



The Benefice of  
St Mary's Bocking &  
Panfield Church  
Sunday 1st October 2023  
Harvest Thanksgiving  
Staying in Contact



The Very Revd Rod Reid - Incumbent (*usual rest day Monday*)

Email: [bockingchurch@gmail.com](mailto:bockingchurch@gmail.com) Call: (01376) 324887 [www.stmarys-bocking.com](http://www.stmarys-bocking.com)  
or on Facebook, search for 'St Mary's Church, Bocking', or 'Panfield Church'

Forthcoming Services

Hymns

**St Mary's, Bocking**

Sunday 1st October	8am	Said Mass
	10am	Sung Mass for Harvest
Wednesday 4th October	9.30am	Said Mass
Sunday 8th October	8am	Said Mass
	10am	Sung Mass

See  
*special*  
*booklet*

**Panfield Church**

Sunday 1st October	11am	Morning Worship for Harvest
Tuesday 3rd October	5pm	Evening Prayer/Office Hour
Sunday 8th October	11am	Holy Communion

Gospel Acclamation

*The earth is filled with  
the gifts of the Lord, wine and oil  
and bread to strengthen us*

NOTICES

**Eco Church** - Well done St Mary's! After the hard work of the last year, we have been awarded an Eco Church, Bronze Certificate! This is a brilliant and deserved reward, but the work goes on!

**Bring and Buy** - Mark your diaries, for on Sunday October 15th, following the 10am service at St Mary's, there will be a Bring and Buy sale in the Church Hall, more details to follow soon.

**Funerals** - At St Mary's we were very saddened to hear of the death of Peter Smith, a bellringer here for many years, details of his funeral at St Mary's will follow soon. In Panfield, we wanted to let you know that Chris Halls' funeral will be Wed 25th October at 11am in Panfield Church. May they rest in peace.

**Stepping Stones** - The next series of Stepping Stone sessions will start on **Tuesday 3rd October** from **6.30 to 7.30pm** in the church, please note the new date and time! A further three sessions will follow weekly, on October 10th, 17th and 24th. The theme across this course will be the relationship between church and the community, looking at the issues we face today, and the challenges they present.

**Confirmation** - We are thrilled to be hosting a Confirmation Service at St Mary's on Monday October 30th at 7.30pm, and will welcome Bishop Roger to lead the service. Have you thought about being confirmed? Want to know more? Then please speak to Fr Rod in the coming few weeks. It isn't often that candidates are confirmed in their own church, so please don't miss this opportunity.

**Friendly Friday Cafe** - There is just less than one week to go now until the café sessions are back. They will re-start **THIS FRIDAY** October 6th.

**Local wildlife walk** - On **Sunday October 15th** there will be a wildlife walk starting at, and returning to St Mary's. We are meeting by the Church Hall at 11.45am. Jacqui Hogger, one of our Eco Church leaders will be guiding us. This is open to anyone, either as an individual, or with family and friends.

**Quarterly Newsletter** - The Autumn Issue is here and it would be fantastic to get copies out across the Parish. If you are able to deliver to your road or other local roads please take enough to do so and sign the sheet at the back so that we know what road/roads are covered. Thank you.

**MacMillan Coffee Morning** - Panfield Village Hall, Saturday Oct 7th from 10.30am onwards. Homemade cakes for sale. As well as a tombola, games, bric-a-brac and crafts. Please support this worthwhile cause, you never know when you might need this.

**Prayers** - We keep in our prayers Ron Cole, Peter Hopkins, Jean Goodwin, Sue, Roger, Frances, Jo Meech, Tony & Ann and Margaret Everitt. We remember our care homes Millard House, Fern Lodge, Aspen Grange, Larchwood, The New Deanery & St Mary's Court. In our Years Mind, we pray for the families of John Page, Marjorie Lake, Cressy Adams, Joyce Brown, Mary Williams, Brian Comfort, Neville Sibley and Teresa Farrow.

### The Collect for Harvest Sunday

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness  
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:  
grant that we may use them to your glory,  
for the relief of those in need,  
and for our own well-being:  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.

### **Epistle Reading - James 5:7-9**

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors.'

### **Gospel Reading - John 4:31-38**

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

### Post Communion Prayer

Lord of the harvest,  
with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation  
and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom:  
by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us  
and make us generous and wise stewards  
of the good things we enjoy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.