

## CALENDAR

Sunday	01-May-22	9am Family Service at St John the Baptist 10.30am Family Service at St Andrew's
Monday	02-May-22	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	03-May-22	9.30am Prayer Group 7.30pm Resurrection People Group (online)
Wednesday	04-May-22	Midday Taizé Service at St Mary the Virgin, St Margarets
Thursday	05-May-22	10.30am Benefice Coffee Morning (The Red Lion)
Friday	06-May-22	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Saturday	07-May-22	11.15am–4pm Art Exhibition & Sale at St John the Baptist
Sunday	08-May-22	9am Morning Prayer at St John the Baptist 10.30am Morning Prayer at St Andrew's 10.30am Online Benefice Sunday Service
Monday	09-May-22	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer 7.30pm St Andrew's PCC at The Wilshere Hall
Tuesday	10-May-22	9.30am Prayer Group 7.30pm Resurrection People Group (online)
Wednesday	11-May-22	Midday Holy Communion at St Mary the Virgin
Thursday	12-May-22	10.30am Benefice Coffee Morning (online) 10.30am Resurrection People Group at The Wilshere Hall
Friday	13-May-22	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Saturday	14-May-22	
Sunday	15-May-22	9am Eucharist at St John the Baptist 10.30am Holy Communion at St Andrew's
Monday	16-May-22	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer 7.30pm Great Amwell with St Margarets PCC at St Mary the Virgin, St Margarets
Tuesday	17-May-22	9.30am Prayer Group 7.30pm Resurrection People Group (online)
Wednesday	18-May-22	Midday Taizé Service at St Mary the Virgin, St Margarets
Thursday	19-May-22	10.30am Benefice Coffee Morning (The Red Lion)
Friday	20-May-22	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Saturday	21-May-22	
Sunday	22-May-22	9am Eucharist at St John the Baptist 10.30am Online Benefice Sunday Service 10.30am Rogation Sunday Service at St James's Church, followed by 'Beating the Bounds' countryside walk
Monday	23-May-22	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	24-May-22	9.30am Prayer Group
Wednesday	25-May-22	Midday Holy Communion at St Mary the Virgin, St Margarets
Thursday	26-May-22	10.30am Benefice Coffee Morning (online) 10.30am Resurrection People Group at The Wilshere Hall 7.30pm Ascension Day Communion Service at St John the Baptist
Friday	27-May-22	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Saturday	28-May-22	
Sunday	29-May-22	10.30am Benefice Communion Service at St Andrew's
Monday	30-May-22	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	31-May-22	9.30am Prayer Group



## The 3 Churches Benefice

### NEWS & NOTICES ~ MAY 2022

“Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,  
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.”

*(John Macleod Campbell Crum)*

As everything green and fresh opens out and bursts forth from the dark cold soil of winter, so it feels like our church life is beginning to grow shoots! It's a busy time for gardeners as they strive to encourage the new growth and keep the weeds at bay. In our life together we too need to look afresh at our Benefice and our life as a church family. Where have the weeds set in that we need to deal with, and where do we need to encourage new growth?

Our faith encourages us to start afresh every morning, to fix our eyes on Jesus, and to shake off old destructive habits and ways, looking forward and following God's call in this place, at this time. We don't get it right all the time, after all we're still in training for righteousness, we're still working it out with God. The challenge is for us to keep working together, keep loving and forgiving each other, keep remembering that we are Resurrection People with the risen life of Jesus in each of us!

“Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus on whom our faith depends from beginning to end.”

*(Hebrews 12:1–2)*

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## NOTICES

### Rogation Sunday ~ 22nd May

Join us for the annual Rogation Day Service at St James's Church on Sunday 22nd May at 10.30am, followed by refreshments. There will then be the traditional 'beating the bounds' walk around our Parish boundaries. Maps and instructions will be available at about 11.30am, after the service. This is in place of the normal St Andrew's 10.30am service.

### The Three Villages Magazine

If you have any news, events or items of interest for inclusion within The Three Villages Magazine, please email the Editor at [print.threevillagesmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:print.threevillagesmagazine@gmail.com). The print edition publishes quarterly and is available to purchase at the back of the three churches.

### Public Notice

Please note that there is a Public Notice on display in St John the Baptist Church, on our website and on our A Church Near You pages. This is regarding stonework repairs to the tower at St John the Baptist, Great Amwell. To view the details in full, please visit [www.3churches.net](http://www.3churches.net) or contact a Churchwarden.

### Resurrection People

We have started as a Benefice to read a book of personal Bible reading and reflections called *Resurrection People*, which stretches from Easter to Ascension, looking at the experiences of the Disciples as they met the Risen Jesus. As part of this we will be meeting to share our thoughts and reflect on our journey with Jesus and our status as Resurrection People. There are two groups running: a daytime in-person group on alternate Thursdays and a Tuesday evening Zoom group. See the calendar for dates and do join us! If you missed out so far and want a book please email Rev'd Sarah.

## BENEFICE CHURCHWARDEN TEAM UPDATE

Following the Annual Meetings of Parishioners, our Benefice Churchwarden Team has changed. At Great Amwell we continue to be served by Richard and Margaret Mellor, and at St Margarets by Lyn Paddon. Stanstead Abbots is served by Janet Dance and our newly appointed Churchwarden, Rosemary James. Our heartfelt thanks go to each of them for their service, time and care. Our special thanks go to Marilyn Britten, our outgoing Churchwarden, for her years of service as Churchwarden and for the dedication and care, time and love that she has put into the role.

## CHURCHWARDEN NEWS

### Art Exhibition and Sale ~ Saturday 7th May

On Saturday 7th May there will be an exhibition and sale of paintings by local artists at St John the Baptist, from 11.15am to 4pm. Money raised will go to St John's Church Tower Repair Fund. Many of the paintings are by John Bentley and feature St James's Church, Stanstead Abbots. Please do come along and support this fundraising event.

### Madrigal Concert

The Haileybury Madrigal Society will once again sing at The Pool, Great Amwell on Friday, 24th June at 9pm. There will be a collection for Isabel Hospice. Please support this tradition. This will be the 80th concert. If you need any information please contact Ann Hardy on 07850 458366.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people in your prayers this month:

### Weddings

- Paola Persico & Graeme McGorley on 26th May 2022 at St John the Baptist.

### Baptisms

- Matilda Mayne on 1st May at St Andrew's.
- Tabitha Crimando on 8th May at St Mary's.
- Joshua Blackmore on 15th May at St John the Baptist.
- Mabel Mae Gumble on 29th May at St Andrew's.
- Daisy Woodford on 5th June at St Mary's.
- Elsie & Bonnie Asis on 19th June at St John the Baptist.
- Ethan Merry on 3rd July at St John the Baptist.

## UPCOMING DATES IN JUNE

5th June ~ Pentecost Sunday

24th June ~ The Haileybury Madrigal Society Concert at The Pool, Great Amwell

## USEFUL LINKS

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

Online Benefice Coffee Morning  
[www.tinyurl.com/meet-StA](http://www.tinyurl.com/meet-StA)

A Church Near You Benefice Page  
[www.tinyurl.com/3churchesACNY](http://www.tinyurl.com/3churchesACNY)

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