



The Benefice of Tilehurst St George and St Mary Magdalen

Benefice News No. 56

Advent Term

3rd November 2024 – 5th January 2025



FROM THE VICARAGE

Adam Carlill writes

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Advent and Christmas edition of the Benefice News. There is a lot going on, but I hope you get close to God in the silence, in the gaps, in between the business. Writing over 700 years ago, Marguerite Porette said this of St Mary Magdalen:

‘Then she found God within herself, without seeking him, and, too, she had nothing to seek for, for Love had laid hold of her.’

We sometimes sing the carol, ‘Love came down at Christmas’. If we experience real love this Advent and Christmas, Love will indeed have come down, and Love will indeed lay hold of us. We will have God within us.

There is a lot going on at both churches, so please make a note of the ‘What’s On’ section below. This will be reproduced on the notice boards in both churches.

But do take time to breathe as well, because God is always here, in us, around us, inspiring us, energizing us, comforting us. Thanks be to God for his endless love!

**With love and best wishes,
Adam**

‘CLOSER TO GOD, 24 HOURS WITH GOD’

Save the Date Friday 27th – Saturday 28th June

A Benefice day away at St Mary’s Wantage, led by June Hardcastle on the theme 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.

More details will follow next time!

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. |

November

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| Sun 3 | 4pm, All Souls Service, St Mary Magdalen’s |
| Mon 4 | 5.30pm, St Mary Magdalen’s PCC at Rita’s |
| Tue 5 | 8pm, Music Committee Meeting at Helen’s |
| Sat 9 | 10am, Benefice Hymn Practice at St Mary Magdalen’s |
| Tue 12 | 5.45pm, St George’s PCC in St George’s Centre |
| Wed 13 | 12noon, St George’s will be hosting the Reading Deanery Chapter Meeting. Please can anybody help with refreshments? |
| Sat 16 | 2-4pm, Christmas Fayre, St George’s |
| Tue 19 | 6.30pm, Benefice Youth Club, St Mary Magdalen’s, for an evening playing ‘Ultimate Weirwolf’! |
| Sun 24 | 6.30pm, Confirmation of Aaron Feltham and Maya Montague at St Barnabas Emmer Green |

December

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| Sun 1 | 10am, Advent Carol Eucharist, both churches |
| Tue 10 | 7.30pm Christmas Concert by the Band and Bugles of the Rifles, St George’s. Retiring Collection in Aid of St George’s |
| Sun 15 | 4pm, Benefice Christmas Carol Service, St George’s |

School Holidays 21st December 2024 – 5th January 2025

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| Mon 23 | 12noon and 4pm, Carol Singing at Tilehurst Triangle. Just turn up and sing |
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Tue 24 Christmas Eve

- 3pm, Crib Service at St Mary Magdalen’s
5pm, Crib Service at St George’s
10pm, Candlelit First Communion of Christmas, St Mary Magdalen’s
11.30pm, Candleslit Midnight Mass, St George’s

Wed 25 Christmas Day

- 10am, Christmas Communion, both churches

ADVANCED DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

January

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| Sun 19 | 6.30pm, Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, St Michael’s |
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February

School Holidays 15th – 23rd February

CAFÉ THÉOLOGIQUE MONDAY 18 NOVEMBER WITH STEVE CHALKE

We hope you can join us for our next Café Théologique event with Steve Chalke MBE.

If you missed Kester Brewin speaking about AI the video can be viewed here: https://youtu.be/NAoF_Y7W5LY

Steve Chalke MBE

A Manifesto for Hope: 10 principles for transforming the lives of children & young people

Monday 18th November, 7.30-9pm, ZeroDegrees Bar, Bridge Street

Steve Chalke MBE will speak about his book, A Manifesto for Hope, which sets out ten tried-and-tested practical principles for how to develop joined-up, cost-effective, community-empowering work, gleaned from the hard-won experience that has sat at the heart of Steve Chalke’s mission over the past four decades... Steve demonstrates the stark choice facing us: keep pouring money into a faltering system, or reform and invest to

improve people's lives. We need a new social covenant that empowers local charities, grassroots movements and faith groups - creating a more imaginative, more collaborative and less bureaucratic approach to community development - if we are going to transform the life chances of countless young people and families.

Café Théologique is hosted by the University of Reading Chaplaincy and is a space to explore contemporary issues from a theological perspective. All are welcome. Events are free to attend without booking. Guests are welcome to join us for food at the venue from 6pm.

This event will be in-person and online.

**Zoom joining details: u.nu/cafetheo
Meeting ID: 994 1078 8443
Passcode: 511541
Facebook Event link:
<https://fb.me/e/4IMwnEiLg>**

**Amanda Titmas - Chaplaincy
Administrator**

BENEFICE RECORDS

Christenings that have taken place in the Benefice

08-Sep Phoebe Grace Rutherford
May God bless them as they begin their journey in Christ

Funerals from the Benefice

27-Sep Lois Sewell
18-Sep Shirley Ann Noone
05-Nov Paul Shane Davies

12-Nov Christine Hall
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

03-Nov Church of the Province of South East Asia
10-Nov The Church of South India (United)
17-Nov The Anglican Church of Southern Africa
24-Nov The Anglican Church of South America
01-Dec Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan
08-Dec Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan
15-Dec The Anglican Church of Tanzania
22-Dec The Church of the Province of Uganda
29-Dec The Episcopal Church
05-Jan The Church in Wales

COPY DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE

If you would like to contribute to Benefice News please email Adam Carlill (adamcarlill@me.com) with an article of 100-200 words and a suitable heading by

Sunday 29th December 2024

ADVERTISING POLICY

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

CONTACT US

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

Contact the Vicar

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www.stgeorge-tilehurst.org,
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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

Whether you're processing your past and present, or preparing for your future, I'm here.

I provide a safe and supportive space, full of empathy and without judgement.



ANNA JOY RAVENHILL

COUNSELLING SERVICES

Hi there! I'm Anna, I'm a qualified integrative counsellor. My training and professional experience has covered a wide variety of theories, practices, and backgrounds so I will tailor our sessions to your personal needs. We will work towards specific goals you have in a confidential space, where you feel valued and listened to.

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Qualified Counsellor, BSc, MBACP, MACC (reg)

