

# JANUARY NEWSLETTER

this month's church family thanks and prayers

Walton-on-Thames  
**St Mary's and St John's**



Happy *New Year* 2023

# Key Information

## Clergy:

Vicars: Rev Cathy & Rev Jonny Blair (off duty Friday) 01932 917 736

Assistant Minister: Rev Caroline Merrick (avail Tue, Thu & Fri) 07419 827 739

Curate: Rev Vlada Rakin vlada@waltonparish.org.uk (off duty Saturday)

Curate: Rev Dave Bixby dave@waltonparish.org.uk (off duty Friday)

**Church Warden:** David Henderson, Scott Hay, Janet Todd (St John's)

**Youth Minister:** Sarah Dunn (off duty – Friday & Saturday)

**Pastoral Assistants:** For enquiries of a pastoral nature email vicar@waltonparish.org.uk

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Katharine Scott

Wendy Fitch, Louise Turner (Vulnerable adults)

safeguarding@waltonparish.org.uk

**Safeguarding Administrator:** Julia Gorrie (part time flexi hours)

safeguardingadmin@waltonparish.org.uk

**Treasurer:** Alastair Duke - treasurer@waltonparish.org.uk

**Assistant Treasurer:** Julia Gorrie - assistant-treasurer@waltonparish.org.uk

**A full list of Parish Officers can be found on our website.**

Information about weddings, funerals and baptisms can also be found on our website [www.waltonparish.org.uk](http://www.waltonparish.org.uk)

## Church Office

**Administrator:** Sam Harrison

St Mary's Church Hall,

Church Street, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 2QS

The office contact hours are

**Closed Monday.**

**Open Tuesday - Friday 10.00 am – 12 noon**

Telephone - 01932 224238      Email - office@waltonparish.org.uk

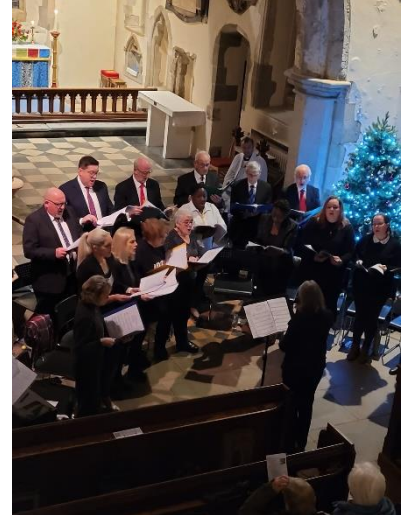
**St Mary's Church,** Church Street, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 2QS

**St John's Church,** 1 The Furrows, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 3JQ

## VICARS' BLOG

As we celebrated the greatest news ever and sang those well-known Carols, it almost was a white Christmas. As the children from Grovelands school were singing about snow, there was even a flutter of snow!

**Christmas in pictures:** the photos below and on other pages remind us of the joy of the many different ways we have worshipped and celebrated the birth of Jesus, our Saviour as a church this Christmas. Carol services, Carols in the pub, Nativities, Christingle and the rest.



We start the new year looking at Jesus, the true Light for all people. If you are making spiritual New Year resolutions, there are opportunities to try the Alpha Course, the Bible Course or the Prayer Course. There are also Life Groups meeting on zoom and in real life in which people read, pray and share together taking next steps in faith. Email [cathy@waltonparish.org.uk](mailto:cathy@waltonparish.org.uk) for more details.

***Happy New Year!***

***Revs Cathy and Jonny***





# Focus on Mission

## Outward Giving 2023

*Sharing the love of Jesus  
with all people* Matthew 28:16-20

Find out more about three of our Mission Partners for 2023. If you have any questions, please speak to one of the Missions Committee.

### **BRITE Box**



Having been in many discussions with local authorities about food insecurity, we came up with the idea of the BRITE Box (BB) - Building Resilience In Today's Environment. The BB project currently helps families across Richmond, Kingston, Elmbridge and Southwark to address the growing issue of food hunger. Each family is in the project for a year and receives a weekly BB which has all the ingredients, a printed recipe guide with photos, illustrating step by step, how to cook a healthy meal together as a family. Through our partnership with local authorities, together with local charities/schools, we're able to ascertain and reach the most vulnerable families in our Boroughs and are now reaching 430 families (1700 people per week).

Our key aims through the project are:

- Impacting the issue of child food hunger through fun family activity
- Sparking joy and interest in cooking and eating well
- Providing children with key cooking skills and the self-confidence to use them
- Bringing families together around food in the home

### **Prayer requests for 2023:**

Please pray for volunteers to come forward to support, pack and deliver BRITE Boxes to schools and pick up points in Elmbridge.

Please pray for ways in which us as a 'church' we can strengthen relationships with those who receive BRITE Box.

### **Rev Alex Oehring's Mission in Colne (Holy Trinity and St. Bartholemew's)**

The Mission giving funds we gave to Rev. Alex was initially meant for screens to help their new parish with worship and to lead the Alpha course but then the diocese gave the church some so therefore they have

used our giving to start a new Friday evening service and the rest of the money will support a holiday club at Easter in which they will also be able to feed the children as over 40% of kids in the schools are on free school meals in Colne. This will be a great opportunity for many children who don't get to go on holiday.

### Prayer requests for 2023:

- Rev. Michelle Delves (new Associate Priest) arrives in January, this is a great opportunity for ministry here, please pray for our working relationship.
- Our youth group was launched in January 2022 and we now have 21 regulars. Please pray that this group will grow in faith, friendship and will continue to develop.
- We have recently commissioned 4 new lay Ministers and have 4 more in training. Pray that we can grow together as an effective ministry team and that people will be encouraged to explore their calling to serve God's mission in Colne.



### The Micah Fund at St. Mary's and St. John's

**A fund that can be used to help and assist people in the local community and beyond in all ways of justice, care, education, help, mercy and support and to help people to grow as disciples of Jesus and share God's love with others.**

This Christmas we have funded gifts for 9 families (15 children) in Walton who would have otherwise missed out this Christmas. All of those given vouchers to support presents for their children are extremely thankful and here are a couple of quotes:

*"Thank you so much for this kind gift to me. It means I can buy my daughter the toy she's asked for without worrying about food for the next week too".*

*"I couldn't believe it when you offered me the toy vouchers, I don't like asking for help, but I don't want my children to miss out, I can't thank you enough".*





# Toddlers' Praise



## Christmas Nativity



Contact:

Rev Caroline Merrick

[caroline@waltonparish.org.uk](mailto:caroline@waltonparish.org.uk)

07419 827739

# Toddlers' PRAISE



Come and join us for a short, child-friendly (0-5y) service, followed by refreshments.

Fridays in term time  
10.30am St John's Church





## Messy church at St John's



Messy Christmas was a bundle of fun.



### Dates for your diary 2023

Saturday 28th Jan 3.30pm

Saturday 25th Feb 3.30pm

Saturday 25th March 3.30pm

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### Congratulations

To Berenice Page who is training for the Ordained Ministry at St Augustine's Theological College. She has secured a curacy at St Paul's Church in Addlestone and will start there in July. She will be back with us for a few months before then.

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### In Memoriam

Please pray for the families and friends of those who have died in times past whose anniversary falls at this time:

4<sup>th</sup> Joan Badcock

6<sup>th</sup> Pamela Gilbert

6<sup>th</sup> Michael Badcock

11<sup>th</sup> Joan Creed

12<sup>th</sup> Edward Malone

15<sup>th</sup> Revd Iris Keyes

20<sup>th</sup> Roger Jenkins

22<sup>nd</sup> Ray Collings

23<sup>rd</sup> Gerald Gilbert

JANUARY 2023	St Mary's and St John's Services	Jesus – the true light for all people	
For details of all Services, Events and Youth groups see <a href="http://www.waltonparish.org.uk">www.waltonparish.org.uk</a>			
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan <i>Christmas 1</i>	10am JOINT All Age Service with Communion	St Mary's	Good news – treasured and spread Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:15-21
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.30am Holy Communion	St Mary's	
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan <i>Epiphany</i>	9am Service with Communion	St Mary's	Follow the Star Isaiah 60:1-6 Matt 2:1-12
	10.15 am All Age Service	St Mary's Hall	
	10.30am Holy Communion	St John's	
	6.30pm Evening Praise	St Mary's	
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.30am Holy Communion	St Mary's	
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan <i>Epiphany 2</i>	9am Service with Communion	St Mary's	A light for the Gentiles Isaiah 49:1-7 John 1:29-42
	10.15 am All Age Service	St Mary's Hall	
	10.30am Morning Praise	St John's	
	6.30pm Evening Praise	St Mary's	
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.30am Holy Communion	St Mary's	
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan <i>Epiphany 3</i>	9am Service with Communion	St Mary's	Light comes to dark places Isaiah 9:1-4 Matt 4:12-23
	10.15 am All Age Service	St Mary's Hall	
	10.30am Morning Praise	St John's	
	6.30pm Evening Praise	St Mary's	
Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.30am Holy Communion	St Mary's	
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan <i>Candlemas</i>	9am Service with Communion BCP	St Mary's	Gods' promise fulfilled Psalm 24 Luke 2:22-40
	10.15 am All Age Service	St Mary's Hall	
	10.30am Morning Praise	St John's	
	6.30pm Evening Praise	St Mary's	
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	10.30am Holy Communion	St Mary's	
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10am Joint All Age Service with Communion	St Mary's	Let your light shine Isaiah 58:1-12 Matt 5:13-20
	6.30pm Evening Praise	St Mary's	

Please note that Thursday Midweek communion will be at St Mary's



[www.waltonparish.org.uk](http://www.waltonparish.org.uk)