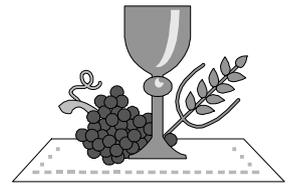




Weekly Newsletter

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, 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 16th Advent 3

8.00am

Holy Communion (BCP Said)

Celebrant & Preacher: Alycia Timmis

*The service begins in the Book of Common Prayer page 236
The collect and readings begin on page 51*

Followed each third Sunday by breakfast at a local café

| | |
|---------|---|
| 10.30am | Choral Eucharist Common Worship: Order 1 Boys' & Men's Voices |
|---------|---|

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Preacher: | Vaughan Roberts |
| Reading: | Philippians 4: 4-7- Noel Reeve |
| Intercessor: | Carol Johns |
| Assistants: | Alex Harold & Richard Warren |

| | |
|--------|---|
| 6.30pm | Candlelit Carol Service Boys', Girls' and Men's Voices |
|--------|---|

See special Order of Service

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

NOTICES

ALL GOOD THINGS

St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival and Warwick Poppies both came to their conclusion on Sun 9th Dec. They have been wonderful events which have brought visitors to our church from near and far. In fact during the past 2 months we have had our normal annual number of visitors to St Mary's. Many thanks to everyone who contributed so much time and effort to two *very* successful projects.

AND THE WINNERS OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL ARE ...

... well done to Warwick Woodloes Townswomen's Guild who were voted our visitors favourite tree in the Business and Community Organisation section, runners up are Unlocking Warwick and Textile Anarchist came third. In the Young Peoples section King's High won overall, with Warwickshire Young Carers runners up and St Mary Immaculate Roman Catholic School third. Thank you to everyone who took part and created such beautifully decorated trees.



A HUGE THANK YOU FROM THE CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL TEAM ...

On Victorian Evening to Rita Ray, Denise Godfrey and Ann Mew who all worked so hard to create and man fundraising stalls, Jean Liggins and Elizabeth Briggs who looked after our memory tree, the Friends of St Mary's for providing mulled wine and mince pies, our guides who shepherded over 2000 people, our Visitor Services team who looked after the gift shop and Scholars, Mark Swinton and Alycia and Vaughan for bringing a wonderful evening to a close with a carol service. To Roger Mills for completing the mammoth task of counting all the votes, Alice Pethick for supporting the office in all the preparation for the festival and organising the publicity and social media, Oliver Pethick for designing the promotional literature, all the cake makers who supplied the pop up café, the volunteers who manned the café and to everyone involved who welcomed over 5000 visitors and made this year's Christmas Tree Festival a success once again.

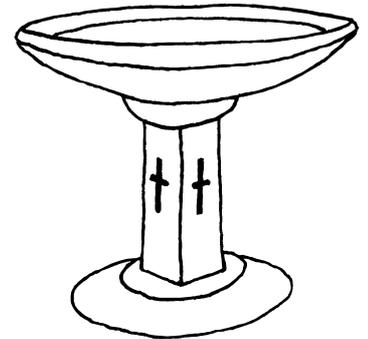


LOOKING AHEAD

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 this Wednesday (19th), due to school carol services, or on Wednesday 26th December (Boxing Day!).

LAST SUNDAY

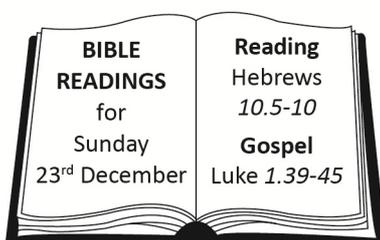
Thank you to everyone who contributed to last Sunday morning's baptism when Vaughan and Mandy's youngest granddaughter, Luna, was welcomed into God's family at St Mary's. Please continue to keep all who have been baptised at here this year in your prayers during the week ahead.



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

We pray for all who are lonely, sick, and in crisis at this time of year, and for those who are finding the pressures of Christmas - both financially and emotionally - particularly difficult.

Send your peace, Lord, into the hearts of those who need to hear your Christmas message, and fill their souls with the glorious light that is coming.

We ask this through our Saviour, Jesus Christ, the true meaning of Christmas. 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), Grahame Edmonds (gaedmonds@btinternet.com), or a member of the Clergy Team

PLEASE JOIN US ...

... for the last organ recital of 2018, on Friday 21st December at 1.15pm, in which our own Oliver Hancock will be providing a basket of seasonal delights by Bach, Bédard, Brahms, Edmundson, Hakim, Karg-Elert, Langlais and Leighton. Based on tunes for Advent and Christmas, you'll almost certainly be humming them afterwards! Admission is free with a retiring collection.

LUNCHTIME RECITALS 2018-2019

1st and 3rd Fridays of the month, 1.15-2.00pm

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

For information about organ recitals throughout the UK, please visit www.organrecitals.com

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 21st 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) or Grahame Edmonds (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".



2019 NUMBERED GIVING ENVELOPES .. are available at the back of church. If you are new to the scheme, please take a pack and complete your name and sign against one of the available numbers. If you are a regular scheme member and would like to change your number, please take one of the available numbers and sign next to that number and delete your name against the old number.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES: Next term we are planning confirmation classes ahead of the Bishop of Warwick taking a Confirmation and First Communion Service on Easter Eve at St Mary's. If you'd like to find out more please speak to the Vicar.



REST IN PEACE: We were sorry to hear the news recently of the deaths of Joy Farrow and Shirley Little. Joy's funeral will be on Mon 7th Jan in St Mary's. Shirley's is likely to be in Tiverton where she had recently moved, at a date to be decided. Longstanding readers will recall Shirley was a founder member of Collegium and married to Stephen Little (former Team Rector of Warwick). Also a Service of Thanksgiving for Mick Lord, stalwart member of St Mary's will be on Wed 19th Dec at 2.30pm in St Mary's. Please keep Mick, Shirley and Joy in your prayers together with all their family and friends.

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 18th 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

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

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, Joy Farrow , Shirley Little

THIS WEEK: Beginning 16th December

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Wednesday 19 th | 10.00am 5.30pm | <u>NO</u> Holy Communion Choral Evensong |
| Friday 21 st | 5.30pm | Choral Evensong |

FORTHCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday 23rd December - Advent 4

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 8.00am Holy Communion | 10.30am Choral Eucharist | 6.30pm Candlelit Christmas Carol Service |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|

Sunday 30th December - Christmas 1

| | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--|
| 8.00am <u>NO</u> Holy Communion | 10.30am Parish Eucharist | 6.30pm <u>NO</u> Evensong |
|--|------------------------------------|--|

Sunday 6th January - The Epiphany

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 8.00am Holy Communion | 9.30am Family Service | 11.00am Choral Matins | 6.30pm Choral Eucharist |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|

Sunday 13th January - Baptism of Christ

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 8.00am Holy Communion | 10.30am Choral Eucharist | 6.30pm Choral Evensong |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|

Parish Office: (01926) 403940

Felicity Bostock - parishadministrator@stmaryswarwick.org.uk

Glynis Nixon - admin@stmaryswarwick.org.uk