

## CALENDAR

Wednesday	01-Oct-25	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshere Hall Midday Holy Communion at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	02-Oct-25	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshere Hall 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshere Hall
Friday	03-Oct-25	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
<b>Sunday</b>	05-Oct-25	9am All Age Harvest Eucharist at St John the Baptist 10.30am All Age Harvest Service at St Andrew's 6.30pm BCP Evensong Service at St Andrew's
16th Sunday after Trinity		
Monday	06-Oct-25	9am Monday Coffee Morning at The Wilshere Hall 9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	07-Oct-25	9.30am Prayer Group at Sue Hardwick's house 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	08-Oct-25	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshere Hall Midday Prayers at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	09-Oct-25	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshere Hall 10.30am Benefice Coffee Morning (The Red Lion) 9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Friday	10-Oct-25	9am Eucharist at St John the Baptist
<b>Sunday</b>	12-Oct-25	10.30am Holy Communion at St Andrew's
17th Sunday after Trinity		
Monday	13-Oct-25	9am Monday Coffee Morning at The Wilshere Hall 9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer 7.30pm The Bible Course at St Mary's, St Margarets
Tuesday	14-Oct-25	9.30am Prayer Group at Sue Hardwick's house 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	15-Oct-25	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshere Hall Midday Holy Communion at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	16-Oct-25	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshere Hall 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshere Hall
Friday	17-Oct-25	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
<b>Sunday</b>	19-Oct-25	9am Eucharist at St John the Baptist 10.30am Morning Prayer at St Andrew's 10.30am Holy Communion at St Mary's, St Margarets 4pm Make Church at St Andrew's *NEW*
18th Sunday after Trinity		
Monday	20-Oct-25	9am Monday Coffee Morning at The Wilshere Hall 9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	21-Oct-25	9.30am Prayer Group at Sue Hardwick's house 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	22-Oct-25	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshere Hall Midday Prayer at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	23-Oct-25	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshere Hall 10.30am Benefice Coffee Morning (The Red Lion) 9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Friday	24-Oct-25	10am Benefice Breakfast at The Wilshere Hall
Saturday	25-Oct-25	9am Eucharist at St John the Baptist
<b>Sunday</b>	26-Oct-25	10.30am Holy Communion at St Andrew's
Last Sunday after Trinity		
Monday	27-Oct-25	9am Monday Coffee Morning at The Wilshere Hall 9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	28-Oct-25	9.30am Prayer Group at Sue Hardwick's house 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	29-Oct-25	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshere Hall Midday Prayer at St Mary's, St Margarets
Friday	31-Oct-25	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer 12pm Make Lunch Club at The Wilshere Hall



## The 3 Churches Benefice

### NEWS & NOTICES ~ OCTOBER 2025

#### More than Sundays

There is a long-standing joke about the work of a Vicar being just the one day a week – just Sundays. But of course, we know that the Church is busy seven days a week, and I'm not talking about the building, but the Church as the people of God. As a Benefice, we are busy in our community throughout the week, from the Foodbank to coffee mornings, Make Lunch to our schools work, including Early Intervention. Over the last five years, we have deliberately sought to make a difference in our community, particularly for children and families who are struggling.

The Children and Families Alliance, an informal partnership of three national charities, including Home for Good and Safe Families, Transforming Lives for Good (TLG) and Kids Matter, has published a report today called *More than Sundays*, which demonstrates how churches are uniquely positioned to support children and families, and how they believe that the Church is an important collaborator for government and public services, so that working together we can make a real difference in the lives of families and children.

As a Benefice, we have been partnered with TLG for over three years, offering both Make Lunch and Early Intervention. In that time, we have delivered 342 hours of one-to-one coaching, 53 sessions of Make Lunch and 831 individual meals. I would like to thank all the amazing volunteers from our Benefice who have made this possible.

The *More than Sundays* report highlights the challenges for children in our country at this time. 4.5 million children live in poverty, 1 in 6 children has a mental health challenge, and 1 in 5 children are not meeting expected milestones by the end of their first year in school. It recognises three main barriers to children flourishing: isolation, trauma and poverty.

But the *More than Sundays* report is also bold to give a solution: the Church. The Church is a ready and well-positioned strategic partner for government because of its scale and presence in every community, because of its amazing volunteers and because it already has resources, kitchens, halls and buildings in every village, town and city. Of course we know this, because we are part of this.

I encourage you to read the report, which is short and bright (scan the QR code or visit <https://tinyurl.com/3pisa7f9>). It also comes with a beautifully created video that explains the work of the three charities, which is the work we are already involved in. I say it again, thank you to everyone who has worked so hard in our community for our children.

SCAN ME



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## NEWS & NOTICES

### The Three Villages Magazine \*\*NOW FREE\*\*

In case you didn't know, our community magazine is now FREE. Also if you or someone you know is not be able to get out and collect a copy of the print magazine, you can now call or text (07488 914972) for a copy. Copies are available to collect at the back of each church.

### An Evening of Wonderful Music

Enjoy the Galliard Trio playing Beethoven, Elgar, Dvorak, Vaughan Williams and more in the beautiful, historic church of St Mary's, Ware, 7.00pm on Saturday 4th October. To book your ticket (£12) and find out more see the website here:

<https://bedshertshct.org.uk/events/>.

### Autumn Gift Fair on Monday 27th October

The British Red Cross are holding an Autumn Gift Fair on Monday 27th October at Fanhams Hall, 10am to 3pm. The funds raised will go towards helping those facing crisis. There will be a large variety of unique & interesting stalls, including clothing, textiles, jewellery, food & drink and much more. Light refreshments will be available. There is Free Parking within the grounds of the hall. All enquiries to [emmajaneslater@redcross.org.uk](mailto:emmajaneslater@redcross.org.uk).



### **BABY LOSS AWARENESS WEEK (9TH TO 15TH OCTOBER)**



#### **Ribbon Display at St Andrew's**

To mark Baby Loss Awareness Week, we will be holding a Ribbon Display outside St Andrew's Church. Please do feel free to add your own ribbon of remembrance during the week.

#### **Ribbon Run**

We will be completing a Ribbon Run on Sunday 12th October, starting at 3pm, to raise funds for Sands. St Andrew's will be open during this time (3-5pm) for quiet prayer. If you would like to support the Ribbon Run, please donate via the QR code or the following link:

<https://fundraising.sands.org.uk/fundraisers/sarahforrest>.

If you would like to take part in the Ribbon Run with us, you can get started here: [www.sands.org.uk/ribbon-run](http://www.sands.org.uk/ribbon-run).

#### **Saying Goodbye Service at St Albans Cathedral**

Saying Goodbye (part of the Mariposa Trust) will be hosting one of their special services on 14th October at 7pm, in St Albans Cathedral. 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.



SCAN ME

## FROM THE CHURHWARDENS

### St John the Baptist

\* Maintenance Day at St John's ~ Saturday 11th October starting at 10am, weather permitting. Bring your own tools and lunch. There is work in the churchyard (removing self sets, tidying behind the church, strimming paths, mending the gates, removing low branches and ivy etc.) and work in the church (cleaning the nooks and crannies, polishing brasses, cleaning the boiler house etc.) Please do come along to help if you can!

\* St John's Quiz to raise funds to repair the south wall ~ Friday 17th October in the Parish Hall. Commencing at 19:30. Fish & chip supper. Bring your own drinks i.e. usual format. Raffle. £20 per head.



### **CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**



We are at the planning stages for this year's Christmas Tree Festival (Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th December, 2-6pm at St Mary's, St Margarets).

If you would like to sign up for a tree spot, have any raffle prizes to donate or are able to help over the weekend, please do get in touch!



### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please keep the following people in your prayers this month:

#### Baptisms

- Freddie Smith on 5th October at St Andrew's

#### Deaths

- Philippa Blair on 8th July.
- Daphne Everett on 2nd August.



### **UPCOMING DATES IN NOVEMBER**

2nd ~ All Saints' Services:

9am at St John the Baptist,  
10.30am at St Andrew's

~ All Souls' Memorial Service:  
3pm at St John the Baptist

5th ~ All Souls' Memorial Service,  
midday at St Mary's,  
St Margarets

9th ~ Remembrance Day Services:  
10.30am at Amwell Lane War  
Memorial, 10.30am at  
St Andrew's

16th ~ Make Church, 4pm at  
St Andrew's

30th ~ Advent Carols, 4pm at  
St James's Church

### **USEFUL LINKS**

Online Zoom Services & Events  
[www.tinyurl.com/3churcheszoom](http://www.tinyurl.com/3churcheszoom)

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

The 3 Churches Website  
[www.3churches.net](http://www.3churches.net)