

SUNDAY 22 DECEMBER: ADVENT 4

COLLECT



Eternal God,
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,
so we wait for his coming in glory;
bring us through the birth pangs of this present age
to see, with her, our great salvation
in Jesus Christ our Lord.



Benington & Walkern Church Services

Sunday 22 December: Advent 4

St Mary's, Walkern	9.30am	Morning Prayer	Laurie Hawkins Maggie Hawkins
Benington Methodist Church	10.30am	Morning Prayer	Rev John Whittle
St Mary's, Walkern	6.00pm	Nine Lessons and Carols	Rev Mark Bailey

Next Sunday 29 December: Christmas 1

St Mary's, Walkern	10.00am	Benefice Communion Service at St John to Baptist, Cottered	Rev Mark Bailey
St Peter's, Benington	10.00am	Benefice Communion Service at St John to Baptist, Cottered	Rev Mark Bailey
Benington Methodist Church	No Service		

Walkern & Benington Food Bank: St Mary's church in Walkern on Wednesday mornings 9.30-10.30.

We are very grateful to everyone who gives so generously to our Foodbank. Your help is very much appreciated and still badly needed. Any of the following products are in demand.

Tea	Rice - microwaveable	Tinned vegetables
Coffee	Cleaning and laundry products	Tinned soup
Milk	Children's snacks and drinks	Tinned fruit
Snacks	Toilet rolls	Tinned custard & rice pudding
Sugar	Tinned fish/ meat	Baked beans
Biscuits	Tinned tomatoes	Toiletries
Pasta	Sanitary products	Pasta sauce
Cereal		Washing up liquid
Pies		

Sorry - but we can't take items that are past their 'use by' date.

Beverley Harlow on 07881588662 or bevharlow16@gmail.com.



Supported by a grant from East Herts Council

Benington & Walkern Christmas Services

St Peter's, Benington

Fri 20 Dec 6.30pm Christmas Carol Service

Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24 December

4.00pm Crib Service

St Mary's, Walkern

Sun 22 Dec 6.00pm Nine Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24 December

3.00pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Eucharist



CHRISTMAS DAY, Wednesday 25 December

Christmas Communion 9.30am St Lawrence, Ardeley

11.00 am St John the Baptist, Cottered

Lunch Club: 16 January

£5 per head, pay on the day. We'll be offering:

Homemade Sausage Roll/Sandwich:
Egg & Cress, Ham & Tomato, Tinned Salmon & Cucumber

Soups: TBA

Sign up at Coffee Morning or contact:

Heather Ferguson

01438 869 340 heatheriferguson@btinternet.com



For your diary: 2025 Lunch Club Dates:

February 20; March 20; April 17; May 15; June 19; July 17; August 14;
September 18; October 16; November 13; December 11.

Parish Share 2025

Each year, the Diocesan Synod agrees on a budget for the expenditure from the Diocesan Common Fund. The principal part of Diocesan Common Fund expenditure relates to the cost of providing clergy to minister in our parishes, their stipends and related costs, and their housing and training, both pre- and post-ordination. Money is also required to fund the work of the wider Church in our diocese, in providing support services and resources for parish ministries, including grants for parishes that are struggling, and also a contribution towards the costs of the National Church.

In 2025 our Benefice is asked to contribute the following to the Diocesan Common Fund

Rev Mark Bailey

	2025	(2024)
Ardeley	£17,706	(£17,032)
Benington	£18,632	(£18,142)
Cottered	£11,760	(£11,128)
Walkern	£27,427	(£26,006)
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	£75,525	(£72,308)



Shirley Davey

The funeral of Shirley Davey will take place on
Monday 23rd December at 1pm
in St Peter's Church, Benington.

The funeral will be followed by
refreshments in the village hall.

All welcome.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Named requests for prayer will be included on the notice sheet for at least one month. If you would like a name to be included for our intercessions, please contact the Parish Office ubbw@hotmail.co.uk or 07407 630159 or Maggie Hawkins (359500) for Walkern. (Names from the prayer board in St Mary's Church will also be included in the intercessions in that church.) Prayer is regularly offered for all the sick and needy in our community.

FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Those who live in our villages: This week we pray for all who live in Benington Road, Walkern and Old School Green, Benington.

We pray for those in our parishes or friends and family members who are housebound, unwell, receiving treatment or recovering from operations: Katie Tysome (Walkern), Liesa Jernigan (Walkern), Jane Pitts (Walkern), Joanne Mason (Walkern), Revd John Walker (Walkern) and Jennifer Newton (Benington).

We also remember those who have died and their families and friends: Shirley Davey (Benington) and Ray Savage (Walkern).

Wedding, Funerals and Baptisms

If you need to arrange a baptism, funeral or wedding, please contact our Vicar, Rev Mark Bailey on mdbailey066@gmail.com 01763 281052.

St Mary's churchwardens are also available to help:

Maggie Hawkins: margaret15a@hotmail.com (01438 359 500)

Beverley Harlow: bevharlow16@gmail.com (01438 225 365)

Benington Methodist Church: Steward: Peter Davies (01438 227293)

United Reformed Church, Walkern: Secretary: Mrs Olga Ginn (01438 861754)