



The Benefice of Tilehurst St George and St Mary Magdalen

Benefice News No. 57

Epiphany Term

5th January – 23rd February 2025



FROM THE VICARAGE

Adam Carlill writes

Dear Friends,



At a recent PCC meeting, St Mary Magdalen's committed itself to its children and young people. Here is some of what was agreed.

We believe that all people, regardless of age, are of equal worth and value to God and that therefore all have an equal place in the church. Within the kingdom of God children matter in their own right. This means that the children and young people are full members of our congregation and their voices and opinions should be heard and considered in everything we do. We are committed to providing a safe and creative environment in our church where both adults and children can grow and learn as individuals and as part of the body of Christ. We will seek to develop the skills of our children and young people but also value them for what they contribute to the spiritual life and fellowship of the church at the present time.

This commitment has led to some brilliant worship in which children, young people and adults all participate together. I am hugely grateful to Lesley for championing this move.

The additional good news is that the things that have begun at St Mary

Magdalen's have spread to St George's too. Children took an active part in the Advent Carol Eucharist in both churches, and in the Benefice Christmas Carol service as well.

I look forward to further developments with the children and young people of both churches in the new year. You will see that there is a Youth Club and Handbell Youth Club in the diary, both hosted at St Mary Magdalen's but open to children and young people from both churches.

Finally, in the wake of the resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury over the mishandling of safeguarding issues, I want to say how grateful I am to our two Parish Safeguarding Officers, Fran Griffin and Lesley Sutcliffe, who, along with every member of St George's and St Mary Magdalen's, continue to ensure that safeguarding in this Benefice is managed admirably!

**With love and best wishes,
Adam**

WHAT'S ON

Weekly Events

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|-----|--|
| Sun | 10am, Holy Communion, St George's and St Mary Magdalen's |
| Wed | 10am, Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalen's, followed by coffee. |
| Fri | 10am, Holy Communion, St George's, followed by coffee and chat until 12pm. |

January

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|--------|---|
| Sun 19 | 6pm, Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, St Michael's, New Lane Hill RG30 4JX. Preacher - Fr Ian Graham |
| Tue 21 | 6.30pm, Youth Club, St Mary Magdalen's. |

February

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|-------|---|
| Mon 3 | 5.30pm, St Mary Magdalen's PCC at Rita's. |
| Tue 4 | 8pm, Music Committee meeting |

at Helen's.

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| Tue 11 | 5.45pm, St George's PCC at St George's Centre. |
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School Holidays 15th – 23rd February

ADVANCED DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February

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| Tue 25 | 6.30pm, Youth Club, St Mary Magdalen's. |
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March

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| Wed 5 | Ash Wednesday
10am, Holy Communion and Ashing |
| Tue 11 | 6.30pm, Handbell Club, St Mary Magdalen's |
| Sun 16 | 11.30am, APCM, St Mary Magdalen's TBC. |
| Tue 25 | 6.30pm, Youth Club, St Mary Magdalen's. |
| Sun 30 | 12noon, Wedding of Shane Owens and Kamila Siwko. |

April

School Holidays 5th-21st April

Holy Week 13th-20th April

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|---------|-----------------|
| Sun 13 | Palm Sunday |
| Thur 17 | Maundy Thursday |
| Fri 18 | Good Friday |
| Sun 20 | Easter Day |

Full details of Holy Week services will be in the next edition of Benefice News.

BENEFICE RECORDS

Confirmations that have taken place in the Benefice

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|--------|---------------|
| 24-Nov | Aaron Feltham |
| 24-Nov | Maya Montague |

May God bless them as they continue their journey in Christ

Couples Preparing for Holy Matrimony

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|--------|--|
| 19-Apr | Thomas William Grant and Naomi Anne Lerner |
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May God bless them at this happy

time.

Funerals from the Benefice

25-Nov Sherrill Anne Shearman

20-Dec Kathleen Maud Butler

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD WIDE CHURCH IN THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

Praying for Christians around the world

05-Jan The Church in Wales

12-Jan The Church of the Province of West Africa

19-Jan The Church in the Province of the West Indies

26-Jan The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria

02-Feb The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

09-Feb The Anglican Church of Australia

16-Feb The Church of Bangladesh

23-Feb Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

'CLOSER TO GOD : 24 HOURS WITH GOD'

Friday 27th June – Saturday 28th June

A Benefice day away at St Mary's Wantage, led by June Hardcastle on the theme of 'Dreams'

Many of you will remember our day trip to St Mary's Wantage last July. We had a lovely time exploring different ways of getting closer to God. Those who went on the day really appreciated the peace and beauty of the Retreat House.

With this in mind we will be having a full 24-hour stay in Wantage this summer, being led in our time there by June Hardcastle. June knows us well and has a particular passion for getting closer to God through art. She will explore with us some of the biblical instances of dreams.

Approximate cost £90 per person, including all meals and refreshments. There are only 24 places available in 21 rooms, and these will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Watch out for the booking form in the next edition of Benefice News!

COPY DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE

If you would like to contribute to Benefice

News please email Adam Carill (adamcarill@me.com) with an article of 100-200 words and a suitable heading by

Sunday 16th February 2025

ADVERTISING POLICY

If you wish to place an advert in the Benefice news please contact Adam Carill on 07753411989, adamcarill@me.com.

CONTACT US

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

Contact the Vicar

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www.stgeorge-tilehurst.org,

www.stmarymagdalen-tilehurst.org,
www.facebook.com/tilehurststgeorgeandsmarymagdalen

Wed/Thur Evening Bible Study Group:

Peter Mayers (0118 962 4409,

peter.d.mayers@ntlworld.com)

Contacts for St George's

Church Wardens: Sue Baker (0118 962 2671), Anne Howell

Treasurer: Bridget Britton (0118 959 6583, rodbritton@sky.com)

MU: Gill Johnson (0118 996 8355)

Hall Bookings: Bridget Britton (0118 959 6583, rodbritton@sky.com)

Contacts for St Mary Magdalen's

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

Treasurer: Dale Sutcliffe

Hall Bookings: Margaret Palmer, margaret_palmer@yahoo.co.uk

Closer to God : 24 Hours with God

A Benefice Away Day at St Mary's Convent, Wantage

Leader: *June Hardcastle LLM*

Friday 27th June – Saturday 28th June

5pm-5pm

