

## Notices:

- ❖ Every service is a "Family Service". Children of all ages are welcome and will have something to help us out with if they want to. Carrying the cross, the offering plate round, even giving us lovely sounds of baby chatter (it's not crying to us). There is a children's corner too.
- ❖ Baptism does not have to wait, kindly contact us to fix a date.

## In Our Community: News & Events.

**Afternoon tea** on the first Sunday every month, 3 - 5 pm at Albury Village Hall.

**Much Hadham Baby and Toddler Group** meets on **Tuesdays** in term time 9.30- 11.30 in Much Hadham Village Hall.

### **Christmas Choir**

As usual there will be a special enlarged choir for the Christmas Carol Service, which is in the evening of Sunday 15 December. Rehearsals will be on Saturdays 7 and 14 December, from 10 am to 11:30 am, at St Andrew's Church. Singers should try to attend at least two of these, if not all three.

## Benefice Contact Details

### For St Mary's Albury

Warden: Vanessa Ripsher  
Tel: 01279 771205

### For St Cecilia's Little Hadham

Warden: Karin Green  
Tel: 01279 771532

### For St Andrew's Much Hadham

Warden: Nick Brent  
Tel: 01279 842615

Warden: Mark Crane  
Tel: 07887 898282

### Our Interim Minister:

Revd. Ibitayo O. Wale-Falope (Tayo)  
Email: [revdtayo@falope.com](mailto:revdtayo@falope.com)

### Benefice Church Administration Assistant:

Fiona Forth  
Tel: 01279 842609  
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### Benefice Rectory & Office:

The Rectory, High Trees, Station Road,  
Much Hadham. SG10 6AX  
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Website: [www.riverashchurches.org.uk](http://www.riverashchurches.org.uk)  
Facebook: The River Ash Churches

**Sunday 1 December 2024**

**Advent**

**@ St Mary's Albury for  
The Benefice of Albury, Little Hadham  
& Much Hadham.  
We Are Living God's Love.**

*Our Church is for more than  
"hatched, matched, dispatched & jingle bells".  
It is our history, handed over to us by our  
grandparents for our grandchildren.  
Keep it alive. Attend & support your church.*

**The Bishop of St Albans, Rt Revd Alan Smith will lead us in worship today, along with Revd June Knight & Revd Tayo Wale-Falope.  
Please stay for tea / coffee & catching up after the service.**

### Looking Ahead: December

**Sunday 8 December 2024.**

**9:15 am:** Benefice Communion Service  
@ St Andrew's Much Hadham  
**6pm:** Carols Service @ St Cecilia's Little Hadham

**Saturday 14 December 2024. 3 pm**

A Journey to Jerusalem  
@ St Andrew's Much Hadham

**Sunday 15 December 2024.**

**9:15 am:** Benefice Communion Service  
@ St Cecilia's Little Hadham  
**6 pm:** Shared Carol Service  
@ St Andrew's Much Hadham

**Sunday 22 December 2024. 9:15 am.**

Family Carol Service  
@ St Mary's Albury

### Toy collection

We will be collecting toys for distribution to children who would otherwise go without Christmas presents. Please bring anything you would like to donate to any of the following services:

3 December in Albury  
8 December in Much Hadham  
15 December in Little Hadham

Alternatively, you can leave toys in St Andrew's Church at any time prior to 15 December. Please leave by the rail in the Lady Chapel. The toys need to be new or nearly new, please, and in good condition. Toys will be collected following each service.

**Please send your hymns for Advent  
and Christmas seasons.**

**Our Hymns for this service are:**

**Opening:** CP32. O Come O Come Emmanuel  
**Gradual:** CP30. Lift Up Your Heads  
**Offertory:** CP54. I Cannot Tell  
**Closing:** CP609. To God Be The Glory

**We Pray The Collect Together:**

**Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.**

**We Listen To God's Word**

**1 Thessalonians 3.9–End [Bible p 297 large print]**

<sup>9</sup> How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup> Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. <sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup> And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup> And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 25.1–9 [Bible p 730 large print]**

<sup>1</sup> To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies triumph over me.

<sup>2</sup> **Let none who look to you be put to shame but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.**

<sup>3</sup> Make me to know your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.

<sup>4</sup> **Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you have I hoped all the day long.**

<sup>5</sup> Remember, Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

<sup>6</sup> **Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions, but think on me in your goodness, O Lord, according to your steadfast love.**

<sup>7</sup> Gracious and upright is the Lord; therefore, shall he teach sinners in the way.

<sup>8</sup> **He will guide the humble in doing right and teach his way to the lowly.**

<sup>9</sup> All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

**as it was in the beginning is now and shall be forever. Amen.**

**The Holy Gospel Luke 21.25–36**

**[Bible p 124 large print]**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup> There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>27</sup> Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. <sup>29</sup> Then he told them a parable: Look at the fig tree and all the trees;

<sup>30</sup> as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place.

<sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>34</sup> Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup> like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Lord.**

**Post Communion Prayer.**

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Please Keep In Our Prayers:**



Stuart Sagers  
Peter Radley  
Malcolm Rosburgh

Margaret Radley  
David Stroud  
Joanne Luxford

**And the bereaved families of:**

Sue Carver, Michael Welbourne, Michael French

Please bring to our notices, those who need our prayers.