






Cotswold Edge

November 2026

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 **Parish Administrator**:
Rachel O'Mahony (Monday and Thursday mornings)
Email: marshfield.benefice@gmail.com

Lay Ministers	Aurea Hart (LLM)	01225 891453
	Mike Strathdee (LLM)	01225 891001
	Andrew Gammie	01225 892392
	Molly Williams	07882 749950
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

PCC Treasurer	Michael Horgan	01225 891486
Churchwarden	Rebecca Derry-Evans	

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

Benefice website **www.marshfieldchurches.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

Let there be light in the darkness

Autumn is here and with it comes the dying of the light – the days are noticeably shorter now that the clocks have gone back. But Autumn is a time to revel in the beauty of the countryside as the trees change colour and green has returned to the fields which have been refreshed by showers since the extremely dry summer. We can rejoice in nature's recovery shown in God's creation and each of our churches has celebrated with a traditional Harvest Service giving thanks to God!

In the Christian year we have now moved from Harvest to Remembrance, starting with All Souls Day on 2nd Nov. This is a day for commemoration of the faithful departed which we mark in this Benefice with a service for all those who have been bereaved recently. They are invited to come to remember those they have lost and to light a candle to represent the memories that live on in our hearts after a loved one has died. Then a week later we come to Remembrance Sunday when we all gather to remember those who died in the service of their country in any conflict. Red poppies are displayed in buttonholes, wreaths, and in some churches there are wonderful displays of knitted red poppies cascading down church towers . These are dark days as we remember those who have died in past wars while we count the cost of current conflicts, all of which affect our own lives as well as the lives of those who live in war zones.

It sometimes seems that the light has gone out in our world, but we can take heart from St Paul's message to the Corinthians: "*For God, who said, "Let there be light in the darkness," has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ."* .Paul says this is the treasure we carry around in the unadorned clay pots of our ordinary lives. It's the light of Christ which shines through life's cracks to bring his light to those who walk in darkness. Paul tells us to persevere and never give in! *(See 2 Corinthians ch.4)*

Aurea Hart

FROM THE BENEFICE REGISTERS

Funerals:

Christine Denning on 12 October in St James West Littleton

Mary Lewis on 26 October in St Mary's Marshfield

Zina Fallon on 30 October in St Mary's Marshfield

Burial of Ashes:

Dennis Morris on 23 October in Tormarton churchyard

Weddings: There were none in September

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 10 November in St Mary's

Coffee Mornings are held weekly in Cold Ashton on Thursday mornings 10.30am in the Parish Hall. In Tormarton Coffee Time is on Mondays at the Compass Inn. All welcome from our four parishes.

Breakfast Church – now running twice a month on Sunday 1st and 15th November: 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 **8.3am 0-9.15am** 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!



Remembrance Every year in November, the Churches around the Benefice support the Royal British Legion (RBL), a charity providing financial and pastoral support to RBL members and veterans of the British Armed Forces, their families and dependents. It also supports others in need. We hope you are able to give to their work, as we see the lasting impact of war in many places around the world.

Acts of Remembrance take place on **Sunday 8 November as follows:**

- Marshfield: gather 10.40am at the War Memorial, followed by a joint service in St Mary's with West Littleton & the Chapel
- 10.30am in Tormarton Church
- 6.00pm in Cold Ashton Church. Join us in remembering and in praying for peace in our times.

Benefice All Souls Service will take place on **1 November at 4pm** in St Mary's Church, Marshfield. All are welcome to this annual service; a gentle moment for reflection and remembering loved ones who have died, whether our loss is recent or from some years ago. There will be the opportunity to light a candle in memory of loved ones as their names are read out. If there are names you would like added to the list, please let us know via marshfield.benefice@gmail.com

Advent Tree of Hope In the dark winter months and the build-up to Christmas, it can be difficult as we miss those who are no longer with us. This year, there will again be an Advent Tree in St Mary's Church Marshfield on which the names of loved ones can be placed as a simple act of remembering. It is also a 'Tree of Hope' so prayers for specific situations can be attached, as can a 'thank you' for your answered prayers. Tags will be in the church by the tree.

Advent Carols by Candlelight – 6pm Sunday 29 November
Make a date for this very atmospheric service in St Mary's Marshfield.

Gift Services on 6th December:
In Marshfield we are planning to combine Breakfast Church with our Gift Service starting at 9.30am – service led by Trevor Ranger.
Cold Ashton Gift Service 9.00am; Tormarton Gift Service 10.30am

Christmas Appeal: Once again donations are invited to the Sisters of the Church in St Paul's Bristol who are aiming to support 500 families in this severely deprived area. Donations of the following items are requested:

- Hats, gloves,scarves and socks for men and women
- Toiletry sets for men and women
- £15 Argos or One4all gift cards for children

National Emergency Briefing comes to Marshfield
One hundred people attended two showings of a film about the climate and nature crisis. Experts spelled out impacts on all aspects of our lives. It was followed by a discussion that identified 50 ideas for action we could take as a community. Here are three things you can do:

1) Go to the 'National Emergency Briefing' website for your own briefing and sign the petition for a national TV broadcast of the film
2) Take another action step in your household/workplace to reduce CO2 emissions and encourage nature
3) Connect into Sustainable Marshfield, a local grouping of interested people and be part of a collective transition to a more resilient and cohesive community. Email SM Secretary Claire Russell-Bates news@sustainablemarshfield.org

Benefice Prayer Diary November 2026

Marshfield with Cold Ashton and Tormarton with West Littleton

A Benefice Prayer

Gracious God, 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: ***1-8 November.*** This week, please pray for:

- Those who are sick and suffering in our Benefice
- The parish of Tormarton its PCC, and churchwardens.
- For the congregation at the Chapel and their Pastor David Spence.

Week 2: ***9-15 November****.* During the week, please pray for:

- The parish of West Littleton, its PCC, and churchwarden.
- Our School in Marshfield, its staff, parents and Governors.
- Our Deanery and Diocese and all staff

Week 3: ***16-22 November.*** During the week, please pray for:

- The people of Cold Ashton, its PCC and churchwarden.
- The Lord's Creation; help us to look after our natural world for the common good.
- The underprivileged in our country and throughout the world

Week 4: ***23-30 November*****.** Please pray for:

- Leaders of all nations at war. That all conflicts cease, to stop the suffering of innocent people,
- Our linked CMS mission partners, the Rocks family
- The Benefice Ministry Team, Aurea, Andrew, Mike, Rev Jon and Molly.
- The people of Marshfield, its PCC and Churchwardens
- For our King ,Queen and Royal family

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

Benefice Services for November 2026

Sunday 1 November *All Saints/Souls*

8.30am	Breakfast Church	Marshfield	Mike Strathdee
9.00am	Holy Communion	Cold Ashton	Jon Hoffmann
10.30am	Morning Worship	Marshfield	Andrew Gammie
4.00pm	All Souls Service	Marshfield	Aurea Hart

Sunday 8 November *3rd before Advent*

9,00am	Holy Communion	Marshfield	Jon Hoffmann
10.30am	Remembrance Service	Tormarton	Mike Strathdee
10.55am	Remembrance Service	Marshfield	Jon Hoffmann
6.00pm	Remembrance Service	Cold Ashton	Andrew Gammie

Sunday 15 November *2nd before Advent*

8.30am	Breakfast Church	Marshfield	Molly Williams
9.00am	Holy Communion	Tormarton	Francis Miles
10.30am	Morning Worship	Marshfield	Mike Strathdee

Sunday 22 November *Christ the King*

9.00am	Holy Communion	West Littleton	Jon Hoffmann
10.30am	Morning Worship	Marshfield	Molly Williams
6.00pm	Evensong	Marshfield	Congregation led

Sunday 29 November *Advent Sunday*

10.30am	Benefice Holy Communion	Marshfield	Jon Hoffmann
6.00pm	Advent Carols	Marshfield	Aurea Hart

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

Chapel Programme November 2026

Sun 01	10.30am	**Geoff Floyd*** *(Eph 2:11-22)*
	6.00pm	**'Alive' Praise and worship**
Sun 08	10.40am	**Remembrance Sunday at St Mary's**
	6.00pm	**Jonathan Brown & family 'in memory of Keith'** *(Philippians 2:1-11)*
Sun 15	10.30am	**Café Church with Mission** Aviation Fellowship (MAF)
	6.00pm	**Bible study*** *(Phil 2:12-18)*
Sun 22	10.30am	**David Spence*** *(Eph 3:14-21)*
	6.00pm	**John Schofield** *(Phil 2:19-30)*
Sun 29	10.30am	**Rev Canon Sally Wheeler** *(Advent theme)*
	6.00pm	**Bible study** *(Phil 3:1-11)*

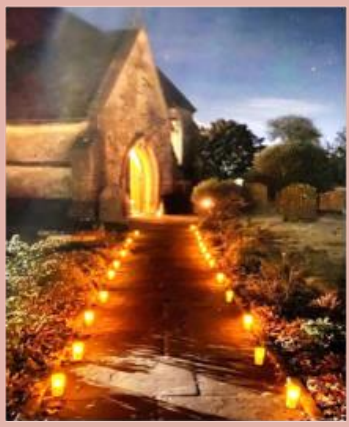
(**Communion services – offerings will go to Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)*

Tues 10	10.00am	**Village Communion at St Mary's**
Sat 28	10.30 -12	**Morning Coffee at Chapel**

Advent Carols

by

Candlelight



St Mary's Church, Marshfield

6pm Sunday 29th November 2026

A one hour traditional service with full choir and carols for our whole community