

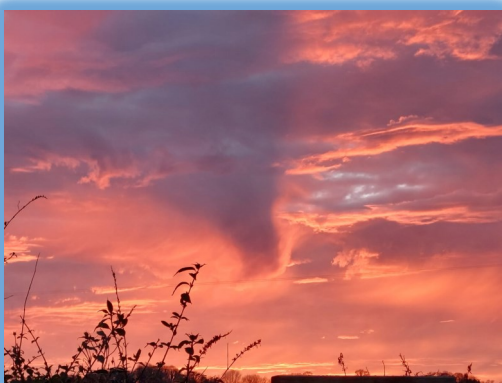
MARBURY ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

AND

PARISH MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 2025

JANUARY 2026



Clergy: Revd. Veronica Green (01948 663758)

Lay Reader: Ali Hunter Johnston (07967 955669)

Churchwarden: Jane Lunt (01948 662910)

DECEMBER SERVICES

St. Michael's Marbury

7th	9.00 a.m.	HC		
	Readers & Sidespersons:		Peter Thomas Beryl Fletcher	Isaiah 11: 1-10 Matthew 3: 1-12
14th	4.00 p.m.	CHRISTINGLE		
	Readers & Sidespersons:		Trisha Harvey Penny Allington	Isaiah 35: 1-10 Matthew 11: 2-11
21st	11.00 a.m.	MP		
	Readers & Sidespersons:		Jean Gregg P Hunter Johnston	Isaiah 7: 10-16 Matthew 1: 18-25
22nd	6.30 p.m.	CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT		
24th	11.15 p.m.	MIDNIGHT COMMUNION		
	Readers & Sidespersons:		Julie Shaw Harry Shaw	Isaiah 52: 7-10 John 1: 1: 1-14
28th	11.00 a.m.	UNITED BENEFICE SERVICE AT ST. CHAD'S		
				Jeremiah 31: 15-17 Matthew 2: 13-18

St. Chad's Tushingham

7th	4.30 p.m.	EP
14th	9.00 a.m.	HC
21st	4.30 p.m.	CAROLS

25th	9.00 a.m.	Family Communion
28th	11.00 H.C.	UNITED BENEFICE SERVICE

St. Mary's Whitewell

7th	11.00 a.m.	MP
14th	11.00 a.m.	SW
21st	11.00 a.m.	MP BCP
	6.30 p.m.	CAROLS
24th	4.00 p.m.	CRIB SERVICE
25th	10.45 a.m.	Family Comm.

St. Wenefrede's Bickley

7th	4.30 p.m.	EP
14th	6.30 p.m.	CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT
21st	11.00 a.m.	HC
25th	10.30 a.m.	FAMILY COMMUNION

St. Nicholas's Chapel

19th	6.30 p.m.	CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT
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HC – Holy Communion EP – Evening Prayer
 BCP – book of Common Prayer MP – morning prayer
 SW - Service of The Word

Reflective Prayer is held every Tuesday Morning at St Michael's at
 9.30am. Tea/Coffee and Space to Rest in God.

JANUARY SERVICES

St. Michael's Marbury

4th	9.00 a.m. HC		
	Readers & Sidespersons:	Steve Wood Peter Thomas	Isaiah 60: 1-6 Ephesians 3: 1-12 Matthew 2: 1-12
11th	11.00 a.m. HC	PLOUGH SUNDAY	
	Readers & Sidespersons:	Julie Shaw Harry Shaw	TBA
18th	11.00 a.m. MP		
	Readers & Sidespersons:	Sue/R. Evans Carolyn Paton-Smith	1 Corinthians 1: 1-9 John 1: 29-42
25th	4.30 p.m. EP		
	Readers & Sidespersons:	Kathy Johnson Harry Paton-Smith	Jeremiah 1: 4-10 Acts 9: 1-22 Psalm 67

St. Chad's Tushingham

4th	4.30 p.m. EP
11th	9.00 a.m. HC
18th	9.00 a.m. HC
25th	11.00 a.m. MP

St. Mary's Whitewell

4th	11.00 a.m. MP
11th	11.00 a.m. SW
18th	11.00 a.m. SW
25th	11.00 a.m. HC

St. Wenefrede's Bickley

4th	4.30 p.m. EP
11th	11.00 a.m. MP
18th	11.00 a.m. HC
25th	9.00 a.m. HC

St. Nicholas's Chapel

4.30 p.m. EP

Funeral

*Mark Winstone - died 15th October 2025
funeral 5th November, 2025*

Winter

I wonder if you have ever thought of Winter as a Season of Sabbath. Spring and Summer are times of growth and flourishing and Autumn brings us all the bounty of those growing months in its abundance and plenty. The fruitfulness of autumn is displayed most visually in the fields ripe for harvest and in the trees full of their own offerings of seeds, nuts and berries and, then, the final shedding of russet red and golden leaves.

Winter is a different story. A season where nature withdraws, holding herself in stillness until the world turns again and spring is once more on the way. The cold and darkness wrap the earth and all is put away for another year. Even some of our native animals turn in for the winter.

Sabbath time is a time of resting, reflecting and refreshing. Sabbath time does not mean just Sundays, it can be any time we can take to be still and quiet, and in these long and dark evenings we may find we have time to do that.

Our 24/7, noisy and demanding world, expects us to carry on just the same, and this is maybe why many struggle through the winter months. Sabbath is when we can take some time to withdraw from the busyness of our lives, to draw breath and give ourselves some time to slow down, to rest and reflect in peace.

Perhaps this year we could look at this winter season a little differently and embrace the Winter Sabbath and use it in the same way nature does: as a time for reflecting, resting, snuggling down and preparing for next year's growth.

Jesus often took himself away for some peace and quiet; to pray, rest and listen - he never felt guilty about it and encouraged it in others. The message he left us tells us all we need to know about being human in an ever-changing world. It is perhaps no coincidence that the Light of the World comes to us at the darkest time of the year.

Ali Hunter Johnston

A note from Revd. Veronica:

We're introducing some small changes to the order of Sunday Services at St Michael's in the New Year: nothing to worry about, rather a gentle nod to be aware of the type of service and time.

These changes are simply being made to accommodate the people who lead the services and, hopefully, all those who attend.

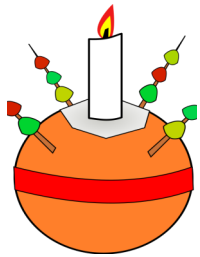
Safeguarding

Safeguarding means protecting a person's health, well being and human rights: enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect. Whilst this includes all personnel, focus is particularly directed towards children and young persons and those in the community who are vulnerable. If you have any concerns about a friend, neighbour or family member, please contact me at

safeguarding@stmichaelsmarbury.org

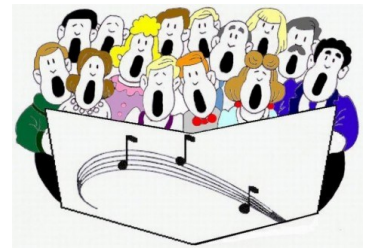
Protection, Accountability and Transparency are key aspects in relation to Safeguarding. Stay safe and let's be sure others are safe.

Kathy Johnson



St. Michael's **Christingle Service** will be held on Sunday, 14th December, at 4.00pm.

Carols by Candlelight at St. Michael's, Monday 22nd December, at 6.30 p.m.



Christmas Eve midnight communion will be at

St. Michael's, 24th December, at 11.15 pm.

Everyone is warmly invited to join any, or all, of the Christmastide services.



Nigel and I would like to wish everyone a very happy and peaceful Christmas and God's Blessings for 2026.

Veronica and Nigel Xx

The Joy of Giving...

Have you ever thought about supporting St Michael's but weren't sure how to get started?

We'd like to share a couple of meaningful ways you can contribute to the life of our beautiful church.

The Gift of Time: Your time and talents are incredibly valuable to us. Whether it's lending a hand to maintain the churchyard, helping with one of our projects or joining our efforts in some way bringing your skills in support, your involvement makes a world of difference.

Financial Support: Every contribution, no matter the size, is deeply appreciated and helps us continue our work. You can make a one-time donation or set up a standing order, or maybe consider leaving St Michael's a gift in your will – whatever feels most comfortable for you. Regular support also helps us to plan ahead and continue serving our community with confidence.

Thank you for considering how you can be part of our mission. Your generosity, in any form, truly matters.

Revd. Veronica

Marbury Parochial Church Council

Account no: 19862160

Sort Code: 77-27-27



ECO CHURCH

Don't forget to recycle used ink cartridges. Please place them at the back of church in the recycle bag. It's better for the environment and we get donations to give to charity. Its win! win!

MOBILE LIBRARY every 3 weeks at
Holtridge, Pear Tree Farm; 2.30-2.50
Norbury, Gauntons Bank; 3.00-3.20
Marbury Village Hall; 3.45-4.00

Thursday, 18th December, 8th & 29th January.



CHRISTMAS PARTY!

VILLAGE HALL:

Saturday, 13th December;

Christmas Party, 7.30 p.m.

Tickets only £8 (under 12s free).

Turkey Christmas Bap and mince pies.

Dancing, games, & raffle. Bring your own drinks.

To reserve your place contact Maz,
on 07949 784308

Pay by BACs 20-77-85 A/c no. 80359807 Reference XMAS



***PILATES: Mondays,
12.30—1.30 p.m.
at The Village Hall:
£7 per session.***



**MARBURY KNIT
AND NATTER** group
meet every other
Wednesday at the
Village Hall, 2pm till
4pm.

Contact Beryl on
01948 664889



Thursday 29th January: SOUP LUNCH,
at the Village Hall from 12.

Please join us in a Warm Space, with Hot Home-Made Soup and good company. If you came to the previous event you'll know just how good this lunch occasion is.

Everyone is Welcome.

No charge but donations gratefully received.



**THE VILLAGE HALL IS ALSO AVAILABLE FOR
PRIVATE HIRE.** Please contact Penny Allington,
07749 808308 for dates and hire terms.

Advance Notice:

Is there more to Life than this?

The Alpha Course is running again this year. Alpha is a series of interactive sessions to discuss life and the Christian Faith in an informal, fun and friendly environment.

Interested? Contact Revd. Veronica.



Marbury Calendar 2027:

By popular demand we'll be producing a 2027 Calendar of Marbury, in all its seasons, so this is a reminder to all keen photographers in our Parish to take Autumn, Winter, Spring and Summer photos during the coming months.

Details of where and when to send your photos will be announced in the June/July 2026 Parish magazine.



WE HAVE A CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE.

If you use Facebook please give us a 'like'. Simply search for 'Marbury Church' or 'St Michael's Church, Marbury' to find us.

Village **E**mergency **T**elephone **S**ystem (**VETS**) -
for defibrillator or other community emergency:
First ring **999** then Marbury: 01948 302103
Norbury: 01948 302707



Information provided by Able Community Care, Norfolk.

The NHS Dentist two-year rule means you should not wait more than two years between check-ups. If you don't see your NHS dentist within this time, you might lose your registration as an NHS patient.

An NHS community matron is a highly experienced, senior nurse who provides intensive, personalised care to patients with complex long-term conditions, helping them to manage their health at home and avoid hospital admissions. They act as case managers, coordinating with GPs, other health professionals, and social care to create care plans, monitor conditions, and provide advanced nursing interventions. There are approximately 2,000 Community Matrons in the UK. Refer to your local surgery for further information on local availability.

The Blue Light Card is a UK-based discount service offering exclusive savings on over 15,000 partner brands for those working in:

- The emergency services: The NHS: Employees in the Social Care Sector, Teaching, and the Armed Forces

Many chain restaurants have signed up to offer discounts as have many clothing retailers, travel agents, home & garden retailers, etc.

To find out more and to see if you are eligible visit: www.bluelightcard.co.uk

Winter Safety Tip: Hot Water Bottle Safety

For a cosy and safe autumn, the NHS and safety experts recommend checking your hot water bottle for age and damage. Before first use in Autumn and to avoid burns and leaks from degraded rubber, follow these steps before you start using your hot water bottle for the season.

- Check the expiration date. Hot water bottles should be replaced every two years, even if they look fine.
- Find the "daisy wheel". A date stamp, often shaped like a flower, is usually found on the neck or body of the bottle.
 - The central number is the manufacturing year (e.g., '22' for 2022).
 - The twelve segments represent the months. Filled segments indicate the month it was made.
 - Inspect for wear and tear. Look for cracks, splits, discolouration, or brittle areas. Do not use the bottle if you notice any damage.
 - Check for leaks. Fill the bottle with cool water, insert the stopper tightly, and turn it upside down to see if any water leaks out.

In addition, never use boiling water, and always use a protective cover.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: WHAT'S ON

DECEMBER:

Saturday 13th **CHRISTMAS PARTY**, Village Hall, 7.30 p.m.

Thursday 18th **MOBILE LIBRARY** at Holtridge, Gauntons Bank
and Marbury Village Hall

JANUARY:

Tuesday 6th **COFFEE & CHAT**, The Swan, 10.15 a.m.
Everyone welcome.

Thursday 8th **MOBILE LIBRARY** at Holtridge, Gauntons Bank
and Marbury Village Hall

Tuesday 13th **W.I. MEETING, 1.30 p.m.**, Village Hall
Speaker - Martin Gaffney: A funny thing happened on
the way to the Police station. Former Greater
Manchester Police Counter Terrorism Security
Coordinator. Experienced speaker & Cruise Ship
Lecturer, 32 years in Police and consultancy.

Thursday 29th **MOBILE LIBRARY** at Holtridge, Gauntons Bank
and Marbury Village Hall

Thursday 29th **SOUP LUNCH**, Village Hall from 12. Warm Space,
Hot Home-Made Soup. All Welcome.

Thursday 29th **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**, Village Hall, 7.30 p.m.

Tuesday 3rd FEB **COFFEE & CHAT**, The Swan, 10.15 a.m.
Everyone welcome.

COFFEE AND CHAT

at The Swan in Marbury

On Tuesday 6th January,
Tuesday, 3rd February,
from 10.15am to 11.45am.



All our community are welcome to come for coffee and cake and to
meet friends and neighbours - a great way to get to know everyone
in the lovely environment of the Swan.
We look forward to seeing you.

PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting on 20th November: summary of business -

There was discussion regarding ongoing matters including Planning, the Neighbourhood Plan, and quotes for use of the CIL funding (resurfacing the Village Hall car park).

Councillors agreed the Precept for the forthcoming financial year.

Residents are welcome to attend meetings; however, if you wish to speak at the meeting, please contact the Chair or the Clerk beforehand. Public speaking time is limited and only Councillors may take part in discussions/decisions. Agenda and Minutes can be viewed on the Parish Council website: **www.marburyanddistrict.org.uk**

The next meeting will be on **Thursday, 29th January**, at 7.30 p.m.

PARISH COUNCIL: Parish Councillors work on a voluntary, unpaid basis, offering their personal time to care for the community.

Councillors respond to Planning Applications based on legal requirements and feedback from residents. They are required to declare any vested interest.

As custodian of the village Conservation Area the P.C. is responsible for the care and maintenance of the legal status.

If you have a query regarding any local matter, including planning applications, do speak to your local Councillor. Contact details are shown on the back of this Parish magazine.

Items for the next magazine, February & March, should be submitted to Janet Makin, makinatmarbury@aol.com, by 15th January.

The magazine has been printed by **Audlem Printers of Whitchurch:**
9 Watergate Arcade, Whitchurch. Tel: **01948 665920**

PARISH COUNCILLORS: contact details

Joe Briggs	Wood Farm, Wirswall	SY13 4LF
Chair		01948 663733
John David	Rowan House, School Lane, Marbury john.david@marburyanddistrict.org.uk	SY13 4LH 01948 666065
Tracy Leese	5 School Lane, Marbury tracy.leese@marburyanddistrict.org.uk	SY13 4LH 07525 976790
Janet Makin	1 Heath Lane, Marbury janet.makin@marburyanddistrict.org.uk	SY13 4NE 01948 665724
Rob Perry	Pear Tree Farm, Norbury rob.perry@marburyanddistrict.org.uk	SY13 4HZ 01948 666350
Philip Shakeshaft	The Croft, Norbury phil.shakeshaft@marburyanddistrict.org.uk	SY13 4HS 01948 666221
Marian Turnbull	Ginger Cottage, Swanwick Green marian.turnbull@marburyanddistrict.org.uk	SY13 4HL 07949 784308
Fiona Wilson	2 Bradeley Green Cottages fiona.wilson@marburyanddistrict.org.uk	SY13 4HE 07801 928925
Vice Chair		

CLERK, PARISH COUNCIL:**Debbie Foulkes** clerk@marburyanddistrict.org.uk**Web Site:** www.marburyanddistrict.org.uk**BOROUGH COUNCILLOR:**

James Pearson Beechwood, 151 Hale Road, Hale, Cheshire WA15 8RU
James.pearson@cheshireeast.gov.uk 07947 572785

MP:**Aphra Brandreth** aphra.brandreth.mp@parliament.uk**Useful phone numbers and contacts for residents**

PCSO 7149 Sharon Jones	sharon.jones@cheshire.pnn.police.uk or 07773 196887 101 for non-emergency Police contact
Potholes	0300 123 5020 www.cheshireeasthighways.org FIX MY STREET: APP
Bus services:	Go-Too: 0300 123 5103 http://www.go-too.co.uk Flexilink: 0300 123 5110
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111(you can call anonymously)
Childline	0800 1111
Samaritans	116 123
vicar@stmichaelsmarbury.org	
churchwardens@stmichaelsmarbury.org	
admin@stmichaelsmarbury.org (Carol Sheard)	
treasurer@stmichaelsmarbury.org (Nigel Green)	