

## SERVICES IN NOVEMBER AT ST MARY'S

Sunday	5th	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
		10.00am	Holy Communion
		3.00pm	All Saints Service & Tea
Sunday	12th	<b>Remembrance Sunday</b>	
		8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
		10.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday	19th	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
		10.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday	26th	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
		10.00am	4th Sunday at 10 & Holy Baptism
		12 noon	Holy Baptism
		4.30pm	Choral Evensong

Every Week:- Service at 9.30am on Wednesday followed by Tea & Coffee  
Prayers at 5.00 - 5.30pm on Thursday  
9.30 - 10.00am and 5.00 - 6.00pm on Saturday

### **Sunday 19th November from 2.30 - 4.00pm.**

Café Stop at The Blenheim Centre, Tedder Close, Watton IP25 6HU.  
Crafts for all the family, free refreshments

**STORY BAGS** Mondays 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th November at St. Mary's  
from 9.30 to 10.30am for parents and pre school children during term time only

The Winner of the 100 Club October Draw was No. 43 Susan Marks

### IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES or NEED HELP PLEASE CONTACT

Church Office - from 9am to 1pm Tues, Wed, & Thurs.

TELEPHONE 01953 881252

e-mail - [wattonchurch@gmail.com](mailto:wattonchurch@gmail.com)

St Mary's Church, Church Road, Watton. IP25 6DQ

Rev'd Gerry Foster (Vicar)

01953 881439

Steve Bibby (churchwarden) 01953 885419

Gill Smith (churchwarden) 01953 483231

Visit our web site- [www.stmaryswatton.org](http://www.stmaryswatton.org)

Follow us on Twitter @StMarysWatton



## ST. MARY'S CHURCH, WATTON

### **Newsletter November 2017**

*St Mary's believes in Reaching out with the power and love  
of Jesus in a caring, family atmosphere*

#### **THURSDAY CHAT Thursday 2nd November 10am - 12 noon**

A social coffee morning At St Mary's, Watton, continuing on the 1st Thursday of  
each month. All are welcome.

#### **Thursday 2nd November 7.30pm**

#### **All Souls' Day Solemn Requiem Mass**

Sung by the Horatio Singers at St Mary's Church

#### **ALL SAINTS' TIDE SERVICE**

#### **Sunday 5th November at 3.00pm at St Mary's Church, Watton**

You are warmly invited to this special service when we remember our  
departed loved ones. All those attending will be invited to give the names of  
loved ones who they wish to be remembered, as they enter the church. These  
will be the names read out during the service.

After the service a special Tea will be served, and we very much hope that you  
will stay for tea and a time of fellowship

#### **COMMEMORATION OF COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES**

**SATURDAY 11th November at 12 noon Watton Cemetery, St Mary's**



#### **REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE**

**SUNDAY 12th November at 2.15pm**

**at The War Memorial, Thetford Road, Watton**

**followed by 3.00pm Service at Watton Methodist Church**



**Wednesdays at 7.00pm Alpha Course at The Well, Christian Centre, Ashill**  
A joint venture between the Fountain of Life, St Mary's Watton, St Nicholas' Ashill,  
S.S. Peter & Paul's Carbrooke, St John's Ovington & St George's Saham  
Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith.

## OPEN DOORS

Your prayers and support make an incredible difference to our persecuted brothers and sisters – and I'd like to tell you about just one of them, a 12 year old boy from Iraq called Noeh. In many ways he's just like any other boy his age – he loves football, and supports FC Barcelona!

But when Noeh was just nine, his family were forced to flee their home in Karamles, Iraq, to escape the self-proclaimed Islamic State (IS), because of their faith in Jesus. They fled to Erbil, where the support of people like you enabled Open Doors local partners to provide families from Karamles with food aid, trauma training and income generating projects.

Karamles has recently been liberated from IS, but when Noeh and his family went back, they found their home had been completely wrecked "I was very sad when I saw it for the first time," Noeh says.

The story is the same right across the region. Tens of thousands Christian families from Iraq, as well as Syria, have had their homes damaged, burned out or reduced to piles of rubble by Islamic extremists who are attempting to destroy the church and silence its witness.

Despite this, Noeh, his family and many from his community are determined to go back, Noeh says that God gives him the faith to return: "I feel the Holy Spirit inside me .... He tells me it is good to live in Karamles again."

Your prayers and support are helping Open Doors' local partners to keep hope alive for over 30,000 families like Noeh's in Iraq and Syria, providing emergency relief and trauma care, repairing homes and creating jobs. In Karamles, with support from Open Doors, the church has begun to repair 20 homes, with 30 more on the list. Noeh says, "We thank everyone who is helping us."

It is the aim of Open Doors that 1 million people should sign The Hope for the Middle East Petition.

We call upon our government and the United Nations to ensure that Christians and other minorities enjoy:  
The right to equal citizenship. Dignified living conditions.  
A prominent role in reconciling and rebuilding society.

There is a copy in church or you can sign on their website [www.opendoorsuk.org](http://www.opendoorsuk.org)

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOE BOX APPEAL

Please would anyone who has taken a shoe box to fill with gifts, which are then sent to underprivileged children in the UK and Europe, return them to church by Sunday 5th November. Please remember a postage donation of £3.00 per box is also requested. Many thanks to those who have taken part again this year.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Friday 17th November Watton Community Cinema 'Whisky Galore'**  
2.30pm Screening—1.30pm Café Opens

**Saturday 18th November Watton Community Cinema 'Whisky Galore'**  
7.15pm Screening—6.15pm Café Opens

**Saturday 25th November 10am - 12.30pm**  
**St Mary's Christmas Fayre at Watton Christian Community Centre**  
**Christmas Raffle, Lucky Dip for Children, Cake, Gifts and Craft Stalls**  
**Plus Seasonal Refreshments**

Please may we have 'Home Made Goods' to sell, Knitted, Crocheted, Sewn etc.

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH for SENIOR CITIZENS

Thursday 14th December at the Italian Job Café 12 noon for 12.30pm  
If you would like to join the regular monthly lunch attendees for this special lunch please contact Paul and Cristina Weatherill on 01953 884213  
Christmas Lunch £7 per head

Congratulations to, Steve & Janice Bibby, Margaret Enger and David Jones, the St Mary's Team who entered the annual Watton Society Quiz. Their total score was 101 points, and the winning team scored 128, so a very good effort and many thanks for representing us at a Community Event.

We are pleased to have been informed by The Ven. John Ashe, Archdeacon of Lynn who organises the annual Archdeacon's Charge that the monies have finally been collected in and St Mary's will benefit by £437.51. The same amount will go to the Air Ambulance. Well done to Team St Mary's and a big thank you to all who sponsored us. Margaret Cator et al

Margaret Cator received a surprise phone call on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October from America. It was lovely to hear the voice of Gail Johnson, an American lady, who had been an active member of St Mary's whilst she lived in the UK, serving as a teacher at Lakenheath Base School. Gail returned to the US three years ago, and says she still misses St Mary's. She knows it was the right time to return as she has been able and is helping her sister to look after their elderly and infirm mother. We chatted for about 20 minutes and I do have her email address if anyone would like to be in touch.

## ST MARY'S HOUSE GROUPS

If you would like information on the availability, place and times of House Groups, please contact Pauline Blackmore, the co-ordinator on 01953 883031.