



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 15th October – TRINITY 19

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: Isaiah 25: 1-9, Philippians 4: 1-9, Matthew 22: 1-14

Saturday 14th October

10.00am – Dads and Kids group at St Mary's Hall

Sunday 15th October

9.00am – All Age Service at St Paul's

10.30am – *Holy Communion at St Mary's

2.00pm – 4.00pm - St Paul's Open Afternoon

6.00pm – Evening Prayer at St Arilda's

Tuesday 17th October

7.30pm – Mothers Union Annual Service at St Mary's
7.30pm until 9.00pm- Bell ringing practice
Wednesday 18th October
10.00am – Holy Communion with prayers for Mothers Union at St Mary's
Thursday 19th October
9.00am – Hopscotch at St Mary's
7.00pm – Film Night at St Mary's Church Hall
Friday 20th October
7.30pm – Choir Practice at St Mary's
Sunday 22nd October
9.00am – Holy Communion at St Paul's
10.30am – *Holy Communion at St Mary's
3.00pm – Muddy Praise at St Mary's
6.00pm – BCP Evensong at St Arilda'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

Mothers Union – Mothers Union Annual Service will be at St Mary's Church at 7.30pm on the 17th October. The speaker will be Lizzie Jones, our Benefice Life Events Co-ordinator and a trained Lay Funeral Minister.

St Paul's - will be open on the 3rd Sunday of each month 2:00pm – 4:00pm, starting this Sunday 15th October. If you would like to be on the rota to welcome visitors, please let the office know. Tea and Coffee will be on offer for all.

Bereavement Service – Will take place on Saturday 28th October at St Mary's Church at 3pm. All are welcome to attend what will be a short, reflective service with refreshments at the end.

All Souls – Thursday 2nd November 7pm St Mary's Church – Please do send in any names you would like to be read out during the service for All Souls on 2nd November. Please email Alice on thornburybenefice@outlook.com

Thornbury in Bloom - In early October I attended the Thornbury in Bloom presentation afternoon at the Swan and it was a great pleasure to receive the It's Your Neighbourhood Award Certificate from South West in Bloom. The level of the award, Outstanding, is the highest level that can be awarded and followed their visit to the Churchyard in July! Full recognition of all the work that has gone in to making the Churchyard a wonderful space for nature. Thank you to the Holy Mowers for their work in cutting the grass and keeping the churchyard a welcoming space for us all. The Town Council for providing the necessary mowers, strimming around the headstones and tombs and managing the annual cutting and taking away of the arisings from the Wildflower Meadow. Also I would like to thank the PCC for their support for all the work that goes on in the Churchyard. The local bird population would also like to say thank you to them for the bird food they find on the feeding station! Guy Rawlinson.

Eco-Survey – Thank you to all who have completed the Eco Survey already. There are only a few days left to complete the survey. Closes 15th October. All your help completing these is much appreciated. Paper copies available in St Mary's, St Paul's and St Arilda's to fill out and post in the box provided. You can also access and complete the survey by following this link: <https://forms.gle/JwNE34LmUjEbZTCh6>

Sustainable Thornbury – Walking the Biodiversity Ring

Sustainable Thornbury have planned some walks around sections of the Biodiversity Ring to explore the route in easy, short stages. All are welcome!

The series of walks will make use of the accessible streamside walk to link several sections of the route, allowing us to compare the state of nature inside and outside the Town. You can find more information (including a map) about our Biodiversity Ring [here](#).

1. Saturday 21st October: "On The Edge". Meet at 1.30 p.m. at The Anchor pub on Gloucester Road.

This walk entitled "On the Edge" is approximately 5km long and includes four stiles. It explores the positive and negative impacts of housing development on the countryside.

Please wear suitable footwear and clothing and bring your own refreshments. If you would like more information about either the walks please contact me via cats@sustainablethornbury.org

If you cannot make this walk don't worry, the second walk will be held on November 12th.

Film Night - Saturday 21st October 7pm at St Mary's Church Hall. The next movie is 'The Good Lie' 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

Save the date - Intercession and after service private prayer training morning either the 4th or 18th November – details to follow. Date confirmation to follow next week.

Thornbury Christmas Lights Association - Help needed for the Christmas lights. Volunteers are needed to help with: Design, create, service and hang over 100 Christmas lights. If you have a little time on a Sunday morning to help we would be very grateful. Meeting from 1st October – 19th November. Sunday Mornings from 8am- 12noon at the Wheatsheaf, 7 Chapel Street, Thornbury, BS35 2BJ. Contact thornburychristmaslights@gmail.com

Church Library Box - We have started a book borrowing scheme in both St Paul's and St Mary's. It's a form of library of "good reads", we felt many folk have inspirational books which they have enjoyed reading and might be willing to share with others, here is your opportunity!

The library boxes are in the Stafford Chapel at St Mary's and on a windowsill in St Pauls room.

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

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.

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.

KEY LINKS –Sunday 15th October

Services at St Mary's Livestreamed at:

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

Diocesan Bulletin:

<https://mailchi.mp/4b6300daa81f/the-weekly-bulletin-10-october-2023?e=56d437cfb1>

GOSPEL READING:

Matthew 22:1-14

22 Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ 'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the

attendants, "Bind his hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.'

BENEFICE PAGE OF PRAYER

Those who have asked for our prayers at this time:

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

Those for whom we regularly pray: Mick Spiller, Aileen Acton, Dilys Cockerell, Keith and Elaine Stanlake and Kevin Tweehuysen.

Recently departed: We pray for the families of Jeanette Davies, Edna Thornbury and Richard Cornock as they mourn the loss of their loved one at this time.

FOR THE ENVIRONMENT – The Natural History Museum highlights the environmental issues the world faces through its yearly wildlife photography competition. This year's winners are;



The Golden Horseshoe by Laurent Ballesta has been awarded this year's Grand Title prize. © Laurent Ballesta

Laurent Ballesta, Wildlife Photographer of the Year Titled The Golden Horseshoe. It is an ethereal picture of a shimmering golden horseshoe crab accompanied by a trio of golden trevallies. Documenting these extraordinary animals - barely changed for roughly 100 million years - as they scuttle through the warm waters, feeding, mating and even being home to other animals, Laurent has

shown them in an entirely new light.



Owls' Road House by Carmel Bechler is this year's Young Photographer of the Year 2023. © Carmel Bechler

Carmel Bechler from Israel, Young Photographer of the Year

The striking image of barn owls nesting in an abandoned roadside building. The blaze of neon lights passing the owls as they look out from their roost highlights the growing tension between humans and wildlife as we encroach on habitats.

See all entries and winners at <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/news.html>

FOR OUR WORLD – Deadly earthquake hit western Afghanistan on 7th October. The 6.3 magnitude earthquake has claimed an estimated 2,000 lives and left thousands without food and shelter. Even before this earthquake Afghanistan was in the middle of a hunger crisis, with one third of the population unsure of when they will have their next meal.

FOR OUR COMMUNITY – Huge Congratulations to Guy, the holy mowers and the town council team for their hard work in St Mary's Churchyard.

The United Benefice of Thornbury with Oldbury and Shepperdine consists of the ecclesiastical parish of Thornbury and the ecclesiastical parish of Oldbury-on-Severn with Shepperdine. The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Thornbury is registered charity no. 1137265.