Great St Mary's eMag

1-15 Nov 2026: Issue 206



From the Vicar



In the last emag, Ally wrote about 1st November with our celebration of the Feast of All Saints in the morning and then All Souls – the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed – in the early evening. This is an important time of year, spiritually, as we make time to remember those who have gone before us – all the saints in heaven, loved ones who have died but are still very much part of who we are and then, on Remembrance Sunday, those who have lost their lives in wars. It is a time of year when we are particularly reminded of our own mortality and, as Christians, grateful that the love and light of God offer us hope in a world with much darkness, as the days get shorter and darker. In Germany, where I grew up, the 1st November is a bank holiday, and there too, All Saints and All Souls are marked on the same day. For many people this is an opportunity to meet up with family members, attend an All Souls service together and then visit the graves of their loved ones. In my hometown, the priest comes out to bless the graves, and there is a strong sense of our connectedness with our departed loved ones and each other.

I remember words from a sermon by Austin Farrer: “Our religion is not a simple relation of every soul separately to God, it is a mystical body in which we are all members one of another. And in this mystical body it does not suffice that every soul should be embraced by the thoughts of God; it has also to be that every soul should, in its thought, embrace the other souls. For apart from this mutual embracing, it would be unintelligible why we should pray at all, either for the living or for the departed. Such prayer is nothing but the exercising of our membership in the body of Christ. God is not content to care for us each severally, unless he can also, by his Holy Spirit in each one of us, care through and in us for all the rest”.

In this season of remembering those who have gone before us, may we be filled with hope, peace and trust that we are all held in the love of God; that we continue to be connected in the mystical body of Christ and that we are all on a journey to our eternal home.

Every blessing

Jutta

(Revd Canon Jutta Brueck)

Everyone is welcome to attend the All Souls Requiem Eucharist at 4pm on 1 November, at which the Choir will sing the beautiful and moving Requiem setting by Gabriel Fauré. At the service we will read the names of the departed, including all those on our year's mind list. If you would like to add a name to be read aloud during the service, please write it on the list at the back of Church at the morning service on 1 November. Or, if you can't get to church and would like to add a name, please email clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk.

Deadline for submissions for the next eMag TUES 10th NOV

Livestreaming of Services

Live and past services can be accessed via the Great St Mary's YouTube page on https://www.youtube.com/c/greatstmarys

Please note: If you have any comments regarding the on-line live-streaming, please email office@gsm.cam.ac.uk

Worship Schedule

November services - see website for details

Sunday 1 Nov - Trinity 22

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Choral Eucharist with Children's Church
- **11.30am** University Sermon: Revd Malcolm Guite, Fellow of Girton College and member of Pembroke College (Lady Margaret's Preacher at Commemoration of Benefactors) - Scarlet Day
- **4pm** Requiem Eucharist for All Souls - Fauré Requiem

Sunday 8 Nov - Remembrance Sunday

- **9.30am** Choral Eucharist in Michaelhouse (with provision for children)
- **10.50am** A Service of Remembrance and Reconciliation (please be seated by 10.40am)
- **4pm** Choral Evensong

Sunday 15 Nov - Trinity 24

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Choral Eucharist and Children's Church
- **4pm** Choral Evensong

Regular Weekday Worship

- Monday—Friday 9am **Morning Prayer** in church and on YouTube
- Mondays 12.30 pm **Christian Meditation** *in Michaelhouse - followed by soup lunch*
- Tuesdays - 6.00pm **Choral Evening Prayer**
- Wednesdays - 12.30pm **Holy Communion** in GSM
- Thursday - 7.00pm **Heartsease** (SCM) in Michaelhouse (**not on 5 Nov**)

Reading this eMag online or forwarded from a friend?
Sign up for our mailing list at greatstmarys.org/emag

News and Events

Moveable pews



Pews project completed, making four pews moveable!

Two pews are now relocated in St Andrew's chapel and two outside the chapel. The greatly enhanced space created is already proving very helpful so that wheelchair users can sit centrally at services. There is much better space for rehearsals, concerts and events, and congestion is relieved at busy times with our many visitors to the church, and especially for those in wheelchairs and with buggies. The music sound effect in that area is also better! Pews can be put back in the centre as needed for major services/events.
Much appreciation is offered to all who contributed - the Academy of Great St Mary's who raised £3,000, to the Stapleford Choral Society, members of the congregation, for grants from the Garfield Weston Foundation (who gave 50% more than we had asked for), the Benefact Trust and the Cambridgeshire Historic Trust. The full costs of the project have been covered (including some additional costs for extra foundation work needed when the pews were removed.) Much appreciation also to Karen Lim our architect who designed and managed the project which was carried out by Brown and Ralph, who are regular contractors with us.

Fri 30 Oct - GSM Lunchtime Concert 1-2pm



Music by Beethoven, Chopin and Tchaikovsky
Piano **Michael Tao**

Michael Tao is a London based pianist. He studies at the Royal College of Music with Professor Dina Parakhina under the Ash Music Scholarship alongside a Chemistry degree at Imperial College London.

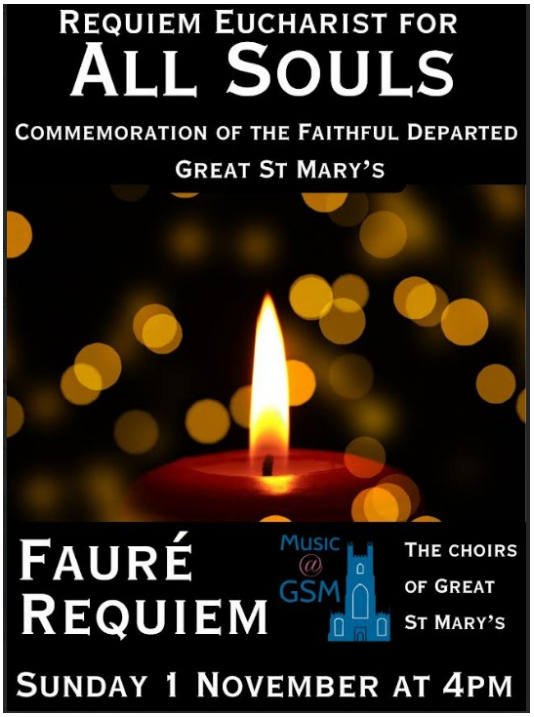
Free entry, with retiring collection toward the educational work of the Great St Mary's Music Department.

Sun 1 Nov - University Sermon

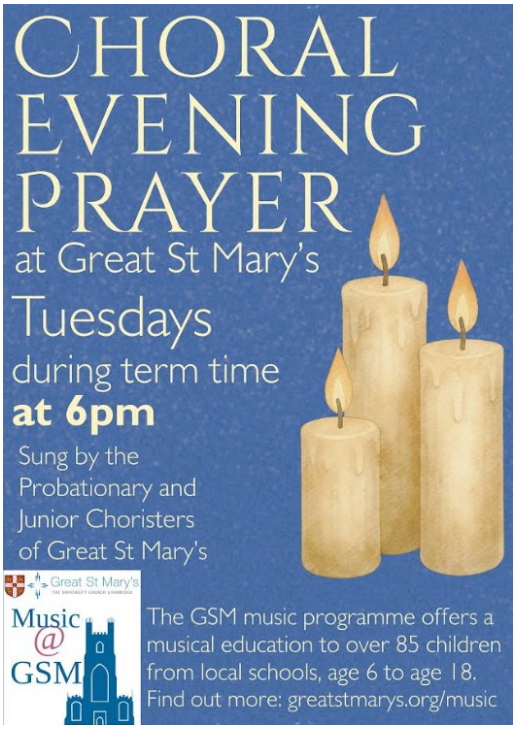


Sun 1 Nov - Requiem Eucharist

Everyone is welcome to attend the All Souls Requiem Eucharist at 4pm on 1 November, at which the Choir will sing the beautiful and moving Requiem setting by Gabriel Fauré. At the service we will read the names of the departed, including all those on our year's mind list. If you would like to add a name to be read aloud during the service, please write it on the list at the back of Church on either of the next two Sundays (or at the morning service on 1 November itself). If you can't get to church and would like to add a name, please email clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk

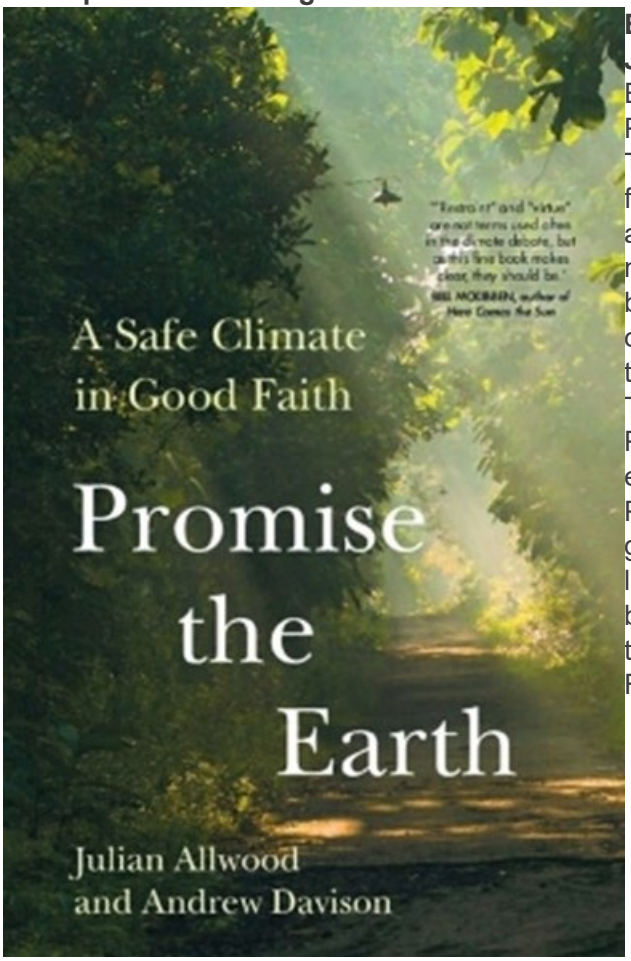


Tues 3 Nov- and every Tuesday



Tues 3 Nov - Vicar's Reading Group

A monthly group to explore questions of faith and life
7.30-9pm at the Vicarage



Book: Promise the Earth. A Safe Climate in Good Faith by **Julian Allwood**, Professor of Engineering and the Environment, Cambridge **& Andrew Davison**, Regius Professor of Divinity, Oxford, CUP 2026.

The book argues that saving the planet is neither a task for future technologies nor for world leaders alone. It is something all of us — especially those with comfortable lives — can and must do, now. The book alternates chapters on the physical, business and political options for climate action with chapters on the seven classical virtues: courage, justice, prudence, temperance, faith, love and hope.

This book may be of interest to anyone who has attended a People's Emergency Briefing screening and would like to explore with others how we can make a difference.

Please, let Jutta know, if you are interested in joining the group by emailing juttab@gsm.cam.ac.uk. Jutta would also like to hear from you, if you are interested in exploring this book, but can't make Tuesdays evenings or the dates when the group meets.

Future dates:**8 Dec, 12 Jan, 9 Feb, 9 Mar**

Wed 4 Nov - First Wednesday Lunch



Lunch will be in the Michaelhouse Chancel, 1-2pm. It follows on from the 12.30 Holy Communion service in GSM but there is no obligation to attend that! It is a simple lunch of soup and bread, together with fruit and home-made cake/biscuits and we invite a contribution of £5. If you find standing in a crowd at coffee on a Sunday morning a bit tricky, this might be the place for you to come and sit and chat.

Thurs 5 Nov - Read, Mark, Learn

Read Mark Learn will meet virtually on Thursdays from 5 to 6 p.m. to study one of the lectionary readings for the following Sunday's Choral Eucharist.

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84052562470?pwd=SWJnZ1dCcFFOTzRWdlI4WGhpSG9ydz09

Meeting ID: 840 5256 2470

Passcode: 876406

Meeting date	Passage
5 November	Mt. 25.1-13
12 November	Mt. 25.14-30
19 November	Mt. 25.31-end
26 November	Mk 13.24-37

Fri 6 Nov - GSM Lunchtime Concert



Lunchtime Concert: 1-2pm

Piano: Jungmin Gregory Ha

Mompou *Scènes d'enfants*
Vine *Piano Sonata No. 1*

Free entry, with retiring collection toward the educational work of the Great St Mary's Music Department.

Sun 8 Nov - Remembrance Sunday

There won't be provision for children at the 10:50 service in GSM (though of course children are still very welcome to attend), but there will be at the 9:30 service in Michaelhouse: everyone will be together for the beginning of the service, then there will be Children's Church during the readings, sermon and prayers (in the cafe area), then the children will join the service again for communion.





Fri 13 Nov - GSM Lunchtime Concert

Great St Mary's, The University Church 1-2pm



Lunchtime Concert: Stephen Perse Foundation

The talented students of the Stephen Perse Foundation offer an engaging programme of instrumental solos and chamber music
Director of Music Matthew Rudd

Free entry, with retiring collection toward the educational work of the Great St Mary's Music Department.

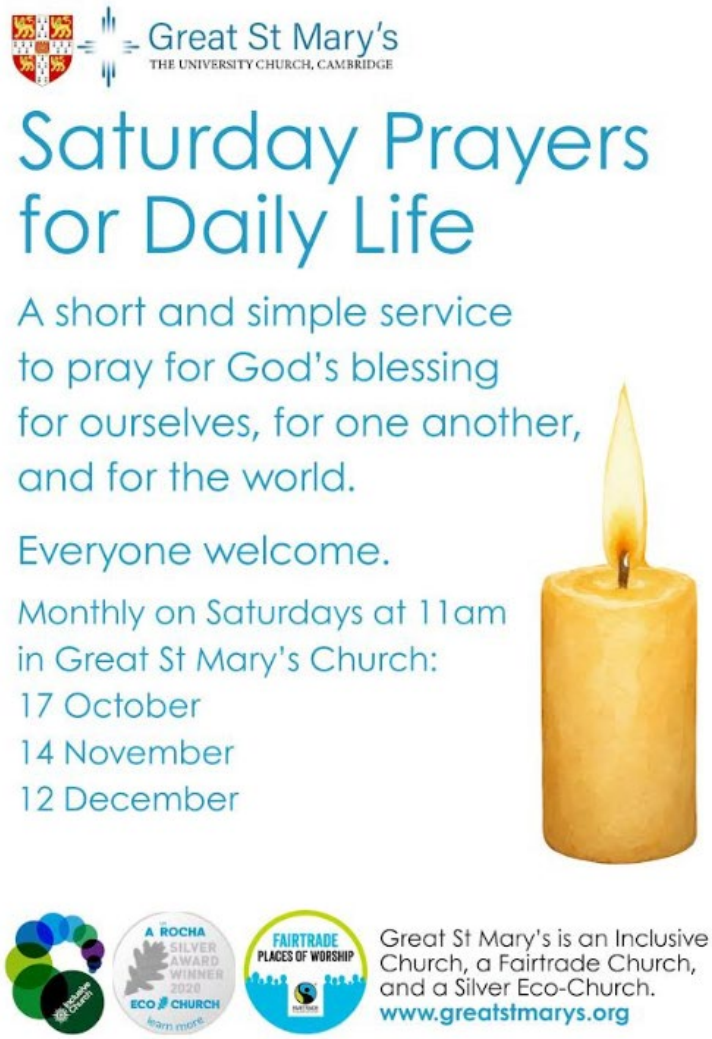
Sat 14 Nov - Women's Breakfast



The next women's breakfast will meet on 14 Nov 9.30am in Michaelhouse.

All welcome for food, conversation and prayer.
No need to book - you can just turn up.
Please contact office@gsm.cam.ac.uk for more information.

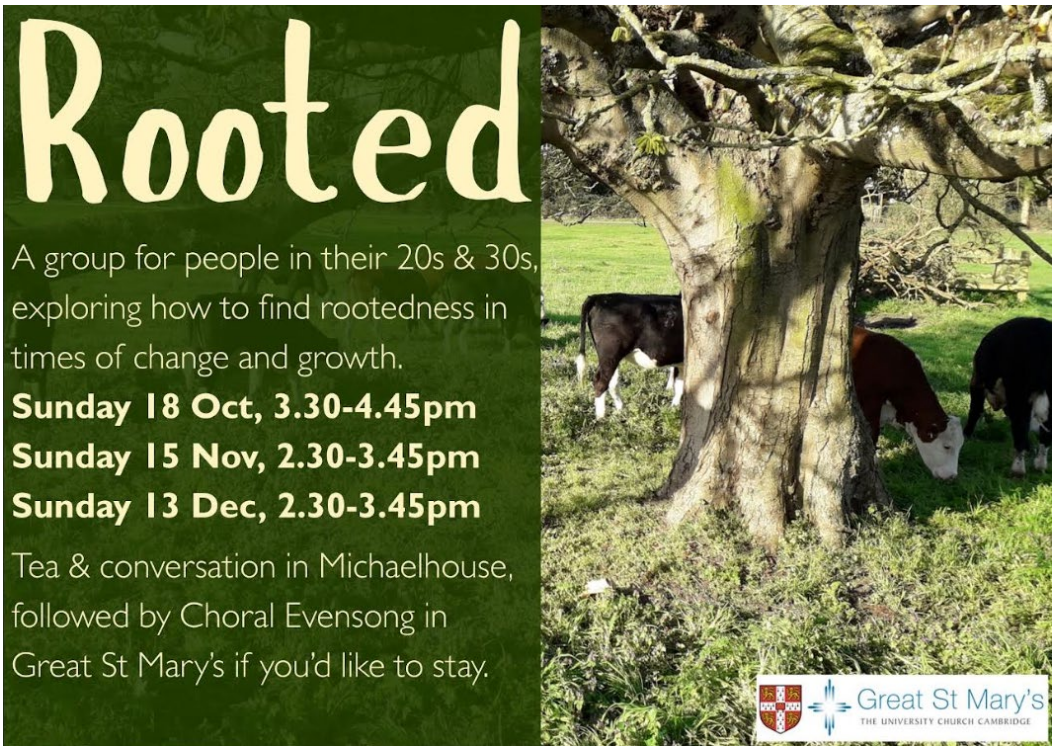
Sat 14 Nov - Saturday Prayers



Sun 15 Nov - All Together Eucharist



Sun 15 Nov - Rooted



Choir News



Members of the Parish Choir sang Choral Evensong at Peterborough Cathedral on 17 October – the first external outing of the newly-formed group. The choir really loves the opportunity to sing in different places and acoustics, and Peterborough has a wealth of both architecture and acoustic to offer!



Meanwhile, at Great St. Mary's.....at the Eucharist on 11 October we said goodbye and thank you to John Smith who was retiring from the Parish Choir after over 20 years' service. He was presented with a book and a collage of photographs of his time in the choir.

Stewardship

Stewardship - How to support the ministry of Great St. Mary's

A huge Thank You to everyone who gives of their time, talents and money supporting the ministry and mission of Great St Mary's – those of us entrusted with the leadership of our Church are extremely grateful to everyone who is part of Great St Mary's and enables us to be a vibrant, welcoming, prayerful, inclusive Christian presence in the centre of Cambridge, with people of all ages and from many walks of life and nationalities. In the last couple of years, we have invested in developing our music department, our clergy team and our children's and youth ministry. We are improving our buildings, to make them more accessible. Great St Mary's receives no government or wider church funding; we rely on the generosity of those who are part of our church and regular giving is absolutely vital for all that we do.
Information on 'how to get involved' and 'how to give', including legacies, is available in the back of Church and online: the 'Time and Talents' form on the website Time and Talents | Great St Mary's and information about how to give How to Donate | Great St Mary's.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME™

We are especially looking for volunteers to help with livestreaming, digital presence, admin and choir stewarding. As a way of regular giving, I commend the Parish Giving Scheme to you, as it's easy to administer and claims tax back for our church on a monthly basis. Please, do speak to the clergy, our church wardens or our stewardship advisor, Andrew Watson, or Lorna Atwell, if you have any questions.
Our stewardship prayer: *Loving God, you are always with us and give us all we need to be your Church. Help us, we pray, to give as we have received: abundantly, generously, and joyfully, that our worship and service may bear witness to your Kingdom of unfailing love. In the name of your Son who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*
Revd Canon Jutta Brueck, Vicar; Margaret Johnston & Fiona Cornish, Church Wardens

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care and Prayer at Time of Need

Pastoral Visits and Home Communions

If you would appreciate a pastoral visit at home or to receive prayer (either by the Home Intercessors group or as part of the intercessions in GSM services) please do talk to one of the ministry team either in person or contact them via email on clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk
Please know that **you can request a visit from one of the clergy who would be delighted to share Holy Communion with you and your loved ones at home.**
If you would like to know more about either the Home Intercessors or the Pastoral Care Groups from the point

of view of joining either group, do please talk to Jutta or Ally (or send an email to clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk).

Funeral Plans

Many people find it helpful to think about their funeral wishes well in advance, and to talk to their family about this, or to a member of the clergy. To help you think about funeral planning please feel welcome to download this Funeral Wishes Form and use it to record your thoughts. When you are ready, please share what you have noted with your next of kin, and consider if you would like this to be shared also with the clergy team at Great St Mary's so that we can keep it safely for you.

In a pastoral emergency the phone number remains 01223 747277 (messages left on this number will be responded to within 24 hours.

Year's Mind

Memorial service for Helen Long

Friday 27 November at 3pm at Great St Mary's

Helen's family warmly invite members of the congregation who remember Helen from her many years at GSM to join them in giving thanks for her life.

Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Christopher (Kit) Helps	3 November
John Thompson	5 November
Dan Hardy	15 November
Janet Morris	18 November
Michael Hirtzel	20 November
George Clarke	22 November
Brigid Peat	23 November
Chris McDouall	23 November
Emily Hoyle	27 November
Ernest Orange	27 November
Elisabeth Fleming	30 November
Dorothy Denyer	30 November



Service

Eco Tip - Keeping warm



Keeping warm and saving money with rising energy costs
Clothes – the British Heart Foundation recommends wearing lots of thin layers to trap the heat in. Cheap thermal leggings and tops are ideal around the house.
Food – porridge, warm meals like stews, fish pie and pasta bakes are ideal.
Sleeping – winter duvets (10.5 tog or higher) are less than £20 in stores. According to Which? Magazine, electric blankets are one of the cheapest ways to stay warm (2p to 8p per hour depending on the setting). Unplug before going to bed and replace after 10 years. Hot water bottles are great, but don't use with an electric blanket. Fill two-thirds full and squeeze out the remaining air.
Your home – when it's sunny, let the sun heat the room. Keep doors closed in the room you are in to trap the heat. Open the oven door when you have finished cooking (but be careful with small children). Check window insulation but remember you do need to open windows for ventilation.
Central heating – now is the time to check radiators to see if they need bleeding. Don't put furniture right next to radiators. 35% of radiator heat is lost through walls – so consider dedicated radiator foil or make your own with kitchen foil to reflect heat back into the room.,
If you are elderly or vulnerable – don't compromise on your health.

Christmas Cards



Religious Christmas Cards - Once again these will be on sale at coffee on Sunday mornings with the price held at £2.50 for five cards. Of this, £1 per pack will go to support the Princess Basma Centre which continues to do remarkable and inspirational work with children with disabilities in Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza, under the auspices of the Diocese of Jerusalem, despite the ongoing conflicts in the Middle East.
The good news is that it will be possible to take card payments this year, though cash and cheques (payable to Great St Mary's) will still be welcome. They will be available on 25 October and 1 November but will take a break on Remembrance Sunday (8 November).

Coming Up

Tues 17 Nov - Something Understood



At 3, Adams Road, Cambridge CB3 9AD - 7.30pm
Our Theme will be 'Angels'
Any questions, or if you need a parking place, please contact:
juliet@jmcj.org

Future Dates and Themes
Tues 15 Dec: Heaven on Earth and Eternity

Painting (left)
Jesus and the Syrophoenician Woman, by Ally Barrett

Sat 21 Nov - Michaelhouse Concert



Sat 5 Dec - Carol Singing



Elsewhere....

Litter Pick - Mill Road Cemetery



Mill Road Cemetery is off Mill Road in Cambridge. Since 2001 the cemetery has been protected as a Grade ii listed site. Ten city parishes, including Great St Mary's, share the cemetery although all plots are now full. The cemetery's management committee organise monthly volunteer litter picks. You would be very welcome to join them.

People's Emergency Briefing - Tues 17 Nov



Tuesday 17 November, 19.00-21.00. Frankopan Hall, West Court, Jesus College. In-person.

In collaboration with Wildlife Trust BCN and Pickled: Preserving Humanity, the Intellectual Forum invites you to a screening of the People's Emergency Briefing - a 50-minute documentary film bringing together nine leading UK scientists and experts. The film will be followed by a 45-minute workshop to help us find the agency and the courage to take meaningful environmental action.
Register for a free place.

The Ministry Team

MINISTRY TEAM



Revd Canon Jutta Brueck
Vicar
email: juttab@gsm.cam.ac.uk



Revd Ally Barrett
Associate Vicar
email: allyb@gsm.cam.ac.uk



Dr David Grumett
Licensed Lay Minister
email:
davidg@gsm.cam.ac.uk



Revd Andrew Day
Associate Priest
email: acd62@gsm.cam.ac.uk



Revd Alison Kennedy
Associate Priest
email: alisonk@gsm.cam.ac.uk



Revd Canon Jeremy Morris
Associate Priest



Revd Graham Stevenson
Associate Priest
email: gs635@cam.ac.uk



Revd Rosie Hewitt
Children and Youth Minister
email: rosieh@gsm.cam.ac.uk

Great St Mary's offers a range of groups and activities for children from birth to 18.

MUSIC AT THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH

Great St Mary's has a long and rich tradition of music, with six choirs, two pipe organs, an orchestra and weekly concerts.



Alexander Berry
Director of Music
email: music@gsm.cam.ac.uk



Stanley Godfrey
Organist and Assistant Director of Music
email: music@gsm.cam.ac.uk

EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH

Great St Mary's regularly welcomes school groups and offers education outreach around heritage, faith and sustainability. To find out more visit www.greatstmarys.org/education .



Natalie Lealand
Education and Heritage Officer
email: nataliel@gsm.cam.ac.uk