



The Theydon Parishes

10th January 2021

Baptism of Christ



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

BENEFICE VISION

Core values: Faith, love and community.

We seek to live these value by welcoming all, caring and teaching so that we may change lives through sharing the love of God in Christ.

**THEYDON BOIS ST MARY'S
THEYDON GARNON ALL SAINTS
STAPLEFORD TAWNEY ST MARY'S
THEYDON MOUNT ST MICHAEL'S**

A short online service available on Sunday - it can be found on the Benefice website (www.theydonparishes.org/recorded-services/).

Although the church buildings are closed, the church is not. Resources for prayer and worship can be found on the Benefice website; to request paper copies please contact the Vicar.

Today's readings: Genesis 1.1-5; Acts 19.1-7; Mark 1.4-11

THEYDON PARISHES ONLINE

Sunday Sung Evensong at 6.00pm on Zoom:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75478007374?pwd=N210dTdGUUN4ZGRJS3RzazFVZU45dz09>

Meeting ID: 754 7800 7374 Passcode: yi7cU7

Wednesday morning service at 10.00am on Zoom:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74592812873?pwd=Uk5YM2tmTm1FbWRnL01DVENmNksxdz09>

Meeting ID: 745 9281 2873 Passcode: 64de5M

Collect for Baptism of Christ

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

GENERAL NOTICES

JANUARY 2021 - AN UPDATE FROM THE VICAR

The beginning of 2021 is both a time of hope and challenge to us all. In the last few Sundays, in common with Christian communities around the world, we have heard again the message of Christmas, that the very Word of God, Jesus Christ, came to live in the world in the fullness of humanity and experienced in his earthly life its joys and its sorrow.

Looking ahead, as a nation, we face ongoing restrictions on our national life, in an effort to protect as many as possible from COVID-19. The most recent restrictions still allow for public worship to take place in England, but the Churchwardens of the Benefice and I are acutely aware that the local area has one of the highest number of cases per 100,000 of the population in the country and our local health service is under significant pressure. Our Diocese has strongly advised that all services should move online (except for funerals) and as a result, online services will once again become the main way in which the churches of the Theydon Parishes gather in worship until mid February.

Every Sunday, a recorded act of worship will be posted at www.theydonparishes.org/recorded-services and there will be a weekly Sunday evening service at 6.00pm and Wednesday Morning Service at 10.00am on Zoom. Groups for children and young people will also continue online and details will be circulated to parents and carers. Our church buildings will be open for private prayer at the same times as was the case in November. There may also be occasional services of Holy Communion on festival days, and details of these will be posted on the Benefice website and circulated in the weekly notice sheet emails.

As the Bishop of London, who chairs the Church of England COVID recovery group has written "I would urge everyone in our churches to pray for those on the front line in our public services - the NHS and those working in social care, for schools and many others on whom we depend; and for parents and carers of children at this anxious and stressful time. There is hope. The vaccination programme is underway and, as Christians, we have a deeper hope in God that comforts us beyond fear itself. As we have been remembering this Christmas Season, even in the midst of our darkest fears, that hope brings light."

PRIVATE PRAYER IN CHURCH BUILDINGS

St Mary's ST remains open for private prayer on Wednesdays and Sundays from 10am to sunset.

GROUPS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Until further notice groups for children and young people are not able to meet in person and continue online. To sign up for a Sunday online groups at 4.00pm, please visit <https://form.jotform.com/redballoonfamily/outreachreg> and select "Balloonstream". A midweek group "Theydon Narda" for older primary school age children continues on Thursdays at 4.00pm. To sign up for this group, please contact Emily Jack by email ejack@rbf.org.uk. Junior choir practices continue on Monday evenings on Zoom. To find out more, please contact Hugh Meteyard by email: hugh.meteyard@btinternet.com

FUNERAL SERVICES IN THE THEYDON PARISHES

Due to the current restrictions, attendance at funeral services held in our church buildings is limited to 30 people. As a result, please do not attend a funeral service unless you have been asked to do so by the family of the deceased.

LIFE EVENTS IN THE THEYDON PARISHES

At present under current restrictions, weddings can only take place with 6 people in attendance. At present, baptisms may only be held in exceptional circumstances. To make a booking for later in the year please contact Sarah Bowen in the Benefice office in the first instance. Weddings can take place on any day of the week but there is limited availability for weekend weddings in July and August 2021.

HARLOW SOCIAL SERVICES

Harlow Social Services would like to extend their thanks for all of the toys and gifts that were received for families in need following the collection in all benefice churches before Christmas.

EPPING FOREST REUSE

The charity Epping Forest ReUse wants to recruit additional trustees. We are looking for people with experience in the areas of governance, financial control, risk management, fund raising, public relations and marketing. In particular, we need someone who can work alongside our Treasurer in order to succeed him during 2021. The charity provides furniture and household goods to people in need but its showrooms in normal times are open to all. For the trustee's information pack please contact janet@eppingreuse.org.uk

EPPING FOREST FOOD BANK

Epping Forest food bank is still open and seeking donations of food and finances - please see <https://eppingforest.foodbank.org.uk/> to find out more. There is a box on the Vicarage step for donations which will be taken down to the collection point on a weekly basis. Our clergy team are able to make referrals to the foodbank for those in need of emergency food support.

NEXT SUNDAY'S MORNING READINGS

1 Samuel 3.1-10; Revelation 5.1-10; John 1.43-end

ITEMS FOR NEXT WEEK'S NOTICE SHEET

Send by 9.00am Tuesday to Sarah Bowen at notices@theydonparishes.org

CONTACTS	
Vicar	Rev John Fry The Vicarage, 2 Piercing Hill, Theydon Bois CM16 7JN 01992 812744, vicar@theydonparishes.org  @revjefry
Associate Priest	Rev Carol Newnham (Benefice days: Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday) Theydon Garnon Vicarage, Fiddlers Hamlet, Epping CM16 7PQ, 01992 676818, associate@theydonparishes.org
Benefice Administrator	Sarah Bowen (Tuesday 9.00am-2.00pm, Wednesday 9.00am-12.30pm, Thursday 11.00am-2.00pm) 01992 814725 office@theydonparishes.org
Churchwardens	
Theydon Bois	Mary Gill: 01992 813253, mary200g@aol.com Michael Palmer: 01992 815034, mike_palmer17@btinternet.com
Theydon Garnon	John Chaplin: 01992 813942, charlie-chaps@hotmail.co.uk Hilary Mosley: 01992 814616, hilary.mosley@gmail.com
Theydon Mount	Jo Shephard: jo.shephard30@gmail.com
Stapleford Tawney	Margaret Dennis: margaretdennis@btinternet.com
Booking Enquiries	
St Mary's Church Hall	Ross Penman: 07939 095545, rtpenman@me.com Eleanor Isaac: Eleanor.b.isaac@gmail.com (for regular bookings)
All Saints Gate-House	Kay Oakes-Ash: 01992 575828

www.theydonparishes.org