



# The Benefice of St Mary's Bocking & Panfield Church



Sunday 25th December 2022  
Christmas Day  
Staying in Contact

The Very Revd Rod Reid - Incumbent (*usual rest day Monday*)

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or on Facebook, search for 'St Mary's Church, Bocking', or 'Panfield Church'

## Forthcoming Services

## Hymns

### **St Mary's, Bocking**

Sunday 25th December	10am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 28th December	*** No midweek service***	
Sunday 1st January	10am	Holy Communion

See  
*special*  
*booklet*

### **Panfield Church**

Sunday 25th (Christmas Day)	10.30am	Christmas Day worship
Tuesday 27th December	*** No Evening Prayer***	
Sunday 1st January	*** No service - all at St Mary's, Bocking***	

## Gospel Acclamation

*Glory to God in the highest  
heaven, and on earth peace,  
goodwill to all people*

## NOTICES

**Thank you** - Fr Rod would like to say a huge thank you to every single person who has taken part in our Advent & Christmas services/events over these last few weeks. Many people have given up their time and contributed to what has been a very successful festive period.

**Friends AGM** - A reminder that the Friends AGM will take place on Saturday 14th January at 4pm in the Church Hall, please save the date and we look forward to seeing you then.

**Happy Christmas** - Fr Rod and family would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas. Thank you for the cards and gifts which are very much appreciated by us all. I look forward to an exciting 2023.

**Junior Church** - We are looking forward to building on the recent successes of Junior Church, new dates for 2023 will follow soon, as well as some Messy Church events as well.

**A Warm Place this Winter** - Every Friday until March 10th we will be opening St Mary's Church Hall from 11.30am to 2pm as a warm place. Along with being a friendly space, there will be refreshments and a simple soup lunch, all of which will be free. Why not bring a friend and come along yourself.

**Going Green!** - In partnership with A Rocha, an environmental charity, we are hoping to work towards the various awards associated with being an Eco-Church. There will be opportunities for all to get involved as we progress, including for our younger ones. Watch this space for more details.

**Prayers** - We keep in our prayers Jean Goodwin, Sue, Jackie, Roger Hurford, Frances, Margaret, Peter, Jenifer, Jo, Bernard, June Blackwood, Gwen Nicholls and Margaret Everitt. We also remember our care homes Millard House, Fern Lodge, Aspen Grange, Larchwood, The New Deanery & St Mary's Court. In our Years Mind, we pray for the families of Irene Clayden, Quinton Riley, Mary Evans, Jonathon Pearson, Harold Moore, David Dixon, Ralph Fuller, Dorothy Johnson and Stephanie Collins.

## The Collect for Christmas Day

Almighty God,  
you have given us your only-begotten Son  
to take our nature upon him  
and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:  
grant that we, who have been born again  
and made your children by adoption and grace,  
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;  
through 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.

## ***Epistle Reading - Hebrews 1:1-4***

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

## ***Gospel Reading - John 1:1-14***

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

## Post Communion Prayer

God our Father,  
whose Word has come among us  
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:  
may the light of faith illumine our hearts  
and shine in our words and deeds;  
through him who is Christ the Lord. Amen.