Operation Christmas Child to distribute shoeboxes to where they are most needed. Pray as decisions are made about which towns, which villages, which schools, will receive shoebox gifts. Pray particularly for those who will receive the shoeboxes we as a community have packed. Pray that as they travel to Liberia and the Middle East, God's love would go with them. Pray that those who receive the boxes would know that someone, somewhere, cares enough to send them a gift.

## Pray for our community

As children in our local schools learn about children in other places who don't have the same privileges and benefits that they have, help us to be grateful for all we have. Pray that our children would never undervalue their education and that we would help teach them about making the most of the opportunities they are given. Praise God for our benefice schools, where children are taught about God's love alongside learning about other religions and beliefs.

## Pray for our benefice

Thank God for a well needed break for many over the last week's half term break. As the return to school brings the beginning of the run up to the Christmas period, pray for all those involved in nativities, concerts, services and fetes over the next weeks. Pray that in all the busyness, Christ would not be lost in the lead up to Christmas.

## A Prayer to use During our Vacancy

*Please use this prayer in your personal prayer time and in any groups you attend.*

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the ministry of Alan, our previous Rector, and we pray your presence and blessing upon him.

We ask now that you will help us to share responsibility, grow in faith, love one another, care for those in need, reach out to others and welcome newcomers.

Lord Jesus, guard and grow this benefice as we serve you together in this period without a Rector.

Please guide those who are seeking the right minister for us, and those who are seeking the right church for their ministry, that together we may discover your way for the future and see your kingdom grow. Amen.

## Pray for those in pain of mind or body

Please pray for all in our community who are sick or sad, including those who have been listed recently.

Pray for all who grieve at this time. Pray especially for family and friends of Caroline Crisp and Linda Davis.

Jacky Bray writes: Jacky and her family would like to thank all of the church family who made the celebration of Geoff's life on 19th such a wonderful thanks to the Lord. It turned into such a positive, joy in sorrow occasion that helped to carry us through the day. I know that the continuing love and support from so many will surround us as we adjust to life without his physical presence.

**If you are aware of anyone who would like our prayers, or would like the church family to share in some news, good or bad, please let Caroline know. Please pass on any news, too, about those for whom we are praying.**