

CALENDAR

Tuesday	01-Oct-24	9.30am Prayer Group 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	02-Oct-24	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 10.30am Life Group at the Goldsmith's house Midday Prayer at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	03-Oct-24	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshere Hall 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshere Hall
Friday	04-Oct-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Sunday	06-Oct-24	9am All Age Eucharist at St John the Baptist
	19th Sunday after Trinity	10.30am All Age Harvest Service at St Andrew's
Monday	07-Oct-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	08-Oct-24	9.30am Prayer Group 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	09-Oct-24	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 10.30am Life Group at the Goldsmith's house Midday Holy Communion at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	10-Oct-24	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshere Hall 10.30am Benefice Coffee Morning (The Red Lion)
Friday	11-Oct-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Sunday	13-Oct-24	9am Eucharist at St John the Baptist
	20th Sunday after Trinity	10.30am Holy Communion Service at St Andrew's 2pm Ribbon Run/Walk for Baby Loss Awareness Week 6.30pm Evensong at St Andrew's
Monday	14-Oct-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	15-Oct-24	9.30am Prayer Group 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	16-Oct-24	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 10.30am Life Group at the Goldsmith's house Midday Prayer at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	17-Oct-24	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshere Hall 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshere Hall
Friday	18-Oct-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer 7pm Quiz Night at St John the Baptist
Sunday	20-Oct-24	9am Eucharist at St John the Baptist
	21st Sunday after Trinity	10.30am Morning Prayer Service at St Andrew's 10.30am Holy Communion at St Mary's, St Margarets
Monday	21-Oct-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	22-Oct-24	9.30am Prayer Group 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	23-Oct-24	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 10.30am Life Group at the Goldsmith's house Midday Holy Communion at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	24-Oct-24	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshere Hall 10.30am Benefice Coffee Morning (The Red Lion)
Friday	25-Oct-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Saturday	26-Oct-24	8.30am Men's Breakfast at The Wilshere Hall
Sunday	27-Oct-24	9am Holy Communion by Extension at St John the Baptist
	Bible Sunday	10.30am Morning Prayer Service at St Andrew's
Monday	28-Oct-24	9.30am Prayer Group
Tuesday	29-Oct-24	7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	30-Oct-24	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 10.30am Life Group at the Goldsmith's house Midday Prayer at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	31-Oct-24	10.30am Life Group at The Wilshere Hall



The 3 Churches Benefice

NEWS & NOTICES ~ OCTOBER 2024



*It's another Harvest Festival
When we bring our fruit and vegetables,
'Cause we want to share the best of all
The good things that we've been given.*



It has been a great Harvest Season already, and we still have our celebrations with the schools to come! It's a time to be thankful for God's blessings and also to think about how we share them with our neighbours. The schools will be bringing donations for the Foodbank; a really important restocking of their shelves ready for the winter. As a Benefice we can celebrate that through Make Lunch we have served nearly 200 meals over the Summer holidays to families in need.

As we rejoice that 'all is safely gathered in 'ere the winter storms begin', we are planning our winter response locally. Our Monday morning 'Warm Welcome Space' opens on 4th November, helping people to connect and find support during the long, dark, winter days. Thanks to careful planning and generous donations, our Foodbank Hub is also ready for the cold weather, with resources to support struggling households with the cost of heating through gas and electricity top ups, so people don't need to worry about choosing between going cold or going into debt this winter.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) research shows that 22% of people in this country are trying to live with a 'deficit budget': their essential outgoings can't be covered by their income. Almost half (47%) of those who seek help from CAP have a deficit budget, and would need, on average, an additional £273 per month in income to make their budget balance. Prices have risen faster than either earnings or benefits, so people need help!

There are lots of ways we can do that; it starts local and moves nationally. Are you able to help us connect with local people who are struggling? Could you volunteer for Warm Welcome Spaces with us? Maybe you're crafty and could help us make things on a Monday morning, which we've found is a great way to get conversations going, build relationships and offer support. Maybe there's a campaigner or fundraiser in you? Check out the CAP website (<https://capuk.org/get-involved>) or visit Warm Welcome (www.warmwelcome.uk) to find out more and to explore ways to share God's blessings!

Priest in Charge: Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest
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NEWS & NOTICES

The Three Villages Magazine

The latest issue (September) of The Three Villages Magazine is available for £1 at the back of the churches. Please do pick up a copy!

Men's Breakfast at The Wilshere Hall

The next Men's Breakfast at The Wilshere Hall is on Saturday 26th October at 8.30am. These breakfasts run every last Saturday of the month and everyone is welcome!

Baby Loss Awareness Week (9–15th October)

To mark Baby Loss Awareness Week, we will be holding a Ribbon Display outside St Andrew's Church from 9th October. Please do feel free to add your own ribbon of remembrance during the week. A group from the Benefice will also be completing a Ribbon Run/Walk to raise money for Sands on Sunday 13th October (from 2pm). On this date, St Andrew's will be open from 2 to 4pm for quiet reflection. If you would like to make a donation towards the Ribbon Run, please click this link: <https://fundraising.sands.org.uk/s/7321/25326>.

Saying Goodbye Service at St Albans Cathedral

On the 14th October at 7pm, in St Albans Cathedral, Saying Goodbye (part of the Mariposa Trust) will be hosting one of their Saying Goodbye Services. This is for anyone who has either personally lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth, or in early years, or who has been affected by family members' or friends' loss. To read more on the charity, please see the Saying Goodbye website, which you can find at: www.sayinggoodbye.org.

CUPS ON A STRING: A TLG / RIDING LIGHTS PRODUCTION
16TH OCTOBER, 7.30PM AT ST ANDREW'S



To book your tickets for this fantastic performance by TLG / Riding Lights Theatre Company, call the Box Office at 01904 613000 or visit ridinglights.org/cupsonastring.

Tickets prices: £10 (concessions), £15 (adult), £20 (adult plus a donation). Please note that booking fees apply.

FROM THE CHURHWARDENS

Quiz Night ~ 18th October

On 18th October, 7pm for a 7.30pm prompt start at Great Amwell Parish Hall, we are holding the St John's Quiz, including a fish or chicken and chips supper. Vegetarian option available. Bring your own drink and glasses. Raffle. Entry fee £20 per person. If you haven't already done so, please contact Bryan Brace to book your tickets (email: bjbrace122@gmail.com).

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

After last year's success, we are holding another Christmas Tree Festival on 7–8th December at St Mary's, St Margarets.



We are in the planning stages, so if you would to sign-up to be a tree holder, please do get in touch!

This was a great fundraiser for St Mary's Church, with over 130 people attending last year, so please do support this event if you can.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people in your prayers this month:

Weddings

- Keeley Smith & Jon Dann on 19th October at St Mary's, St Margarets.
- Penelope Elsom & Jack McBride on 14th December at St John the Baptist.

Deaths

- John Alford on 18th July.



UPCOMING DATES IN NOVEMBER

3rd ~ All Souls' Memorial Service, 3pm at St Andrew's.

4th ~ Warm Welcome Spaces start: Coffee Morning on Mondays, 9–11am at The Wilshere Hall and Community Hub Drop-in on Wednesdays, 10.30–11.30am at St Mary's, St Margarets.

6th ~ All Souls' Memorial Service & Holy Communion, Midday at St Mary's, St Margarets.

10th ~ Remembrance Sunday Services: 9am at St John the Baptist, 10.30am at Amwell Lane War Memorial, 10.30am at St Andrew's.

USEFUL LINKS

Online Zoom Services & Events
www.tinyurl.com/3churcheszoom

A Church Near You Benefice Page
<http://tinyurl.com/3churchesBenefice>

The 3 Churches Website
www.3churches.net