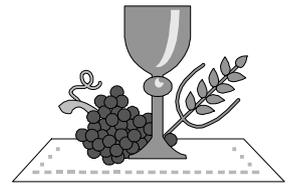




# Weekly Newsletter

**WELCOME TO OUR SERVICES.** If you are a newcomer to St Mary's Church, or a visitor to the area, please introduce yourself to one of the sidespeople or the clergy. We hope that you enjoy worshipping with us.

Communicant members of any Christian church are welcome to make their communion with us. If you do not wish to receive communion, but would like to receive God's blessing, simply hold this service booklet when you come to the altar rail.



St Mary's seeks to be an inclusive church and welcoming to people of all ages and backgrounds. We have a carpeted area and pew bags available for the youngest members of our congregation, if they wish to use it. And they may like to take an adult with them!

If you're a UK tax payer the money you place in the collection can be increased by around 25% if you fill out a blue envelope in the nave chairs or by the main entrance and allow us to retrieve the tax you've already paid & put it towards the work of St Mary's.



Further information about St Mary's, our life and ministry can be found on the website [www.stmaryswarwick.org.uk](http://www.stmaryswarwick.org.uk), on Twitter and Facebook.

Please note that for legal and copyright reasons the taking of videos, photographs and recordings is not permitted during services.

## December 9<sup>th</sup> Advent 2

8.00am

Holy Communion (BCP Said)

Celebrant & Preacher: Linda Duckers

*The service begins in the Book of Common Prayer page 236  
The collect and readings begin on page 49*

*Followed each third Sunday by breakfast at a local café*

10.30am	Choral Eucharist & Baptism Common Worship: Order 1	Boys' & Men's Voices
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Preacher: Vaughan Roberts  
Reading: Philippians 1: 3-11- Gail Guest  
Assistants: Richard Warren & Grahame Edmonds

6.30pm	Choral Evensong (BCP)	Boys' & Men's Voices
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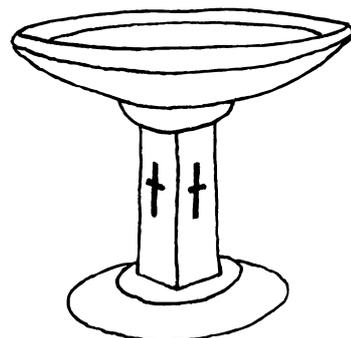
Hymn: 5  
Preces: Rose  
Psalm: 75  
Reading: Malachi 3: 1-4 - Doreen Mills  
Magnificat: Dyson *in F*  
Reading: Luke 1: 1-25 - Chris Sharp  
Nunc dimittis: Dyson *in F*  
Responses: Rose  
Anthem: *I waited for the Lord*  
I waited for the Lord, he inclined unto me,  
he heard my complaint.  
O blest are they that hope and trust in him.  
*Words: Psalm 40:1, 5a; Music: Mendelssohn*

Hymn: 168(t.288)  
Preacher: Doreen Mills  
Hymn: 290  
Organ voluntary: *Rorate caeli* Demessieux

Director of Music: Oliver Hancock  
Assistant Director of Music: Mark Swinton

# NOTICES

**THIS SUNDAY** ... it's lovely to welcome Luna Roberts to St Mary's for her baptism during our 10.30am Choral Eucharist, along with all her family and friends. There will be celebratory cake and fizz afterwards, together with our usual coffee and squash to which everyone is very welcome to stay. Please keep Luna and all who have been baptised at St Mary's this year in your prayers during the week ahead.



**LAST SUNDAY** ... was a first Sunday of the month, so we had our usual changes to our services and because it was Advent Sunday there was a delightful Christingle Service in the morning and a wonderful Advent Carol Service in the evening. Thank you to Mary Adams and all who participated in the Christingle and brought treats for our local foodbank. And many thanks as well to our musicians and choir, vergers and sidespeople, readers and everyone who contributed to a very moving start to the Advent season.

**LOOKING AHEAD (1)** The full list of Christmas services is available in this week's newsletter. Please note the usual changes on the first Sunday after Christmas. In addition there won't be Holy Communion on Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Dec due to school carol services or Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Dec (Boxing Day!)

**LOOKING AHEAD (2)** The next first Sunday will be 7<sup>th</sup> Jan so we shall have our usual changes then with a 9.30am Family Service, 11am Choral Matins and 6.30pm Choral Eucharist.

**VISITORS TO THE ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2018** This year's festival has attracted more visitors than ever before to see the trees at St Mary's. The new Visitor Services Team is always happy to welcome so many people. The festival is becoming widely known as a perfect Christmas family event. Here we see Keith Wedgbury from BBC Coventry & Warwickshire and wife Jane next to the Unlocking Warwick tree.

Keith is a great supporter of St Mary's, where he's interviewed staff and volunteers for his show on local radio. A big thank you to staff, volunteers, businesses and the local community for helping to make this year's festival such a success!

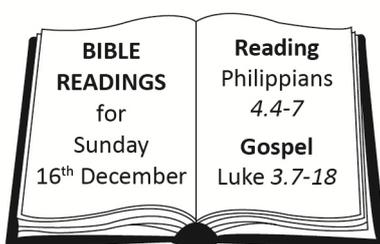


A big thank you to staff, volunteers, businesses and the local community for helping to make this year's festival such a success!

### **KNEELERS**

Kneelers are readily available from our sidespeople for those who wish. Please just ask and they can be provided.

### **BIBLE READINGS**



## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Heavenly Father, the days are cold and the night is dark, and winter is upon us. As we approach Advent, let our thoughts focus on the light that is coming; the light that shines, even in the darkest hour, and fills our hearts with hope; the light that brightens our minds and fills our souls with love; the light that is our Saviour and Lord. Bless us all as we wait in joyful anticipation for the coming of Christ. Amen.

## COME AND JOIN US IN THE SERVING TEAM

We are an active and enthusiastic team of altar servers who help (mainly) with Sunday services. As a new team member you would be given full training with the opportunity of becoming licensed to administer communion, reading the Gospel or becoming lead server. You could volunteer, usually between once and twice a month, or for whatever number of services would suit your wishes, and swaps are always available. We are looking for new members of any age from 14 years upwards. If you are interested, please speak to: Vicky Bartholomew ([vickybartholomew@btinternet.com](mailto:vickybartholomew@btinternet.com)), Grahame Edmonds ([gaedmonds@btinternet.com](mailto:gaedmonds@btinternet.com)), or a member of the Clergy Team

## LUNCHTIME RECITALS 2018-2019

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month, 1.15-2.00pm

21 <sup>st</sup> December	Oliver Hancock <i>organ</i> (St Mary's Warwick)
4 <sup>th</sup> January	No recital
18 <sup>th</sup> January	Luke Barker <i>trumpet</i> (Warwick School)
1 <sup>st</sup> February	Samuel Bristow <i>organ</i> (Birmingham Cathedral)
15 <sup>th</sup> February	Mark Swinton <i>organ</i> (St Mary's Warwick)
1 <sup>st</sup> March	Oliver Hancock <i>organ</i> (St Mary's Warwick)
15 <sup>th</sup> March	Anna Turner <i>oboe</i> (King's High School)
5 <sup>th</sup> April	Mark Swinton <i>organ</i> (St Mary's Warwick)
19 <sup>th</sup> April	Good Friday; no recital

For information about organ recitals throughout the UK, please visit [www.organrecitals.com](http://www.organrecitals.com)

**SAFEGUARDING UPDATE:** The St Mary's Safeguarding Team met last Wednesday and the main item on the agenda was a new action plan for safeguarding in church, drawn up in conjunction with guidance from the diocesan parish dashboard. There will be further details about this and additional safeguarding training in the New Year.



## **THIS CHRISTMAS ...**

... we are all invited at St Mary's to 'Follow the Star', the Church of England's 2018 Advent and Christmas campaign inviting us to share in the joy of Jesus' birth. Look out for our star display, which we will share with many other churches in a 'Night of the Stars' on 21<sup>st</sup> December. You may also wish to #FollowTheStar, A Journey Through the 12 Days of Christmas, through a published booklet of reflections. For a copy of the booklet, please ask either Doreen Mills ([doreen@mills37.plus.com](mailto:doreen@mills37.plus.com)) or Grahame Edmonds ([gaedmonds@btinternet.com](mailto:gaedmonds@btinternet.com)), or one of the Clergy. Archbishops Justin Welby and John Sentamu write: "For many of us, Christmas brings up so many emotions, memories and expectations. We have one nativity story, but it can seem like we all have very different Christmases.

For you it might be a time of joy and togetherness. Or perhaps it's all about planning and to-do lists. Many others can find it a sad and lonely time - nagged by the feeling that your Christmas is not like those 'perfect' ones we see in the media. But just like the unexpected assortment of people who were invited to meet the baby Jesus, #FollowTheStar doesn't ask you to be perfect. It says: come just as you are to take the life-changing Christmas journey".



**CONGRATULATIONS** ... to Anna Parsons (Head Chorister) and Leila O'Hara (Deputy Head Chorister) who have both won the Gold Award of the Royal School of Church Music. The Gold Award is the highest of the RSCM singing awards, marking the pinnacle of the "Voice for Life" scheme. It is gained by a very challenging examination that tests knowledge of the liturgical calendar and choral repertoire, in addition to singing and musicianship skills. Both girls have worked intensively towards this award over the past few months, on top of their A-level studies and other commitments; their success is a triumph for them and for St Mary's Choir, not least as they are the first to gain the award in over 6 years. We hope that other choristers, boys and girls alike, will follow them in years to come!

**da capo**  
*a cappella chamber choir*

*with*  
**Charles Matthews**

# **Wassail!**

**Start your Christmas with carols old and new  
and festive fare in a relaxed atmosphere**

**Supporting critical repairs to St Mary's Tower**

**St Mary's Church**

**7.30 pm, Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

Tickets:

available from:

Table seats – sold out

Mary Adams or

Remaining seats – £7.50, family £20

St Mary's Shop 01926 403940

For more information email [dacapo.warwick@gmail.com](mailto:dacapo.warwick@gmail.com)

**LEAMINGTON MUSIC EARLY MUSIC SERIES**  
**CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT ST MARY'S CHURCH**

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm

## From Advent to Candlemas

Sara Stowe soprano and positive organ, Lewis Spring alto  
Kate Allsop recorders, Tamsin Lewis violin and harp  
Adam Bushnell percussion, Matthew Spring lutes and hurdy gurdy  
Also with The County Waits

*Tickets include mulled wine and mince pies from the St Mary's Shop or call 01926 334418. Also on the doors.*

**SUPPORTING THE MUSIC OF ST MARY'S:** We are very proud of the musical tradition at St Mary's. If you would like to support the music-making here we would love to hear from you. It might be sponsoring a service of Choral Evensong in memory of a loved one, or offering a contribution towards the cost of a set of music for the Choir, or sponsoring a concert/recital, or something else! Please contact the Director of Music if you can help: [dofm@stmaryswarwick.org.uk](mailto:dofm@stmaryswarwick.org.uk)

**PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:** Flo Carpenter, Christopher Browne, Clifford Browne, Mandeep Madar, Gwen & Paul Shilton, Ellie Booth.

**PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED:** Mick Lord

**THIS WEEK: Beginning 9<sup>th</sup> December**

Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am 5.30pm	Holy Communion Choral Evensong
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm	Choral Evensong

## FORTHCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December -Advent 3

8.00am Holy Communion	10.30am Choral Eucharist	6.30pm Candlelit Christmas Carol Service
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Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December - Advent 4

8.00am Holy Communion	10.30am Choral Eucharist	6.30pm Candlelit Christmas Carol Service
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Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas 1

8.00am <u>NO</u> Holy Communion	10.30am Parish Eucharist	6.30pm <u>NO</u> Evensong
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Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January - The Epiphany

8.00am Holy Communion	9.30am Family Service	11.00am Choral Matins	6.30pm Choral Eucharist
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Parish Office: (01926) 403940

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