



**for St Mary's, Burwell with St Etheldreda
and the Holy Trinity, Reach**

Remembering Month

November is a time for looking back, a time for remembering. On All Saints Day, 1st November we remember the Christian saints and martyrs down the centuries who gave their lives for Christ and remember our own loved ones who have died.

The first Sunday in November is also the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP), which reminds us that conflict is far from over: 380 million Christians worldwide live under the threat of persecution today. Remembrance Sunday itself is of course a time to remember with gratitude the supreme sacrifices that our armed forces made during World War I, World War II and other more recent conflicts.

But November also brings us the final Sunday in the church calendar: the Sunday of Christ the King, when we celebrate Jesus as the risen, ascended, glorified King of Kings and Lord of Lords, seated at the Father's side, and look forward to his coming again in glory. Revelation 21 promises that one day God will wipe every tear from our eyes, and death will be no more; grief, crying, and pain will be no more, because the previous things will have passed away. So, this month is not only a time for Remembrance, but a time for looking forward to the world to come, when 'Thy Kingdom Come' will no longer be a prayer of hope, but an eternal glorious reality for all who trust in Christ.



Light a Candle Service
Time to Remember a Loved One
Sunday November 2nd 2025
3.00pm

**St Mary's Church, Burwell
followed by Refreshments**

A simple service of hymns,
readings & prayers
to bring comfort to those
who have been bereaved

BURWELL and REACH
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
9th November 2025

REACH

10.50am Act of Remembrance
at Reach War Memorial
11.05am Service continues
in St Etheldreda's, Reach

BURWELL

2.30pm Act of Remembrance
at Burwell War Memorial
3.00pm Churches Together
Service of Remembrance
at St Mary's, Burwell



From the Parish Registers

Baptism

We welcome

Eden Stearn

Funerals

Rest in peace

Sylvia Parker



Thank You!

I wanted to say a heartfelt thank you to you all, for the absolutely wonderful send off on the 28th September. I was incredibly touched by the very many expressions of love and good wishes, cards, cake, flowers, gifts, hugs!, and felt so buoyed up by the warmth shown by you all.

I was also really delighted with the very generous voucher - I am having a happy time trawling the Eden Clerical Supplies website, and thanks to your kindness, am spoilt for choice! So, my deepest thanks again, and I send my blessings to everyone at St. Mary's and St. Etheldreda's. I will always hold you in my prayers, and promise to let you know where I end up next year!

Revd Virginia Moggridge

St Mary's Building Update

Church Heating

Since the colder weather has come, the church boiler has been working, but at times has been rather temperamental. The 3D survey of the church, commissioned in July, has now been completed by the church architects, Archangel. The next step will be to appoint a Mechanical and Electrical Engineer to draft a design for a new heating system. The PCC has received three quotes, and a small team has been appointed to move things forward.

A proposal to improve accessibility

The PCC has been considering a short term proposal to remove two short pews in the nave, and create a ramp and platform in the aisle level with the pew platform, to create two areas where wheelchair users could be accommodated. There are currently three regular wheelchair users attending St Mary's, and seating options are very limited. The hope would be that this could be done under temporary reordering permission, which lasts two years, and has to be fully reversible at the end of that time, or taken forward to the full faculty process. More information will be made available soon.



COMMUNITY ANGEL AWARDS 2025

To celebrate our amazing community St Mary's is partnering again with Burwell Co-op to launch this year's Community Angel Awards

We are looking for nominations from the community for those who have made a difference to individuals, groups or the community as a whole. You can nominate anyone who has made a difference to you, anyone you know, or in the community. All nominations by **9th December** please to Eleanor Williams. Award Ceremony will be at **St Mary's at 12pm on Saturday 13th December**, hosted by St Mary's and the Co-op.

We would like to decorate St Mary's Churchyard and Church for the Award ceremony with **ANGELS** designed and made by the people of Burwell. These can be made by individuals or by groups and can be of any media or size, although we do encourage you to think recycled or recyclable materials. Hence this message to ask you to take part and make angels for the displays. It's a fantastic opportunity to get creative! Feel free to pass this onto anyone who might like to add to the decorations, all are welcome.

We would like all the angels in place by **12th December** to decorate the Churchyard and Church before the **Awards Ceremony on 13th December**. Please contact us on 07768 763145 with any questions, to drop your angels off if you can't get them to the church on the 12th or to discuss how to display them.

What's on for children and families

As a church, we work hard at building relationships with children, young people and their families, and creating spaces where all can feel welcome, and explore faith. Please do pray for all who come along, and for our teams, and contact Eleanor if you would like to get involved.



**Refresh Café
@St Mary's Burwell
Fridays
10.00 - 11.30am
Simple lunch
from 11.30am**

**A café & play space
for pre-school children
& their parents & carers
Older siblings welcome
in school holidays
Refreshments
No charge
Donations welcome**

St Mary's Burwell
St Etheldreda's Reach
Loving God, Loving People

Connect Café

A connecting space for families

**Wednesday 12th November
3.30 - 5.00pm
St Mary's, Burwell**



**Refreshments
Board Games Table Football
Activities Crafts
Connect with each other
and with God**



St Mary's Burwell
St Etheldreda's Reach
Loving God, Loving People

**Messy Advent Family Event
Sunday 30th November
4.00 - 5.30pm
at St Mary's, Burwell**



**Join us for activities, crafts,
songs and a meal together
as we prepare for Advent & Christmas
All Ages, All Welcome
No set charge but make a donation if you can**



Ely Cathedral

Youth Evening

**Friday 14th November 2025
7pm - 9pm**

Following on from the success of the Youth Pilgrimage in July, Ely Cathedral is hosting a **Youth Event** on Friday 14th November. This is for young people, in school years 7 to 13, along with their youth leaders and church leaders to come for an evening of fun and food, finishing with Compline by Candlelight. This event is free of charge but booking is essential. Eleanor Williams and Jo Proctor are hoping to accompany a group to this event, meeting the young people at the cathedral. Please contact Eleanor if your young people would like to come. www.elycathedral.org/events/ely-cathedral-youth-evening



16th November 2025

Safeguarding Sunday is coming up but as soon as we hear the word Safeguarding, we want the floor to open up and to disappear down the hole! Because with it usually comes a request to complete a safeguarding module or to have a DBS check, and all the while, you may be thinking what has that got to do with me? Well, rather a lot actually!

Protecting vulnerable people from harm and speaking up for their rights is an integral part of our scriptural mandate as Christians. "Speak out on behalf of the voiceless, and for the rights of all who are vulnerable." (Proverbs 31:8).

The exploitation of children and the vulnerable fills our news feeds and we can all feel disgust at the actions of a few. And it is a few, fortunately, but they may be all around us. How would we know? As a Church we are not exempt from the abuse of power and the Makin Report, which was recently published, is a stark reminder that we are all accountable for our actions and inactions.

It is these inactions which we must own, for unless we know what abuse can look like, we cannot speak out on behalf of the voiceless, and for the rights of all who are vulnerable. I am reminded of an incident that happened over 20 years ago now, when my neighbour, who was the head of a small school, let the abuse of a child go unchallenged. This was all over the news at the time and the head had to resign.

Abuse doesn't always happen by people of power. Sometimes, and more often than not, it occurs in the child's own home. The place where they should feel most safe.

The Safeguarding training modules help us to identify when we should speak out. They give guidance on who to contact and the steps that need to be taken. They identify the different types of abuse and you would be shocked to know that any one of us can be affected by these at some point in our lives. Wouldn't you like to know that someone in your circle notices when something is wrong?

As Parish Safeguarding Officer, it is my vision that the whole congregation, not just those in voluntary roles, did at least complete the basic safeguarding module so that we all can play a part in keeping everyone safe, not just in our Church but beyond too.

Jo Proctor

PRAYER FOR SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

Dear God,
Help us to be a church that:
Loves, welcomes, protects.
Listens, learns, serves.
Repents, restores, transforms.
Values, cares, believes.
God of Justice and compassion,
hear our prayer.
Help us, heal us, guide us, we pray.
In Jesus name. Amen.

SAFEGUARDING. IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

We'll be holding our Safeguarding Sunday service on:

**Sunday 16th November
10.00am
St Mary's Church
Burwell**

Find out more
safeguardingsunday.org

Safeguarding Sunday is a campaign by the charity Safeguarding Sunday. Registered in England and Wales No. 100449 and Scotland No. SC040578



Singers Wanted!

St Mary's church choir will be rehearsing soon for the Carols by Candlelight Service, which is held in St Mary's just before Christmas.

Rehearsals will be held in St Mary's from 7.30pm to 8.30pm on Friday evenings, starting in October, until the service on Sunday 21 December. The ability to read music and sing in parts is helpful, but not essential. For further information, please contact Kathy (kathy.ogilvie@gmail.com).



Burwell Branch News

Our meeting in September was a delightful tea and cake party in Kings Hotel, a destination we plan to return to, next time for a full English Tea with sandwiches and cakes galore! We had a good time and were joined by a few members of Newmarket Branch as an additional treat. By the time you read this we will also have enjoyed our October meeting, including a talk by Ian Richards on TWAM (Tools With A Mission), which we are looking forward to.

Our next fellowship lunch after Holy Communion in St Mary's will be on Wednesday 12th November and, as usual, it is open to all our friends in St Mary's. Please let me know if you would like to join us. Then on 20th November we have been invited to visit the Anglesey Branch in Lode for an Advent Service and talk by their new vicar. Again, all are welcome to join us. If you are not a member but interested in the work of the Mothers' Union here in the UK and around the world, and would like to know more, please contact me (or Hazel). We welcome men and women who support our aims, which relate to the Christian support of families and family life. *Philip Baker (21st October 2025)*

Bellringers News

Rachel scores her first Quarter Peal

Rachel Levitt, one of our Ring for the King ringers rang her first quarter peal on Sunday 26th October 2025. Ringing as quarter peal requires a lot of both physical and mental effort as it requires ringing your bell continuously for 45 minutes. Congratulations Rachel!

Dee Smith

Ely Diocesan Association

On Sunday, 26 October 2025 in 45m

Burwell, Cambridgeshire
St Mary the Blessed Virgin
Tenor: 13-0-7 in F#

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- 1 Gareth Davies
- 2 Dee F Smith (C)
- 3 Catherine J Simcock
- 4 Paul S Seaman
- 5 Brinley Wilkes
- 6 Rachel Levitt

6- First quarter peal at first attempt

Rung for St Mary's Gift Day



St Mary's Bellringers

If you are interested in finding out more and having a go feel free to pop in on a practice night on Mondays 7.30 – 9.00pm.



Environment Matters

As the days get shorter and the temperature drops, there's a great temptation to turn the heating on full and only go out in the car! Here are some alternative ideas for coping with the winter weather, most of which were first published by Kathy in Nov 2023.

Keep warm by going for a walk and enjoy the changing colours and seedheads in gardens and in the countryside and be enlivened by the fresh air and daylight. And then, as the evening draws in, remember to close your curtains at dusk to keep the heat in.

Take pleasure in feeling cosy, by wearing warm clothes, and using wraps and throws to keep you warm, together with hot water bottles and heated pads.

If you have a chimney, but don't use an open fire, you can draught proof your chimney with a commercially available bag, or make your own with a pillow case filled with scrunched up newspaper. Hang something from the bag/case so that you remember to remove it before lighting a fire. Cut out drafts under doors by making a 'sausage' draft excluder.

To raise your spirits, look out for good news stories about how people are trying to make a difference and taking care of God's creation. Be glad that what you do does make a difference, and share what you are doing with others to encourage each other. You can do that by sending me your favourite tips—maybe a tasty recipe for leftovers, or something you have repaired or re-purposed, or something you have done in the garden to encourage wildlife. Please send your contributions of just 2 or 3 sentences and perhaps a photo to pat@patchtcs.co.uk or give me a handwritten copy. We'll try to include a few tips every month to encourage us all.

Pat Chalmers



CentrePeace

As well as our usual range of books and jigsaws, we also offer greetings cards for all occasions. Our Christmas cards are now in stock!

If you would like to volunteer in CentrePeace, please contact me, Hazel Williams hwill66@icloud.com

Opening Times

Tuesday	10.00am—12.30pm
Wednesday	10.00am—12.30pm 2.00pm—4.00pm
Thursday	10.00am—12.30pm
Friday	10.00am—12.30pm
Saturday	10.00am—12.30pm

POEM - Minor Orders

by Christine Mills

At our Thanksgiving Service on 26th October, we thought of all the different people who each use their own special gifts to support our church community. This poem was read out and sums it up.

Brothers and sisters, quiet and steady,
The Minor Orders are always ready.
There's those that dust
and those that clean
And those that oil some old machine.
Some bake the cakes and serve the tea,
(Or coffee as the case may be).
Some knit, some sew,
some weed, some mow
And some on the roads are seen
Bringing round the magazine.

Some retrieve what's left behind,
(Having a very tidy mind)
They know where everything should be
And put things straight for you and me.
Some listen to your desperate tale
And take your place at the jumble sale.
Some will water flowers that fall
But, best, they don't forget to call
On others tied all day at home
Praying for some kind friend to come.

Of those who furnish the Minor Orders,
The deeds are oft untold.
A word of thanks
And back to the ranks
They go, with their hearts of gold.

What's on this month

		Sat 1	9.00	Village Green Prayers
8.30 10.00 3.00	Sunday 2nd November 4th before Advent Holy Communion at Reach Café Church at St Mary's Remembering Service at Burwell	Wed 5 Fri 7 Sat 8	10.30 10.00 9.00	Holy Communion at St Mary's Refresh Café at St Mary's Village Green Pray-ers
8.30 10.45 3.00	Sunday 9th November 3rd before Advent Holy Communion at Burwell Remembrance service at Reach (continues in church) Remembrance service at Burwell (2.30 at Memorial)	Wed 12 Fri 14 Sat 15	10.30 10.00 9.00	Holy Communion at St Mary's Refresh Café at St Mary's Village Green Pray-ers
10.00	Sunday 16th November 2nd before Advent Holy Communion at Burwell	Wed 19 Fri 21 Sat 22	10.30 10.00 9.00	Holy Communion at Reach (also at Ness Court) Refresh Café at St Mary's Village Green Pray-ers
8.30 10.00	Sunday 23rd November Sunday before Advent Holy Communion at Burwell Holy Communion at Burwell	Wed 26 Fri 28 Sat 29	10.30 10.00 9.00	Holy Communion at St Mary's Refresh Café at St Mary's Village Green Pray-ers
10.00 16.00	Sunday 30th November Advent Sunday Holy Communion at Burwell Messy Advent at St Mary's	Wed 3 Dec Fri 5 Sat 6	10.30 10.00 9.00	Holy Communion at St Mary's Refresh Café at St Mary's Village Green Pray-ers
8.30 10.00 16.30	Sunday 7th December Advent 1 Holy Communion at Reach Café Church at St Mary's Christingle at St Mary's			
	Please check the weekly news sheet for updates or our website. Refreshments are served after the 10.00am Sunday service and our Wednesday midweek service. Café Church is usually on first Sunday of month, beginning with refreshments, activities for all ages, then a short service. Most weeks, we aim to live stream the Sunday 10.00am service on Facebook, apart from Café Church or when there is a baptism. You don't need to have a Facebook account, and to make it easier to find, there is a direct link from our website to the Facebook page.			

WEEKLY GATHERINGS: We have a number of small groups meeting during the week, including:

Monday 7.30pm St Mary's Bellringers meet to practice most weeks (check pew sheet)

Friday 10.00am Refresh Café and lunch for babies, pre-school children and their grown-ups

Saturday 9.00am A Prayer Group meets at Village Green Coffee Shop

Please speak to Eleanor if you would be interested in joining a bible study group, or are wondering whether baptism and/or confirmation might be the next step for you on your faith journey.

**Pop-Up Pantry
at Burwell Day Centre
First Friday of month**

**November 7th
and December 5th
2.00 - 3.00pm**

***Check Facebook page
for updates***

**If you're struggling
to make ends meet,
you can pick up
a bag of groceries**

**No voucher needed.
Voluntary £2 contribution.**

**Pop-Up Pantry is working
towards reducing waste
and offers short life food
and more as is available**

Part of Burwell Food Support Group

Vicar

Rev'd Canon Dr Eleanor Williams

22 Isaacson Road 01638 741262

vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Associate Priest

Rev'd Paula Spalding 07849 936085

associatepriest@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Duty days Wednesday, Friday and Sunday)

Priests in retirement

Rev'd David King

Rev'd Dr Roger Williams

Licensed Lay Ministers

Jo Proctor

Kevin Powell

Churchwardens

Wendy Smith

01638 741888

Sue Reynolds

Churchwardens' Assistants

Stephen Martin

01638 742667

Caroline Smith

Administrator

Kathy Ogilvie

administrator@stmarysburwell.org.uk

We're also on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysburwell>

<https://www.facebook.com/messychurchburwell>

<https://www.facebook.com/centrepeaceburwell>

**Supporting St Mary's
and St Etheldreda's**

Could you support the work of our church by making a donation? There are various ways to do this.

At one of our services or events, you can give cash or a cheque, made payable to 'Burwell PCC' or use the card reader.

Alternatively, go to our website

www.stmarysburwell.org.uk/donate

for information about how to make a single or regular donation by credit or debit card. You can also download forms to set up a Standing Order or a Gift Aid declaration.

For more details, please see our website or speak to our Gift Aid Officer, Ian Richards or Email:

administrator@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Keeping in Touch

We send the weekly pew sheet and monthly Contact magazine by email. There are usually a few spare paper copies in church.

Both the pew sheet and Contact are also available to download from our website:

www.stmarysburwell.org.uk/about-us/newsletters/

**QR code for
church website
home page**



We welcome your contributions to Contact. Please do keep sending them!

Send to Pat Chalmers, Contact Editor at pat@patchtcs.co.uk

To join the circulation list please fill in a Keeping in Touch form available in our churches or on our website