

Cotswold Edge

October 2025

The Church Newsletter for
Marshfield, Cold Ashton,
Tormarton and West Littleton

Benefice Contacts

For information about baptisms, weddings, funerals or pastoral visits please contact **the Vicar**, The Rev Canon Sally Wheeler

The Vicarage, Church Lane, Marshfield, SN14 8NT Tel: 01225 892180

Parish Administrator: Rachel O'Mahony: Monday and Thursday mornings

Rev. Sally: Email: marshfield.benefice@gmail.com

Curate: Rev Sharon Roberts 07903 011030 s.roberts5454@outlook.com

Lay Ministers	Aurea Hart (LLM)	01225 891453
	Mike Strathdee (LLM)	01225 891001
	Andrew Gammie	01225 892392
Safeguarding Officer	Linda Lamb	llsafeguarding@gmail.com

St Mary the Virgin Church, Marshfield

Churchwardens	Eric Pullin	01225 891351
	Paul White	01225 891765
PCC Secretary	Rachel O'Mahony	marshfield.benefice@gmail.com
PCC Treasurer	Kate Brain	01225 892582
Gift Aid/Giving Officer	Peter Brunyate	01225 891508
Bell Tower Captain	Anthony Chiddy	07563 961649
Church Bookings	marshfield.benefice@gmail.com	

Holy Trinity Church, Cold Ashton

Churchwarden	Monica Green	01225 891669
PCC Secretary	Scarlett Wyatt	07432 050503
PCC Treasurer	Georgina Perceval-Maxwell	07771 776290

St Mary Magdalene Church, Tormarton

Churchwardens	Richard Lawrence	01454 218730
	Stewart Waters	01454 218393
PCC Secretary	Vacant	
PCC Treasurer	Janet Wells	01454 218549

St James' Church, West Littleton

Churchwardens	David Adams	01225 891100
	Beccy Derry-Evans	
PCC Treasurer	Michael Horgan	01225 891486

Marshfield Chapel	David Spence	01225 891115
Cotswold Edge Items:	Peter Woodward	07973 157587
Tormarton Newsletter:	Janet Wells	01454 218549

Benefice website www.marshfieldchurch.org

To put items on website please contact Richard Shreeve 01225 891169

Tormarton www.tormarton.org West Littleton www.stjamesmonuments.org

Bristol Diocese www.bristol.anglican.org/

Church of England www.churchofengland.org

For information on Christian Faith: www.christianity.org.uk

Cotswold Edge Ministry Team Letter

The Light of Christ

As I think about clocks going back and the shortening hours of daylight, I cast my mind back to the long summer days. I had many days when I got up early and went out into the garden enjoying the warm sunshine and peace of the early morning.

On one particular morning as I sat there enjoying the garden, I realised with growing surprise that I could see everything clearly - without my glasses. It lasted for a few minutes.

Light; without it we cannot see or indeed flourish. In God's first words in Genesis, he spoke light into being.

Jesus broadened our understanding of light declaring that he is the light of the world. Light both physical and spiritual.

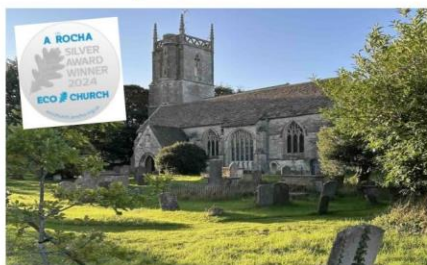
My prayer is that as the hours of daylight shorten may the light of Christ grow in our lives not just for us but so that others may see also.

Mike Strathdee

Autumn Churchyard Working Party at St Mary's Church, Marshfield

9am-12noon

Saturday 11th October 2025



***Could you give a couple of hours of your time to
help us tidy up our award-winning churchyard?***

*There are lots of large and small tasks; cutting back,
mowing, weeding, bulb planting, shredding, composting...*

*Bring gloves, secateurs, loppers, trowels. To help us
organise the day, please email if you plan to come along.*

Thank you in anticipation, Peter Woodward & Sally Kerr

Email: peterwoodward@questnet.co.uk or sally@kerr105.com

FROM THE BENEFICE REGISTERS

Wedding Congratulations: *Hector de-Courcy Wheeler and Chrissy Florman* 6 September, St Mary's Marshfield

Baptisms:

Ellie Whitehead 7 September in St Mary's Marshfield

Sienna Squires 27 September in St James West Littleton

Funerals:

Mervyn William Pierce 17 September in St Mary's Marshfield

Burial of Ashes; *Claire Hughes* 10 September in Marshfield Churchyard Garden of Remembrance

Pam Mills 23 September in Marshfield Churchyard Garden of Remembrance

Benefice Events

Village Prayer Group Tuesday mornings, 10.00 to 10.30am, at the Chapel (except the 2nd Tuesday of the month, when there is Village Communion instead see below!)

Village Midweek Communion for Church and Chapel together: 10am Tuesday 14 October in the Chapel

Breakfast Church – 1st and now 3rd Sundays: This is our popular service for all ages and works well for those who have sport or other commitments later in the morning. We meet from **8.30am-9.15am** in Marshfield Church for a 'thought for the day', Bible reading, activity and songs. Please join us for this, along with an amazing breakfast to fuel you for the day ahead!

Pet and Harvest Celebration at Church@4pm - on Sunday 12 Oct in Cold Ashton Church, this month we will be celebrating Harvest, and inviting you to bring along your pets or a photo/drawing of them if you don't think they'll behave!!

Kids Club - held in Marshfield during the 10.30am Sunday service on 12 October. Creche & toddler toys for young children and an activity table for older children are available weekly.

Holy Habits Sermon Series on 2nd Sundays in St Mary's

Marshfield. Holy Habits are about following Jesus today. Inspired by Luke's model of church found in Acts 2:42-47, we are looking at ten habits that encourage a spiritual way of life and can resource us to live well as individuals and together. We explore a different holy habit each month: in September we looked at Eating Together as a Habit and in October we will be looking at communion, the Breaking of Bread Habit.



Ride & Stride for Glos Historic Churches: *Thank you* from the Revds. Sally and Sharon for all your support with Ride and Stride. Wherever you start from, the

countryside between our historic churches is absolutely beautiful and each church is unique – well worth a visit if you haven't been to any of them yet. We surpassed our target. Gloucester Historic Churches Trust give grants to churches like ours in this Benefice to help with maintenance so this was our chance to raise some funds for them!

Save the date! Sally's Big Party!

Plans are underway for a party to celebrate all that Sally has done in and for our four village communities over her time here as our

Incumbent. The party will be on **Friday 24**

October in Marshfield Community Centre at 7pm. Numbers will need to be limited and so

further details, together with how to sign up to share in this, will be available in each of our churches. Don't forget to also put **Sunday 26 October** at 10.30am in your diary for a very special final service with Sally and Bob in Marshfield Church. There will also be celebratory refreshments after the service.



Personal note from Sally: Thank you for all the cards, support and prayers after the recent death of my father, it was so appreciated.

N.B. from Sally: I will write a 'goodbye' for the November issue rather than now. I cannot believe how fast the weeks are going but I am determined to savour every remaining moment in ministry here, and in being part of these communities – so business as usual until the end of the month!



Earth works at Marshfield Church:

National Grid has upgraded the electricity supply to ensure our heating won't trip in future when we put everything on in a cold snap. We can never fully heat such large buildings as our beautiful historic churches, but the wise amongst you know to wrap up warm on the chilliest of days. The welcome couldn't be warmer though.

We continue to do our best to work in harmony with creation and cause as little damage as possible to the environment and others in all aspects of church life.

Benefice Prayer Diary October 2025

Marshfield with Cold Ashton and Tormarton with West Littleton

A Benefice Prayer

Dear Lord, we bring before you the life of the churches in our Benefice. Watch over all of those who live in the Parishes and give succour to all those who are sick or in need; Lord, help us to grow in faith, in fellowship and service.

Week 1: 1-5 October. Please pray for:

- The parish of Tormarton its PCC, and churchwardens.
- The Royal Family and those in positions of Authority in our nation.
- The Farming and food supplier communities at this Harvest time.
- All those suffering ill health or in need.

Week 2: 6-12 October. Please pray for:

- The parish of West Littleton, its PCC, and churchwardens.
- Our School, its children, staff and parents
- Our Mission partner, Katia Rocks and family in Brazil

Week 3: 13-19 October. Please pray for:

- The parish of Cold Ashton, its PCC and churchwarden.
- The people of all warring nations; may they see an end to conflict
- Bishop Neil and all clergy and staff in the Bristol Diocese

Week 4: 20-26 October. Please pray for:

- The Benefice Ministry Team - Rev Sally Wheeler, Rev Sharon Roberts, Andrew Gammie, Aurea Hart and Mike Strathdee, and their ministry to us.
- **We pray especially for Sally as she retires from Ministry. Pray for her and her family that she may enjoy her retirement in the years to come.**
- Pastor David Spence at the Chapel and his congregation

Week 5: 27-31 October:

- In this Autumn season, pray for The Lord's Creation; help us to look after our natural world for the common good and for future generations.
- The Parish of Marshfield, its PCC and Churchwardens.

Please Note: If you would like a prayer to be included in the prayers at our Tuesday prayer group or in this Prayer Diary, contact Paul White, 138 High Street, Marshfield 0789 4429811 paulbswhite@outlook.com

Benefice Services for October 2025

Sunday 5 Oct *Trinity 16*

8.30am	Breakfast Church	St Mary's Marshfield	Andrew Gammie
9.00am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity Cold Ashton	Rev S Wheeler
10.30am	Morning Worship	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev S Roberts
11.00am	Harvest Festival	St Mary's Tormarton	Rev S Wheeler
6.00pm	Evensong	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler

Sunday 12 Oct *Trinity 17*

9.00am	Holy Communion	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler
10.30am	Morning Worship	St Mary's Marshfield	Mike Stratthdee
11.30am	Harvest Festival	St James West Littleton	Rev S Wheeler
4.00pm	Harvest & Pet Service	Holy Trinity Cold Ashton	Rev S Roberts

Sunday 19 Oct *Trinity 18*

8.30am	Breakfast Church	St Mary's Marshfield	Mike Stratthdee
9.00am	Holy Communion	St Mary's Tormarton	Rev S Wheeler
10.30am	Morning Worship	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev S Roberts
6:00pm	BCP Communion	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler

Sunday 26 Oct *Last after Trinity*

10.30am	Benefice Communion	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler
6:00pm	Evensong	St Mary's Marshfield	Congregation

(10.30am services at St Mary's Marshfield can be joined on Zoom at marshfieldchurch.org)

Chapel Programme October 2025

Sun 05 10.30am **Jim Davis** (*John 6:25-40*)

6.00pm **David Spence** (*James 5:13-20*)

Sun 12 10.30am **Harvest Festival at Chapel (David Spence)**

6.00pm **Songs of Praise at Chapel**

Sun 19 10.30am **Café Church with Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)**

6.00pm **John Schofield *** (*Isaiah 30:15-21*)

Sun 26 10.30am **Join with St Mary's for Rev Sally's final service**

6.00pm **Robert Simpkins** (*Isaiah 40:6-12*)

(*Communion services – the offerings will go to The Children's Society)

Tues 14 10.00am **Village Communion at Chapel**

Sat 25 10.30-12noon **Morning Coffee at Chapel**

Harvest Celebrations

In September we started our Harvest celebrations in Marshfield and will be continuing these over the coming weeks. Below are details of all the different services - please do take the opportunity to support and worship across our Benefice. Please note that some of the service times are slightly different from our usual pattern.

Tormarton:

Sunday 5 October 11.00am Creative Harvest: traditional celebration with crafts for families, followed by Harvest Lunch in the Village Hall.

West Littleton:

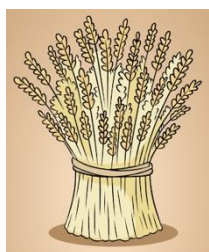
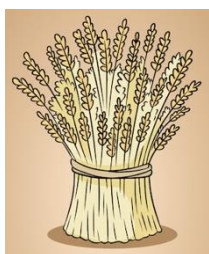
Sunday 12 October 11.30am followed by a Harvest lunch.

Cold Ashton:

Sunday 12 October @4pm Harvest & Pets Celebration

Friday 17 October 7.00pm Bring & Share Supper for Harvest in the Parish Hall.

Across the Benefice **donations of dried food and tins** will go to the Sisters of the Church for their work amongst local people in need. To sponsor a monthly food parcel you can contact the Sisters directly on 0117 9413 268 or by email at: bristoladmin@sistersofthechurch.org. Other Harvest collections will be for **Ripple Effect**, our mission partner involved in sustainable agriculture in East Africa where climate change is making growing food difficult.



Tormarton Harvest Celebration

**Sunday
5th
October**

**Harvest Festival
service 11am**

with kids Harvest themed fancy
dress and make your own harvest
decorations

Wheelbarrow
collection for donations
of canned and dried
foods in Church
Wednesday to Monday

Moving on to the
Village Hall at 12 noon
for
Fancy Dress Judging
Bar
Raffle

Enjoy our
delicious
Harvest Lunch
served from
12.45

Lunch Tickets
£10 Adults
£5 children
Under 5s Eat Free

Available from
Heather or Bridgette direct or via
Community whatsapp

