



The United Benefice of Thornbury with Oldbury and Shepperdine

Priest in Charge: Joy Ludlow (01454 419 229)

Email: joyeludlow@outlook.com

Email: Thornburybenefice@outlook.com

Website: www.thornburybenefice.org

Church Office Tel: 01454 281900

St Mary's C of E VA School, Head teacher: Mrs S Gillman (01454 866 760)

Email: stmarysthornbury@sgmail.org.uk **Website:** www.stmarysthornbury.com

Sunday 1st October – TRINITY 17

Services are held within our churches and livestreamed via YouTube, see below.

Shepperdine is open as a place of pilgrimage and private prayer.

If you know or hear of anyone who is not online but needs pastoral support or contact do let clergy or wardens know. Wardens Tel: Jenny Ovens (01454 414727), Robin Gupta (01454 413650), Mike Dennett (01454 419082), Andrew Gazard (01454 412153) and Sandra Grey (01454 260316).

Please follow our '[Thornbury, Oldbury and Shepperdine United Benefice](#)' page on Facebook, and make friends with '[Thornbury Benefice](#).' If you wish to add to these pages, then send photos and notices to

Pat Duru: patduru50@yahoo.co.uk

Please use our Church [YouTube](#) page to watch future livestreamed and recorded services from St Mary's:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNkUbB6tYzHdbDPJFSkdaZA>

(*live streamed)

Readings: Ezekiel 18. 1-4, 25-end, Philippians 2.1-13, Matthew 21. 23-32

Thursday 28th September

7.30pm – Thornbury Arts Festival -The Big Gospel Choir at St Mary's Church

Friday 29th September

10.30 – Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Care

7.30pm – Choir Practice at St Mary's

Sunday 1st October

9.00am – Holy Communion at St Paul's

10.30am – *Holy Communion at St Mary's

4.00pm – Refresh! Harvest Festival and Baptism

Wednesday 4th October

10am – Holy Communion at St Paul's

Friday 6th October

7pm - Line Dancing at Naite Farm

Sunday 8th October

8.00am – Holy Communion at St Arilda's

10.15am – *All Age Harvest Service at St Mary's

12.30pm – Harvest Lunch at St Mary's Hall

6.00pm – Choral Evensong at St Mary's

**Please note: most services at St Mary's will be live streamed*

*Live streaming – If you are unable to make it to church, please do use our Church YouTube page for the live-streamed services which are filmed from St Mary's:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNkUbB6tYzHdbDPJFSkdaZA> so you can be part of our worship. The camera records the person speaking, with some wider shots of the church.

NOTICES AND EVENTS

Macmillan Coffee Morning - Friday 29th September at 10.30am in St Mary's Church, Castle Street, Thornbury. There will be tea, coffee, and cake. There will be the opportunity to bring and buy items and there will be some games to play.

Looking forward to a happy morning, with lots of proceeds to go towards the wonderful work carried out by Macmillan.

Jenny Ovens (01454 414727 or jennyovensbb@tiscali.co.uk)

Church Hall Gardens - The Church Hall Committee are meeting on Saturday 30 September from 10 am until 12 noon to weed and tidy up the gardens at the Church Hall. We are a very small Committee and would appreciate some help to carry out this task. Coffee/tea and biscuits will be provided and we would be grateful to anyone who can come along to help even if only for an hour. The more people the lighter the task and the better job we can do. Thank you, Church Hall Committee.

Treasurer's Role - We have not, so far, found the volunteer to take on this role and so we are looking at paying a company of accountants to carry out the bulk of the work. However, if anyone is able to help with the day to day local items, please do speak to Gill Young. We would very much appreciate this type of assistance.

Line Dance – Friday 6th October – The tickets are now available! Please speak to the following people at each church regarding tickets.

St Pauls – Gill Spiller, St Marys – Jenny Ovens, Oldbury/St Arilda's – Sandra Grey.
Tickets are £10 per adult, children are free and families are most welcome!

Harvest Service at St Mary's – 8th October – This service will be run by the Children's Team and will also start a little earlier at **10.15** for tea and toast before starting the service. All are welcome!

Harvest Lunch – Sunday 8th October - Harvest Lunch will be at St Mary's Hall. The sign-up sheets for attending are in the Churches. There is a separate sign-up sheet to notify us if you would like to contribute a seasonal dessert such as apple crumble. For Puddings please NO NUTS of any type to be used.

Recycle/Re-use - Available: 10 lever arch files. Mostly black, a couple grey and one white. Little used and in very good condition. Also some section dividers.
Call Robin on 01454 413650 or write randjgupta@gmail.com

Eco-Survey – Thank you to all who have completed the Eco Survey already. I have attached the Eco Survey again with this Newsletter, in both PDF and Word format. You may find the PDF easier to print out as a booklet and return to the boxes in Church or if you prefer use the word Doc version to complete on your computer and send back by email to the Church office - thornburybenefice@outlook.com. There are also paper copies available in St Mary's, St Paul's and St Arilda's to fill out and post in the box provided.

Mothers Union – Mothers Union Annual Service will be at St Mary's Church at 7.30pm on the 17th October.

Film Night - Saturday 21st October 7pm at St Mary's Church Hall. The next movie is 'The Good Life' starring Reese Witherspoon. A group of Sudanese refugees, given a chance to resettle in the U.S. arrives in Kansas City, Missouri, where their encounter with an employment agency counsellor forever changes all their lives. A heartwarming and uplifting movie.



Thornbury Picture House – On Friday 27th October 2023 Thornbury Picture house will present 'Utama' at their Event Cinema evening at Thornbury Methodist Church Upper Hall. Set in the arid Bolivian highlands, living a tranquil life an elderly

Quechua couple and their grandson must face, each in the own way, the effects of a changing environment, the importance of tradition, and the meaning of life itself. All tickets £5.00. Doors open at 7pm. Call 01454 412 272 to reserve your tickets. For more information visit www.thornburypicturehouse.org

If you are recently bereaved or need pastoral care-Please contact the clergy. We offer the opportunity to share your concerns. Or, if you or someone you know is in hospital, struggling in isolation or has cause for concern, please let the office know and we can pass on information as appropriate.

The Office- The office in St Mary's is open during the hours of 10am and 2pm, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Do please leave a message or send an email on other days and they will be dealt with as soon as possible. Please send any items for the newsletter to the office by 10am on the **Wednesday** of the week when you wish your item to appear. Send to: thornburybenefice@outlook.com. Thank you.

GOSPEL READING:

Matthew 21: 23-32

23 When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' 24 Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. 25 Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" 26 But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' 27 So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

28 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." 29 He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. 30 The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. 31 Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. 32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

KEY LINKS –Sunday 1st October September

Services at St Mary's Livestreamed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNkUbB6tYzHdbDPJFSkdaZA>

Diocesan Bulletin:

<https://mailchi.mp/09c83ca77b6d/the-weekly-bulletin-26-september-2023?e=56d437cfb1>

BENEFICE PAGE OF PRAYER

Those who have asked for our prayers at this time:

Gareth Mullinex, Phil Jones, Angela Swan, Hughan Welch, Joyce Barge, Val Ricketts, Hannah, Stuart Elliott, Gill and Chris Platt.

Those for whom we regularly pray: Matthew Watson, Joan Cole, Dorothy Long, Jean Thompson, Emma Stuart and Venetia Grant.

Recently departed: We pray for the families as they mourn the loss of their loved one at this time.

FOR THE ENVIRONMENT – Back in 2001 a group of Japanese scientists led by Kohei Oda, a professor at the Kyoto Institute of technology made a remarkable discovery in a rubbish dump. They found slimy films of bacteria 'chewing' through plastic bottles, toys and bric-a-brac. With this discovery their hope was to help mitigate the global-spanning environmental disaster of plastic pollution. This final leap from discovery to the lab to the real-world/industry has been elusive. But since 2021 a French company called Carbios has been using bacterial enzymes to process around 250kg of PET plastics waste every day working to further the recyclability of plastic.

FOR OUR WORLD – We pray for the family and communities in Croydon after the tragic stabbing of the young teenager on her way to school.

According to Met Police data, between August 2022 and 2023, Croydon had more stabbings than any other borough in London, with 211 "knife crime with injury" offences recorded. Croydon has the 10th highest rate out of London's boroughs.

FOR OUR COMMUNITY – We wish Matthew congratulations on his licensing and pray for God's richest blessing on this special occasion.