

Dates for your Diary

07 May	Mayday fair in Standon
08 May	Confirmation service in St Michael's, Bishop's Stortford
09 May	Libury Hall service
10 May	Funeral of Sylvia Bayley
10 May	Ascension Day service
11 May	Funeral of Ivy Attwood
11 May	FOSM AGM & talk
14 May	PCC meetings
17 May	Dane End village lunch
23 May	FOSM committee meeting
24 May	Roger de Clare service
24 May	Monthly discussion group
30 May	MU meeting

Daily Mile Invitation 1st May, 9.00 am

If you live in Dane End, you may have seen the children from Little Munden out on their morning run. Every child in the school runs for 15 minutes each morning - averaging at about a distance of a mile, although most of the children in the oldest class run more than that.

On Tuesday 1st May, Little Munden is taking part in Hertfordshire County Council's "It's Never Too Late to be Active" campaign by inviting adults they know to join them to walk, jog or run the Daily Mile. The children set off at 9.00, so please come up for them - meet them at the top of the farmer's field, near the gate into the school car park.

Friends of St Mary's AGM 11th May

The FOSM AGM will take place in the Village Hall on 11th May at 7.30 pm.

Once the business of the meeting is over, we will hear from Phillip Smith about farming in the area. Phillip spoke about this at a recent Tea Time Talks event and was very well received, with several suggestions that he return.

Please come and support and encourage the work of the Friends, who fundraise all year round, year after year, to help us to maintain and improve our beautiful church building.

A Blessing for our Benefice

We bless all who live in our Benefice.

We bless them with our prayer for good health and loving relationships.

We bless them with our prayer for security and fair reward for their work.

We bless the children that they may grow up with love and in safety.

We bless all with open hearts to the truth of the Lord Jesus.

We bless the land with peace; the crops and livestock with abundance,

All in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

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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 Munders with Sacombe Notices Sheet - 29th April 2018

Welcome to our service today.

Our readings this morning are:

Jeremiah 2:1-12 (p 756) Mark 10:17-23 (p 1014)

Notices for the coming week

Prayers are said in St Mary's at 9.15 most weekday mornings and in All Saints on Thursdays. You are very welcome to join us.

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 - Braughing & Middle Bear
Wednesday, 9.15 am	Holy communion - St Mary's
Wednesday, 3.00 pm	Little Munden café - All Saints
Wednesday, 6.15 pm	Wedding rehearsal - St Mary's
Wednesday, 6.30 pm	Young people's discipleship group - All Saints
Wednesday, 7.30 pm	Alpha - Vicarage
Wednesday, 7.30 pm	Standon PCC finance committee - Old Windmill
Thursday, 11.00 am	Funeral of Richard Hill - All Saints
Thursday, 7.00 pm	Choir practice - St Mary's
Thursday, 8.00 pm	Men's dinner - The Star
Saturday, 9.30 am	FOSC working party - St Mary's
Saturday, 12.30 pm	Wedding of Alec Ward & Daniella King - St Mary's
Sunday, 8.00 am	Holy communion - St Mary's
Sunday, 10.45 am	United worship - All Saints
Sunday, 4.30 pm	Village youth club - Community Centre
Sunday, 4.45 pm	St Mary's at the School - Roger de Clare

Men's Dinner 3rd May

Our Men's Dinner for May will be this Thursday 3rd May 8pm at The Star in Standon (please note change of week). If you would like to join us please contact Colin Coleman on 01763 271527 or 07733456312.

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:

Rector:	Rev Alan Comfort 01920 318864 Email: alancomfort11@googlemail.com
Church Wardens:	Standon - Angie (tel tbc) and Michael 01920 821281 The Munders - Jeremy 01920 438575 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

Diocesan Thy Kingdom Come Event 19th May

The Thy Kingdom Come Beacon Celebration will take place on Saturday 19th May, 6.30 p.m. in the Cathedral. We are delighted that Archbishop Justin Welby will be joining us. Our Beacon Celebration is one of many Thy Kingdom Come events taking place around the country and is a collaboration between Soul Survivor Watford, local and national youth organisations, ecumenical partners, the Diocese of St Albans and the Cathedral. We will welcome Christians of all denominations. Entry is free. Prayer and fun activities will run from 4 p.m. Please spread the word. Whilst the event is multi-generational we hope to encourage as many young people to attend as possible. It will be a fabulous opportunity to be inspired to pray that others may come to know Jesus Christ.

The Benefice Choir Sings at Southwark 16th June

The choir will be singing Evensong at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 16th June at 3pm. There will be a coach travelling to London leaving from the Community Centre in Puckeridge at 10am and returning by 5.30pm. It would be lovely if some of the congregation would join us for the trip. It is always an enjoyable day. Please let Marion Smith know if you would like a seat on the coach. The cost is likely to be about £15 per head.

God Provides!

On Thursday, we talked in our monthly discussion group about our individual and very particular service of God in our benefice. We discussed how we can support each other, and how God supports us and provides for us in whatever he calls us to do for him. Deborah writes below about an experience she had of this provision. No need to wonder why Derek was prompted to clean at the Memorial Hall just then! 'As I arrived at the Memorial Hall for the lunch on Thursday, Derek Wheeler was outside cleaning; he had totally forgotten it was the lunch. Hugh arrived with the onion gravy, but had car trouble, couldn't stay to put the 10 tables out but would be back. Derek immediately offered to help. I couldn't get the stove to work; called Derek. We realised that there was NO electricity for the fridge to keep the ice cream cold, no oven for sausages, Yorkshire and nut roast to keep warm. We needed to plug in 4 slow cookers with mashed potato, 1 with onion gravy and 2 with roasted vegetables. Derek came to the rescue and changed the fuse. Everything started to work. Derek didn't stay to the lunch but the 42 of us who did had a really amazing time. Alan did make us laugh and he shared Jesus love with everyone there. So for me this is how God Provides and why it is such a privilege to be part of the village lunch team sharing God's love with all those we meet. With Jesus at my side it is never overwhelming or a burden just a joy to know I am serving Jesus. I did thank Derek knowing that God will never let us down.'

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 our new church wardens and PCC members. Pray for all who serve in our three churches, in many different capacities. Thank God for their dedication and

commitment, and pray that we will all support each other as we fulfil what God has called each of us to take on in our local ministry.

Pray for our world

David and Shelley Stokes (our mission partners working in Northern Argentina, who spoke at our discussion group in January whilst on home leave) are now back in Juarez trying to settle back into life there. They write that because of serious flooding of the Pilcomayo River this year, many families from the local villages are in a holding camp living in precarious conditions. The provincial government is providing basic facilities, but there is great uncertainty about the best future locations for them. This is a real challenge for the community and the church leaders. With this situation, together with inflation still out of control and ongoing social unrest, David and Shelley both feel the need for resilience and encouragement, and they would be very thankful for our prayers.

Pray for our community

Pray for the medical practitioners and staff at our local Health Centre. Thank God for the medical provision in our community. As we hear so much negative news about the NHS, thank God for the doctors and nurses who work selflessly to care for those who are unwell in these villages.

Pray for our benefice

Please pray for Tracy, Tovah, Adriel, Denise and Ireane as they prepare for confirmation by the Bishop of Hertford (Bishop Michael) at St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford on Tuesday 8th May at 8pm. It would be lovely if some of us could go and support them at this important and special time in their Christian journey.

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 Margaret Goodall, in hospital awaiting a procedure to remove stones from her bile duct. Pray for the skill of the doctors and for peace for Margaret.

Pray for all who grieve, especially all who mourn for Richard Hill, Ivy Attwood and Sylvia Bayley.

A message from Michael

Michael writes: Thank you to everyone for prayers, cards, and messages during my recent illness. I'm glad to say that I'm now on the road to recovery. Thank you to Marion for all her support with the worship at church while I was out of action.

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.

Plans for Alan and Jill's Last Day

Alan and Jill's last services with us will now be on 10th June. There will be a united communion service in St Mary's at 10.45, as usual. At 4.45 pm the whole benefice will meet at Roger de Clare School for tea, hosted by St Mary's at the School, at which we will say goodbye to the Comfort family.

More details will follow nearer the time, but please make a note in your diary of the date.