



The United Benefice of Thornbury with Oldbury and Shepperdine

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Sunday 29th October – Last after Trinity

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: Psalm 90. 1-6, 13-17, 1 Thessalonians 2. 1-8, Matthew 22: 34-end

Friday 27th October

7.30pm – Choir Practice at St Mary's

Saturday 28th October

3.00pm - Bereavement Service at St Mary's

Sunday 29th October

8.00am– *Holy Communion at St Mary's

10.00am – Benefice Service – Tea and Toast at St Mary's Church Hall

(N.B: Tea, coffee and toast will be provided if anyone wants anything extra for brunch then please supply your own items)

Tuesday 31st October
7.30pm – Bell ringing practice
Wednesday 1st November
10.00am – Holy Communion at St Paul's
Thursday 2nd November
9.00am – Hopscotch at St Mary's
7.00pm – All Soul's Service at St Mary's
Sunday 5th November
9.00am – Holy Communion at St Paul's
10.30am – *Holy Communion at St Mary's
3.00pm – Refresh 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

Clocks change - Winter is coming, as the clocks go backwards one hour at 2am on Sunday 29 October. This will give us an extra hour in bed as we prepare for the colder months when the sun sets earlier and days get significantly shorter.

Bereavement Service – This weekend marks All Souls Weekend in the Church of England Calendar, where we remember those we have loved and lost. We will be marking this event with a service of remembrance on **Saturday 28th October at 3pm**. This service is open to all who are grieving, no matter how recent or long ago the bereavement. We will have prayers, hymns and space to reflect, followed by refreshments. Please do come and join us and take the time to remember, you will be very welcome.

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

Remembrance Service - We are expecting a large number of people at the Remembrance service being held at St Mary's on the 12th of November at 10.30 am. If you are able to help stewarding at this service we would be very grateful please let Mike, Robin or Jenny know if you are available to help.

Drivers – Please could you let the office know if you would be able to help others of the congregation with transportation to Sunday services or other various church events. Likewise, if you find yourself unable to attend church due to difficulty with transport, please do let us know and we can see if we are able to help in anyway.

Mothers' Union Subscriptions - A reminder that Mothers' Union subs are due in by 31st October. Thank you, Angela.

Volunteers Needed – We very much need some extra help with the refreshment rota for St Mary's. The rota currently has 6 pairs therefore if you could spare some extra time once every 2 months, we would be most grateful. Many hands make light work! If you would be able to donate some time to help, please contact the office on thornburybenefice@outlook.com.

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. 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 Bible Studies - As promised our online bible studies (on Zoom) will be resuming for the winter months from Monday 13th November. These will be an hour long (or thereabouts) from 8pm on Monday evenings in two halves from 13th Nov – 18th Dec and from 8th Jan – 5th Feb and will be covering some of the heroes and villains of Scripture. You do not need to make every session to be welcome in the group! Zoom details will be shared nearer the time.

Christian Books - Thornbury United Reformed Church will be selling new and second hand Christian books at the Church on the first Saturdays of each month. (4th November and 2nd December). 10am – 12.00. Books for seasons in the Christian year, personal devotions and reading, greeting cards and seasonal gifts as part of the church's weekly coffee morning.

Mariposa Trust and a service at Malmesbury Abbey – On the 11th November at 4pm, Malmesbury Abbey are hosting a special service for Baby loss remembrance and support. The service is for anyone who has either personally lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth or in early years, or who has been affected by family members' or friends' loss. Whether the loss was recent or 80 years ago, everyone is welcome to attend. The service is also welcome to any who are grieving the fact

that they haven't had children for any reason. Babies and children are also invited as this will be a family event. All are welcome. For more information, please visit <https://www.sayinggoodbye.org/>

Sustainable Thornbury – Walking the Biodiversity Ring

Sunday 12th November: "Eight Varieties of Wood". Meet at 1.30 p.m. in the Leisure Centre car park. This walk is also roughly 5km and is entitled "Eight Varieties of Wood". It explores the impact of ancient and modern tree planting.

Please wear suitable footwear and clothing and bring your own refreshments. If you would like more information about the walk please contact me via

cats@sustainablethornbury.org

Mid-week Holy Communion 15th November – Our sincere apologies, the Holy Communion on Wednesday 15th November is cancelled.

Coffee Morning in support of the Children's Society - All are invited to a Coffee Morning to raise money for the Children's Society. 10-noon on Thursday, 16th November, at 3, Hillcrest, Thornbury. Thank you!

Intercessor Refresher and Private Prayer Training - Intercessors and members of St Paul's team who have agreed to take private prayer times, have been invited to a refresher training morning on **Saturday 18th November 2023 at St Mary's Church**. The first session will start at 10am with intercessor refresher training; break at 11am for refreshments and then cover private prayer from 11.15am on, in the second session. If you would like to come to training, (either session or both sessions) even if you do not yet take intercessions or have not yet volunteered for private prayer cover, please do. Please let Alice know if you would like to attend. thornburybenefice@outlook.org or tel 01454 281900.

Save the date – 19th November – St Paul's will be open from 3pm – 5pm for boardgames. Please do come and join us, all are welcome!

Ukrainian Christmas Delivery – "The Store" in Thornbury is working with "From Bristol to Ukraine with Love" Charity to deliver essential items to those who have been left behind. The refugees living with hosts in Thornbury are writing notes and Christmas Cards to be included in our delivery. The minibus will leave for Ukraine in the middle of November. It will return with 10 refugees and those who have been injured. Your help to fill the minibus would be MUCH appreciated - items to be

delivered to "The Store" at The Methodist Hall on Mondays 10.30 - 12.30 or Friday's 10.00 - 12.00 (1st Friday in month 1.00p- 3.00p) or phone Jacquie Rinaldi for collection 01454 602150. Thank you for the donations so far!

Items needed: Dry and tinned food. Cold and flu medicine. First Aid kits. Wet wipes and toiletries. Hand and feet warmers. Portable generators, power stations, power banks. Mens underwear and socks. Fleeces and coats. Baby food and nappies. Incontinence pads. Sleeping bags and ground mats. Pet Food, pet carriers. Candles, torches, batteries. Water treatment tablets, mould treatment, plastic water containers. Walking boots.

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 at the back of the church at St Mary's and on a windowsill in St Paul's room.

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 will be 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 29th October

Services at St Mary's Livestreamed at:

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

Diocesan Bulletin:

<https://mailchi.mp/2f2fe20e3354/the-weekly-bulletin-24-october-2023?e=56d437cfb1>

GOSPEL READING:

Matthew 22 34-end.

The Greatest Commandment

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' ³⁷ He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.'" ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

The Question about David's Son

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴² 'What do you think of the Messiah?^[c] Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'The son of David.' ⁴³ He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit^[d] calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴ "The Lord said to my Lord,
'Sit at my right hand,

until I put your enemies under your feet'"?

⁴⁵ If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' ⁴⁶ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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, Verity Barker, Phil and Sheila Jones, Gill and Chris Platt.

Those for whom we regularly pray: Diana Jarvis, Matthew Watson and Phil Jones.

Recently departed: We pray for the families of Richard Cornock, Florence Rugman and Maureen Mann as they mourn the loss of their loved one at this time.

FOR THE ENVIRONMENT – Potato and cereal crops are likely to have been heavily damaged by the recent devastating floods across the UK, farmers have warned. Entire fields have been submerged in water after Storm Babet swept across the country, with crops ruined. Extreme weather events are becoming more likely and frequent due to climate breakdown, and have caused food shortages and price increases. An estimated 1,250 properties in England have been flooded while about 30,000 properties have needed flood protection, according to the Environment Agency. The National Farmers’ Union (NFU) said their members’ crops were rotting under water and called for the government to put in place a water strategy to prevent such losses.

FOR OUR WORLD – A middle-school teen has been named “America’s top young scientist” after developing a bar of soap that could be useful in the treatment of melanoma, a skin cancer that is diagnosed in about 100,000 people in the US each year and kills approximately 8,000.

Heman Bekele, a 14-year-old ninth grader from Annandale, Virginia, won the award after beating out nine other finalists. He pitched his idea for a soap – the “skin cancer treating soap” – made from compounds that could reactivate dendritic cells that guard human skin, enabling them to fight cancer cells. In a video to the 3M Young Scientist Challenge, Bekele said he believed “that young minds can make a positive impact on the world”.

FOR OUR COMMUNITY – The Thornbury Town Youth Council are seeking views on what interests and desires young people in the area have, to help them plan activities and resources in the future.

If you are 25 years old or younger, please could you take 10mins to fill out the survey below so that your views can be considered. No personal details will be collected in this form unless you choose to share them. For more information please contact Helen Harrison on info@thornburytowncouncil.gov.uk.

[Thornbury Town Council Youth Survey 2023 \(office.com\)](https://www.thornburytowncouncil.gov.uk/office.com)



“
... we pray without ceasing for justice, reconciliation, peace, and an end to hatred and war. We also pray for God to change the hearts of all leaders and decision-makers in our countries and around the world. For we are in dire need of hearts that love, show mercy, and are willing to live in unity with others—hearts that respect human dignity and choose life rather than death.
(++ Hosam E. Naoum, Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem)

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.