

Dates for your Diary

26 Sept	Mothers' Union meeting
26 Sept	FOSM committee meeting
06 Oct	Lunchtime concert in St Mary's
13 Oct	Lunchtime concert in St Mary's
20 Oct	Lunchtime concert in St Mary's

Harvest Appeal - Tearfund - Burundi

The speaker at the 10.45am United Worship service in St Mary's today is Tony Beames, who will speak about Tearfund's work to alleviate poverty. In Burundi, it's estimated one in every six children under five years of age is now suffering from chronic malnutrition. The feeding centres, provided by Tearfund's partners, are a ray of hope in a dark and turbulent time, a lifeline to thousands of vulnerable children. All money collected through our Harvest Appeal will be sent to Tearfund for their emergency appeal for Burundi. Please put your donations in the Tearfund envelopes in the pews in St Mary's Standon, at the school for this afternoon's SMatS, and in the pews in All Saints Little Munden from 23 September. For more info please visit www.tearfund.org/en/latest/burundi_crisis_appeal. We won't stop until poverty stops.

Harvest Gifts

Harvest thanksgiving is a time when, traditionally, produce has been brought to church as an act symbolising our gratitude to God, who provides for us, and our wish to give something back. The schools will be bringing their harvest gifts, and we are invited to do so too. All the non-perishable gifts which are brought will be taken to the Harlow foodbank, which we support all year round through the boxes always present in all our churches.

Men's Dinner 20th September

Our September Men's Dinner will be at "The Star" in Standon - 8pm this coming Thursday 20th September. If you would like to join us please contact Colin Coleman on 01763 271527 or 07733 456312.

Quiet Day 6th October

Rev June Knight will be leading a quiet day at The White Cottage, Albury on 6th October, 10.30 am - 3.30 pm. The cost is £5. Drinks are provided, but bring a packed lunch. Places are limited so booking in advance is required. To reserve your place contact Alison Bennett churchoffice@braughing.org.uk (01920 823832). For more information speak to Rev'd Steve Bate or Rev'd Julie Gawthrope.

Seeking the Way 2018

The Diocese will be running another 6 session Seeking the Way course for those who are feeling the call of vocation, starting in early October. Details are available from the St Albans Diocese website.

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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@rf152.co.uk) with any items for the next notices sheet.

The United Benefice of Standon and The Mundens with Sacombe Notices Sheet - 16th September 2018

Welcome to our service today. We welcome particularly Rev Mark Dunston, who will lead our 8.00 service in All Saints this morning, and Tony Beames from Tearfund, who will speak at St Mary's about Tearfund's work. Rev Mark Dunstan will speak at St Mary's at the School this afternoon. Rev Sarah Forrest will lead our communion service at St Catherine's on Tuesday, and Rev Canon Lindsay Dew the one in St Mary's on Wednesday.

Our readings this morning are:

8.00:	Isaiah 50:4-9a (p 737)	Mark 8:27-end (p 1012)
10.45:	Leviticus 25:10-22 (p 128)	Luke 6:20-36 (p 1034)

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 - St Mary's
Wednesday, 9.15 am	Holy communion - St Mary's
Wednesday, 3.00 pm	Little Munden café - All Saints
Wednesday, 6.30 pm	Young people's discipleship group - All Saints
Thursday, 9.00 am	Roger de Clare School harvest service - St Mary's
Thursday, 12.00 noon	Dane End village lunch - Memorial Hall
Thursday, 2.30 pm	Little Munden School harvest service - All Saints
Thursday, 7.00 pm	Choir practice - St Mary's
Saturday, 10.00 am	All Saints churchyard clear up
Sunday, 9.15 am	Harvest Holy communion - All Saints
Sunday, 10.45 am	Family harvest worship - St Mary's
Sunday, 4.30 pm	Village Youth Club - Community Centre
Sunday, 4.45 pm	Choir rehearsal - St Mary's
Sunday, 6.00 pm	Choral evensong - St Mary's

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, benefice.administrator@ubsms.org.uk
	Office hours: Mon-Thu 10:00 - 13:30
Benefice Safeguarding Officer:	Lizzy 01920 823420, safeguarding@ubsms.org.uk

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

Monthly Discussion Group

Reluctantly, we have decided to rest this group until our new Rector takes up position with us. There won't be a monthly discussion group meeting now until further notice.

Roger de Clare School Community Lunches

Local residents are invited to join the pupils for lunch at 12 noon on the following dates: 13th, 19th, 25th September and 3rd, 10th, 17th October. To book a place phone 01920 821363.

Saffron Walden Bible Focus 29th September

We all know about the Keswick Convention and how inspiring some of our own members find it each year. Now Keswick Ministries are bringing an event to Saffron Walden. It's at the URC in Abbey Lane on Saturday 29th September, 3.00 until 7.00 pm. The speaker is John Risbridger. Tickets must be pre-booked but are free. Posters are displayed in all our churches, and more information can be found at www.waldenbiblefocus.com.

New Lighting for St Mary's

The lighting work at St Mary's has been halted for a short time. The chancel, north and south aisles are done (though not yet adjusted, so it's very bright!) but the contractors encountered a hold up to the work in the central and highest part of the nave. We can now report that scaffolding will go up on 24th September, and will stay in place until 4th October. Our Wednesday services and the 8.00 service on 30th September will still take place.

Safeguarding News

A new safeguarding newsletter is on display in St Mary's and All Saints.

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 the work of Tearfund and other organisations who work across the world to alleviate the effects of natural and man-made disasters on communities and individuals. Thank him for all that's being done; for all the new enterprises enabling people to earn enough to support themselves and their families; for the aid being delivered to places of need; for the skills being taught and infrastructure built to create sustainable communities. Pray for the ongoing work of charities and NGOs.

Pray for our world

Tearfund (the evangelical alliance relief fund) is a registered charity that works in partnership with Christian organisations in many parts of the world. Following the "World Refugee Year" in 1959 Christians were moved to send money to the E.A. for disaster relief work. Gifts continued to be donated and so in 1968 Tearfund was launched; soon they were sending people overseas to promote sponsorship for children, handicraft marketing and support for evangelism and Christian education.

Today Tearfund is part of the "disaster relief team", they also have many personnel assisting locals throughout the world to be self sufficient through farming, handicraft manufacture etc. As in many previous years we are supporting Tearfund for our harvest appeal; this year the money will be donated to Burundi where there is severe malnutrition. Pray for Tearfund's work in Burundi and for those they seek to help.

Pray for our community

Pray for the children and staff at Roger de Clare and Little Munden Schools as they celebrate harvest in our churches this week. Thank God for the dedication of the staff at all our local schools and pray for them as they teach our children more than just the academic subjects on the curriculum. Pray that the pupils continue to thrive and grow in knowledge and maturity.

Pray for our benefice

Pray for the recruitment process as the closing date for applications approaches. Please pray as Wednesday evening comes and applications close. Pray for those who will assess the applicants and prepare the shortlist. Pray for the person God has chosen to lead us in the next phase of our benefice life. Pray for God's hand in all that the next weeks bring.

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 especially for Geoff Bray, back in hospital at the moment, and waiting for arrangements to be made for him to come home again, and for Carole Findlay, who has fractured her pelvis.

Pray for all who grieve at this time. Pray especially for the family and friends of Sally Wren and Paull Borlase.

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.