

The Benefice of All Saints', Highbrook & St Margaret of Antioch, West Hoathly

Benefice Notices for The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) Sunday 28th January 2024

Worship & upcoming services

Wednesday 31st January 9.30am, St Margaret's – Holy Communion Friday 2nd February 5.30pm, St Margaret's - Evening Prayer (BCP)

Next Sunday (4th February)

Second Sunday before Lent

10.30am All Age Eucharist St Margaret's, West Hoathly

4.00pm Evensong (BCP) All Saints', Highbrook

Palm crosses from last year would now be gratefully received by Rev'd Heather to make ash for Ash Wednesday (14th February). Thanks!

Mission - joining in with God's work of love in the world.

Basket of Blessings - latest needs

Please keep supporting those in need by placing a few items in the Baskets of Blessings in the porches of St Margaret's Church or at Luctons. *Thank you so much.*

The **EG Foodbank** would currently particularly appreciate toothbrushes; toilet paper; tinned custard; spaghetti hoops; long grain rice (500g/1kg); kitchen roll; coffee (small/medium); spray surface cleaner.

Another way to support **FSW**... An afternoon concert, with refreshments, at St Swithun's Church, East Grinstead. Have you got your tickets yet?



Events – growing together as a community.

<u>TODAY!</u> 'St Margaret's Thank You' party - **Sunday 28**th **Jan. from 3-5pm** in West Hoathly Village Hall. All welcome. Car parking in the school playground.





Held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in Highbrook Village Hall from 10.30am -12.30pm.
All welcome!

Next one: 13th February (Shrove Tuesday) and pancakes will be served. Nom nom nom!

Stewardship - generous giving to and through God

All Saints' Church Cleaning: Many thanks to those who helped recently. Your time and efforts were greatly appreciated. The next cleaning party will be on Thursday 22nd February, from 11am until 1pm. Please bring dusters, cobweb brushes, gloves etc.

St Margaret's Churchyard Working Party: The first one of 2024 will be on Monday 5th February from 2.00 - 4.00pm. All welcome, so come along and join our merry band! Contact person: Derek <u>derekshurvell@gmail.com</u>

Caring for God's Creation: As many of you will know, St Margaret's was registered with Eco Church back in 2022. Eco Church is a project of A Rocha UK – a charity committed to mobilising Christians to care for nature. In the face of accelerating climate change and species loss, we need more than ever to take action to protect and care for nature today. We would like to offer monthly tips courtesy of A-Rocha to help us to be better stewards of this beautiful planet. So, this month's tip... Make 'enjoying nature' your priority. From bird watching to writing about or drawing something that inspires you in nature, growing your own fruit or vegetables, or exploring an area of outstanding natural beauty in the UK, be sure to fall in love with nature in a new way this coming year and allow it to lead your thoughts towards God our Creator. Further ideas can be found at arocha.org.uk/ideas-to-enjoy-nature/

Study - deepening our understanding of God.

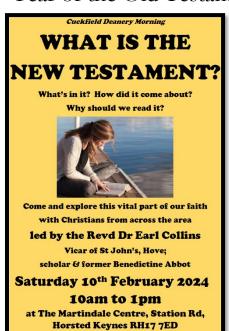
The Weekly Readings and Prayers at the St Margaret's Sunday Eucharist: If you would like to read these in advance, or re-read and reflect on them after the Eucharist, they can be downloaded from the website or emailed directly to you by Karen at brkb410@gmail.com



Proclaiming the Mystery of Faith 2023-2025: 'Proclaiming the Mystery of Faith' is the headline title

for the three-year programme that started in the diocese

in 2023. **2024 will be kept as a Year of the New Testament** (2023 was the Year of the Old Testament). These will prepare us for a special Year of Faith



in 2025 which marks both 1700 years of the Council of Nicaea and 950 years of Christian mission in the diocese based in Chichester.

ALL WELCOME to come along to this Cuckfield Deanery Event – see the poster (left) for more details. It will be informative, but not too highbrow, and promises to be a good event! The theme will be a good start to the year of the New Testament for us in the Deanery.

Prayer - spending time with God. Private prayers: Both of our churches

are open every day for private prayer, providing space and peace for some time with God. Thinking about praying but not quite sure where to start? We invite you to pick up some resources from St Margaret's Church or visit their website http://westhoathly.org.uk/prayer.



Evening Prayer on Fridays at 5.30pm in St Margaret's: You are invited to leave your prayers on the prayer cross (and they can be anonymous if you wish) or email them to Rev'd Heather. All prayers left each week are offered up to God at Evening Prayer.

Prayer for the week: God our creator, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief. Shine into the hearts of all your people and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

For our Prayers: Please remember to pray for yourself, for our communities, for our nation, and for the whole world.

The sick and housebound or in need of especial guidance: Debbie, Mary Cocking, Jenny Page, Bea Smith, and Shirley.

Those preparing for Baptism: Jacob Houliston

Those preparing for Marriage: Sally and Karl, Lucy and Aidan, Georgie and Ollie, Summer and Matt, Kate and Mike.

The recently departed, for Douglas Wragg, and for those whose anniversary of death falls this week, for Marjorie Marshall, Stanley Chitty and John Clements, and all who are grieving for them.

If you would like to add someone's name to the prayer list, please contact Karen Blackman at <u>brkb410@gmail.com</u>
If you are asking for someone else, <u>please make sure you have their permission to have their name added publicly.</u>

For details of how to join others online for prayer, worship, study, and community life, and for updates, please check our website:

www.allsaints-highbrook.org.uk & www.westhoathly.org.uk

And social media:

Facebook - @stmargaretswesthoathlyallsaintshighbrook
Twitter - @StMargarets_WH

YouTube - search for 'St Margarets West Hoathly All Saints Highbrook'

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: The Reverend Heather Wilkin

Email: <u>heather.wilkin78@gmail.com</u> Telephone: 01342 529047 Heather's rest day is usually Monday.

Churchwardens of St Margaret's:

Ann Hutchings (<u>churchwardenstmargarets@outlook.com</u> or 01342 810 742) or Tim Baker (<u>churchwardenstmargarets@outlook.com</u>)

Churchwardens of All Saints':

Adam Hackett (<u>adamjphackett@outlook.com</u>) or Tony Osborn (<u>tonyosborn191@gmail.com</u>) (01444 892 191)

Items for inclusion on the weekly Benefice Notice sheet: Please send to Karen Blackman (by 12noon Wednesday) at brkb410@gmail.com



