

## Dates for your Diary

18 Oct	Dane End village lunch
19 Oct	Funeral of Geoff Bray
20 Oct	Lunchtime concert in St Mary's
28 Oct	Service of memories
31 Oct	MU meeting
02 Nov	BGWM meeting

## Vacancy Update

Thank you to all those who are continuing to pray for the recruitment of a new Rector for our Benefice. Based on the very limited response received to our first round of advertising we have taken the decision to readvertise the post. The timetable for this is not clear at the moment but we hope to interview in December, and will update you when we have more information. Please keep your Parish Representatives (Angie, David, Derek, Jeremy, Peter and Michael) in your prayers as they work through the process on behalf of us all. We know that God has a plan for us and His timing is best! Please do keep praying!

## Beneath the cross of Jesus

Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I find a place to stand,  
And wonder at such mercy  
That calls me as I am;  
For hands that should discard me  
Hold wounds which tell me, "Come."  
Beneath the cross of Jesus  
My unworthy soul is won.

Beneath the cross of Jesus—  
The path before the crown—  
We follow in His footsteps  
Where promised hope is found.  
How great the joy before us  
To be His perfect bride;  
Beneath the cross of Jesus  
We will gladly live our lives.

*Keith and Krystyn Getty*

Beneath the cross of Jesus  
His family is my own—  
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams,  
Now one through grace alone.  
How could I now dishonour  
The ones that You have loved?  
Beneath the cross of Jesus  
See the children called by God.

## 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.

All song words printed on our service sheets are reproduced under licences  
*CCCL 1362715 and 298062.*

**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@rf152.co.uk](mailto:caroline.franks@rf152.co.uk)) with any items for the next notices sheet.

## The United Benefice of Standon and The Mundens with Sacombe Notices Sheet - 7th October 2018

Welcome to our service today. We welcome Rev Mark Dunstan, who will lead our 8.00 service in St Mary's and will speak at St Mary's at the School this afternoon. Rev Sarah Forest will lead at St Catherine's on Tuesday, and Rev Canon Lindsay Dew in St Mary's on Wednesday.

Our readings this morning are:

8.00:	Genesis 2:18-24 (p 5)	Mark 10:2-16 (p 1014)
10.45:	Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 (p 1201)	Mark 10:2-16 (p 1014)

## 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, from 7.30 pm	Men's group meeting
Tuesday, 7.45 pm	Oasis - Braughing & The Moat
Wednesday, 9.15 am	Holy communion - St Mary's
Wednesday, 10.15 am	Libury Hall service
Wednesday, 3.00 pm	Little Munden café - All Saints
Wednesday, 6.30 pm	Young people's discipleship group - All Saints
Thursday, 2.00 pm	Knit & Natter - Village Hall
Thursday, 7.00 pm	Choir practice - St Mary's
Saturday, from 12.00	Lunchtime concert in St Mary's
Sunday, 10.45 am	United Holy communion - St Mary's
Sunday, 4.30 pm	Village Youth Club - Community Centre
Sunday, 4.45 pm	St Mary's at the School - Roger de Clare

## Thank You to the Cleaning Team in St Mary's!

Angie and Michael write: Many thanks to those who cleaned and tidied St Mary's Church on Friday following the removal of the scaffolding. We are very grateful for your hard work. The lighting is now installed and will be programmed and adjusted on Wednesday this week.

**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>

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

### **Lunchtime Concerts 2018 - Saturdays at 12.30 - St Marys Church**

This season's concerts are now underway. The remaining concerts are:

October 13 BELLA CORA - female vocal group, directed by Ros Savournin

October 20 'MISSING PEACE' - a jazz cantata for children composed by Jonathan Smith with lyrics by Marion Smith, performed by pupils from Roger de Clare, Little Munden and Edwinstree Schools.

Concerts last approximately 45 minutes. Lunch (soup, bread and cheese) available from 12.00. Suggested donation £4 to cover costs of lunch, plus retiring collection.

### **Service of Memories**

#### **Sunday 28th October at 3.00pm in St Mary's Church, Standon**

For several years we have held a Service of Memories, a special occasion to remember and give thanks for loved ones no longer with us. We offer the service as an opportunity to remember, but also to bring comfort and strength to those who have been bereaved, and to assure them of our continuing prayers. The service will include some well-known hymns, poems and prayers and a chance to take part in a simple act of personal remembrance by lighting a candle, if you wish. If you would like to have the name of a loved one who has died, no matter how long ago, to be read out, and are able to come to the service, please complete one of the slips at the back of our churches and hand to Marion Smith, or email your reply to [benefice.administrator@ubsms.org.uk](mailto:benefice.administrator@ubsms.org.uk). Tea and biscuits will be served after the service. We very much hope that you will be able join us, and that you will find this an occasion which brings strength and comfort.

#### **An Opportunity to Hear from Andrew Ellis 12th October**

Andrew Ellis will be in the UK during the 2nd week of October. Peter and Carol will be hosting him for part of his stay. On Friday 12th Oct, Sally and Peter are hosting an informal evening at their home in Watton at 7.30-9pm to meet with Andrew and hear his latest church and family news from Zimbabwe. All are invited, not just BGWM people. Please speak to Peter or Sally if you would like to go.

#### **Knit & Natter 11th October**

If you like knitting or crocheting, come and join us for a couple of hours in the Sargent's room at 2pm usually on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Tea & cakes are available. Our meeting in October will be on Thursday 11th. For more information, or if you would like a lift please Marion Timmons (01992 505513).

#### **Operation Christmas Child**

Lizzy's living room has, once again, been turned into a sorting zone for shoeboxes! If you would like to fill a box or donate things to go in a box, or would like to contribute to postage costs, please be starting to think about this now. More details to follow next week when there's more space in the notice sheet!

### **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.

#### **Praise God**

Praise God for answered prayer. As we continue to pray faithfully for those in need of God's help, let's remember to thank God when our prayers are answered

### **Pray for our world**

As we hear news from Indonesia, pray for those affected by the tsunami. Pray for the bereaved, for those looking and hoping to find loved ones, for those injured and waiting for treatment or space in a hospital. We give thanks that aid is arriving, that water is being supplied, that food is being distributed and shelter provided for the homeless. We pray that they will find hope and comfort in your love, Lord. Help us to remember them in the weeks to come when help will still be needed.

### **Pray for our community**

Pray for our friends at Libury Hall. As we hold our service there this week, pray for residents and staff, and for those who will lead that service.

### **Pray for our benefice**

As harvest is over and thoughts turn to the service of memories, Remembrance and then Advent, pray for those with responsibility for organising services in this vacancy. Thank God for all the support we're receiving from visiting clergy, and pray for all who will visit our churches, for whatever reason, in the coming weeks.

### **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. Continue to pray for Sally as she recovers from her left eye cataract operation.

Pray for all who grieve at this time. Pray especially for Jacky and all Geoff's family and friends.

**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.**

#### **Geoff's Funeral 19th October, 1.30 pm**

Geoff Bray's Funeral will be at 1.30 pm at All Saints Church, Little Munden, followed by a reception at The Cobbold Barn, Knebworth Barns (SG1 2AX). We hope many will join the family to celebrate a man of unique wit, intellect, kindness and boundless energy - a life truly lived. The family requests family flowers only, but details of two charities will be on the service sheet if you wish to donate. If you are hoping to attend the church and/or the reception Jacky would be grateful if you could let her know ([jacky.bray@ntlworld.com](mailto:jacky.bray@ntlworld.com)) for parking arrangements at the church and catering numbers at the reception.