

# The Benefice of Tilehurst St George and St Mary Magdalen

## Benefice News No. 66

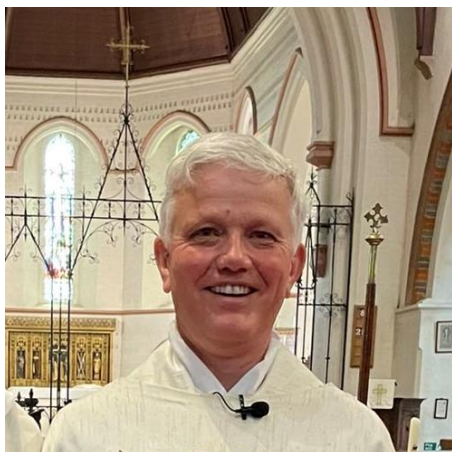
### Trinity Term

31<sup>st</sup> May – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2026



#### FROM THE VICARAGE

#### Adam writes



#### Dear Friends,

As I write this there is less than three weeks to go before my final service in licensed ministry on 14<sup>th</sup> June. I have already been overwhelmed by the love and good wishes that you have shown to me at my last morning service at St George's yesterday, and I am looking forward to my last morning service at St Mary Magdalen's on 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Thank to you everybody who has indicated that they are coming on 14<sup>th</sup> at 3pm at St George's. We are going to have a churchfull! I know that St George's and St Mary Magdalen's will do what you do best – welcome people.

Here is some of what I have written in the introduction to the service.

**'This service has three strands. It is part funeral, part wedding and part ordination. That said, I am not getting ordained again, Gill and I are not getting married again, and I am definitely not yet dead.**

**But my role as Vicar is coming to an end. Saying goodbye to that, and to each other, is a key part of this service, giving thanks for the past and holding each other at a time of significant change.**

**Looking forward, God will be doing new things. Gill and I are entering a**

**new stage of married life, and I will begin a new type of ordained ministry, one that is more private, but still connected to the world, offering service in hidden ways.'**

Thank you in advance for being there, all of you, my church family that I love and long for. Thank you for being so generous and so loving over many years.

It will not be an easy day, but it will be a good one. For all of us.

I will leave you in the capable hands of the Staff Team and the Area Dean. Peter Mayers will take over as Benefice News Editor and Polly Falconer will take the lead on pastoral services.

God is good. 'All shall be well. And all manner of things shall be well.'

**With every blessing,  
Adam**

#### PICNIC IN PROSPECT PARK

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July, 12noon

Sue Baker writes

Saturday, 18th July at midday

Picnic in the Park

Prospect Park - to the north of the new play park

Bring along your picnic and a chair (although there will be some spares).

We'll bring along some games for some fun.

If it rains, we'll go back to St George's and hold it there!

Hope we'll see you there

Sue

#### PRAYERS FOR THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH IN THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

Praying for Christians around the world

- 31-May Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda
- 07-Jun The Scottish Episcopal Church
- 14-Jun Church of the Province of South East Asia

- 21-Jun The Church of South India (United)
- 28-Jun The Anglican Church of Southern Africa
- 05-Jul The Anglican Church of South America
- 12-Jul Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan
- 19-Jul Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan
- 26-Jul The Anglican Church of Tanzania
- 02-Aug The Church of the Province of Uganda
- 09-Aug The Episcopal Church
- 16-Aug The Church in Wales
- 23-Aug The Church of the Province of West Africa
- 30-Aug The Church in the Province of the West Indies

#### WHAT'S ON

#### Weekly Events

- Sun 10am, Holy Communion, St George's and St Mary Magdalen's
- Wed 10am, Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalen's, followed by coffee.

#### June

- Mon 1 From Energy Efficiency to Net Zero, St Laurence Church, Reading, 7-9pm. See separate poster.
- Sat 6 'Endings and Beginnings' A Quiet Day at St Mary's Convent, Wantage
- Mon 8 5.30pm, St Mary Magdalen's PCC, 85 Fairford Road
- Tue 9 5.45pm, St George's PCC meeting, St George's Centre
- Sat 13 10am, Getting St George's ready for Adam's final service. If you are physically fit enough to move furniture, please do come along and provide some muscle.
- Sun 14 10AM, MORNING SERVICES CANCELLED  
10am, Rehearsal and

Preparation for Adam's Final Service, St George's  
3PM, ADAM'S FINAL SERVICE  
IN THE BENEFICE, ST  
GEORGE'S

Sat 27 10am-4pm, Open Day at  
Reading Deaf Centre, including a  
service of thanksgiving on the  
occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of the Center (131-133 Cardiff  
Rd, Reading RG1 8JF)

## July

Sat 4 2-4pm, Summer Tea Party, St  
Mary Magdalen's

Mon 13 5.30pm, St Mary Magdalen's  
PCC, 85 Fairford Road

Tue 14 8pm, Music Committee at  
Helen's

Sat 18 12noon, Picnic in Prospect Park  
– to the north of the new play  
park.

Tue 21 5.45pm, St George's PCC  
meeting, St George's Centre

**School Holidays – 23<sup>rd</sup> July – 1<sup>st</sup>  
September**

## ADVANCED DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

At the time of writing, I don't have any  
advanced dates for the Autumn. Ed.

## BENEFICE RECORDS

### Baptism in the Benefice

3 May Aaliyah Julie Amarachi Uzoho  
**May God bless them as they continue  
their journey in Christ.**

### Couples Preparing for Holy Matrimony

21-Aug Robert Andrew Kearney and  
Paula O'Neill Anderson

21-Aug Peter Nabil Philobos Matta and  
Sarah Joy Maskell

**May God bless them at this happy  
time.**

### Funerals from the Benefice

15 May George Luffman

**May they rest in peace and rise in  
glory.**

## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN READING AGM

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June**

**Mike Penny writes**

**The AGM of churches together in  
Reading will be held at 7:00 PM on  
Tuesday June 23 2026.  
It will be held at Grange United**

**Reformed Church in Southcote and  
there is plenty of parking at the  
church.**

Please come along and share what is  
going on in your church or denomination  
or your charity or the work you do in  
Reading for Christ.

And please let us know what needs you  
have for the coming year.

Or just come along and learn more about  
what goes on in this town of ours.

Every blessing in Christ Jesus our saviour

**Michael Penny  
Chair, CTR**

## COPY DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE

If you would like to contribute to Benefice  
News please email Peter Mayers  
([peter.d.mayers@ntlworld.com](mailto:peter.d.mayers@ntlworld.com)) with an  
article of 100-200 words and a suitable  
heading by

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2026**

## ADVERTISING POLICY

If you wish to place an advert in the

Benefice news please contact Peter  
Mayers on 0118 962 4409,  
[peter.d.mayers@ntlworld.com](mailto:peter.d.mayers@ntlworld.com).

## CONTACT US

**For Christenings, Weddings, Banns,  
and Articles for Benefice News  
Contact**

The Revd Polly Falconer:  
email, [polly@evadney.co.uk](mailto:polly@evadney.co.uk);

tel, 07949 783297;

Wed/Thur Evening Bible Study Group:

Peter Mayers (0118 962 4409,  
[peter.d.mayers@ntlworld.com](mailto:peter.d.mayers@ntlworld.com))

## Contacts for St George's

Church Wardens: Sue Baker (07899  
721958), Anne Howell

Treasurer: Shelley Linney FCA

[Shelley@placcountancy.com](mailto:Shelley@placcountancy.com)

Hall Bookings: Adam Carlill on

07753411989, [adamcarlill@me.com](mailto:adamcarlill@me.com).

## Contacts for St Mary Magdalen's

Church Wardens: Rita Hicks (07751  
885867), Carl Feltham (07305 422699)

Treasurer: Dale Sutcliffe

Hall Bookings: Post Vacant

# From Energy Efficiency to Net Zero

## Resourcing event for churches chaired by Bishop Mary Gregory

**Monday 1 June, 7-9 pm  
St Laurence Church, Reading**

*What are the quick wins?*

*What are the most effective steps  
for your church?*

*And how can you pay for it?*

**TALKS AND Q & A WITH EXPERTS**

**Network with local churches who have already  
installed low energy technology and local  
organisations who can support your green journey**

*Find out more at [greenchristian.org.uk/introduction/encouragement/local-groups/reading-area-green-christians/](http://greenchristian.org.uk/introduction/encouragement/local-groups/reading-area-green-christians/) or email [Reading@greenchristian.org.uk](mailto:Reading@greenchristian.org.uk)*

**Reading Area Green  
Christian Local Group**

**GC GreenChristian**  
Responding to the Cry of the Earth