

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday 8.00am

Short service of Holy Communion

Sunday 10.00am

Main service of Holy Communion followed by tea/coffee

Wednesday 9.30am

Short service of Holy Communion

Church open everyday from 9.00am - 4.00pm

Contact Revd Rod for more information on baptisms and christenings

FORTHCOMING EVENT FOR 2023

A weekend of activities entitled 'Out of this World'.

This space themed weekend will run from **March 17th to 19th 2023**.

In partnership with the North Essex Astronomical Society and other local groups we plan to run star-gazing sessions, host an Indoor Planetarium, as well as offer craft activities and much, much more. Save the date and don't miss it!



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH BOCKING PARISH NEWSLETTER

No 1
WINTER ISSUE

What to look out for in this issue...

Gift Day & May Day Fair - A thank you!

Fr Rod's London Marathon fundraising

Christmas Tree Festival & our Christmas Services

Open House - A warm place this winter

plus a look at an exciting event for 2023



DECEMBER 2022 - OUR FIRST ISSUE!

Welcome to our brand new Quarterly Newsletter! We hope you like it! Nowadays, there is so much information on the internet, (via websites and social media) that we can forget the value of traditional methods of sharing news too, like this Newsletter.

We hope that through each issue we can let you know about the events and special services at the church, as well as all the other activities that we run.

We would love your feedback and ideas of what we could include in future issues. Contact details are on the back page.

www.stmarys-bocking.com

NEWS

THANK YOU!

Earlier in the year we held our very first Gift Day, an opportunity to raise much needed funds to primarily support the costs of looking after our beautiful building. Over £6000 was donated with a further £1000 raised through claiming gift aid via HMRC.



LONDON MARATHON

Our very own Fr Rod would like to say a huge thank you to all those who recently sponsored him as he ran the London Marathon. Raising funds for Helen Rollason Cancer Charity, the total so far, including Gift Aid is nearly £7,500. In addition, we are proud to further support the charity by hosting the 'Lights of Celebration' service on December 15th.

HERITAGE WEEKEND

In September we took part in the national Heritage Open day scheme. We were thrilled to welcome groups of people throughout the day. It was a chance to share the history of the church, and to give an insight into all that we do. For many it was their first visit to the church. We plan to take part again in 2023.



WARM PLACE

In response to the cost of living crisis we are opening St Mary's Church Hall every Friday from 11.30am to 2pm. We are calling this 'Open House, a warm place this Winter'. Each week there will be refreshments and a free soup lunch. Everyone is welcome, whether you are wanting to be somewhere warm, needing a good meal, wanting some company, or just needing a catch up with friends. The first session will be on December 2nd and we plan to run until March 10th 2023.

You are warmly invited to join us this Christmas...

Advent and Christmas Services 2022



Sunday 4th December

Carols round the Christmas Tree - 4pm
with the switch on of the lights on our huge community Christmas Tree.

Christmas Tree Festival

Sat 10th December- Christmas Market – 10.30am to 3pm *More details below*
Sun 11th - Tues 13th Dec – Church Open

Thursday 15th December

Helen Rollason Cancer Charity
Lights of Celebration 7.30pm

Christmas Tree Festival 2022

Over 30 decorated trees will fill the church, each one created by a local organisation, group or business. Come and share in the Christmas joy.

Saturday 10th December is our Christmas Market with plenty of stalls, refreshments, tombola, raffle, and local choirs performing including Vocal Reflections.

Sunday 18th December

Carols by Candlelight – 6pm
Traditional service of carols & readings

Wednesday 21st December

Messy Christmas - 11 am to 1pm
Enjoy some craft activities aimed at children aged 11 and under.
Refreshments available. Free event

Saturday 24th - Christmas Eve

Christingle Service – 5pm
raising funds for the Childrens' Society
Midnight Mass – 11.30pm

Sunday 25th - Christmas Day

Christmas Day Communion – 10am

