



# Christian Life

The Parish Magazine of St Mary's & St Luke's

December 2021

*Including the readings for Sunday 05 December*

## At the heart of Christmas



**See inside for details of our  
Christmas Services**



## Worship & Prayer In Church & Online this month

You will find the Readings for Sunday 05 December  
on the centre pages 4 & 5.

<b>Services this Month</b>	
05 December Advent 2	9am at St Luke's: a service of Morning Prayer
	10:40am at St Mary's: Holy Communion with Junior Church
	<i>Readings: Malachi 3.1-4 &amp; Luke 3.1-6</i>
12 December Advent 3	9am at St Luke's: a service Holy Communion
	10:40am at St Mary's: All Age Worship
	<i>Readings: Zephaniah 3.14-20 &amp; Luke 3.7-18</i>
Saturday 18 December	5pm Carols on the Green Outdoor Carol singing on the triangle outside St Mary's
19 December Advent 4	9am at St Luke's: Carol Service
	10:40am at St Mary's: All Age Holy Communion
	<i>Readings: Micah 5.2-5a &amp; Luke 1.39-45</i>
	6pm Nine Lessons and Carols at St Mary's – a traditional retelling of the Christmas Story through readings and carols
Christmas Eve (Friday)	6pm The Crib Service (ticket only <a href="http://bit.ly/book4christmas">bit.ly/book4christmas</a> )
	11:30am Midnight Holy Communion
	<i>Readings: Isaiah 52.7-10 &amp; John 1.1-14</i>
Christmas Day (Saturday)	9am at St Luke's: a service of Holy Communion
	10:40am at St Mary's: Holy Communion for all the family
	<i>Readings: Isaiah 9.2-7 &amp; Luke 2.1-14</i>
26 December Christmas 1	No service at St Luke's
	10:40am at St Mary's: Holy Communion
	<i>Readings: Colossians 3.12-17 &amp; Luke 2.41-52</i>
<b>Other Services this Month</b>	
Every Wednesday at St Mary's	10am Holy Communion at St Mary's
<b>Online Worship</b>	
<p><b>Every Sunday @ 10:40 am Live Streamed Worship from St Mary's</b>            YouTube: <a href="http://bit.ly/youtubestmarys1">bit.ly/youtubestmarys1</a> &amp; Facebook: <a href="http://bit.ly/facebookstmarys">bit.ly/facebookstmarys</a>            Morning Prayer on Zoom, 9:30am (usually) Mon, Tues &amp; Thurs <a href="http://bit.ly/930mp">bit.ly/930mp</a></p>	

## At the heart of Christmas



In 2020, many of us experienced a Christmas when so many of the ways we traditionally mark the season were suddenly denied to us.

This year, of course, we hope and pray that many of the familiar experiences that help Christmas come alive return to our homes, our churches and communities. Whatever else December brings, it will offer us an opportunity to enter more deeply into the joyful mystery that lies at its heart: God becoming human in the birth of Jesus Christ.

Inspired by readings from the Gospels of Luke and John read at so many Christmas services, *At the heart of Christmas* is an invitation to everyone to discover – or rediscover – the good news of God’s saving love as revealed in the birth of Jesus.

There are leaflets in the porch of both churches with our Christmas Services on and also bookmarks. Our website has a dedicated page for all our Advent and Christmas resources and information link from the homepage.

With every Blessing for a Joyful Christmas and a Peaceful New Year,  
Revd Mike

## Homemade Produce for sale for Church Funds

**Mike and Chris Horne are again offering their homemade Chutneys, pickles and Jams** from 1.50, Christmas Puddings depending on size from £1.50-£3 and Hyacinths Bowls for £6. There are order forms around at Church/office or email them directly at [torritone@btinternet.com](mailto:torritone@btinternet.com) or contact on 07756 575835 to place an order. Please support them as all proceeds to Church Funds.

### Online

Every Sunday @ 10:40 am Live Streamed Worship from St Mary’s  
(stream begins at 10:30am)

 YouTube: [bit.ly/youtubestmarys1](https://bit.ly/youtubestmarys1) & Facebook:  [bit.ly/facebookstmarys](https://bit.ly/facebookstmarys)

You can also join in by phone: just before 10:40am Call: 0203 051 2874

Meeting ID: 838 7878 9259 Participant ID (if asked): # Passcode: 567119

Morning Prayer on Zoom, 9:30am (usually) Mon, Tues & Thurs [bit.ly/930mp](https://bit.ly/930mp) or  
by phone: 0203 051 2874 Meeting ID: 850 2058 1307 Passcode: 914961

## **First Reading: Malachi 3.1-4**

### **A reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi**

'I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,' says the Lord Almighty.

But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years. This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Text © New International Version – UK edition*

---

## **Gospel Reading: Luke 3:1-6**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory to you O Lord.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar – when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene – during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

'A voice of one calling in the wilderness,  
"Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.  
Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low.  
The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth.  
And all people will see God's salvation.'"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ.**

*Text © New International Version – UK edition*

### **The Collect for 2nd Sunday of Advent**

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power  
and come among us,  
and with great might succour us;  
that whereas, through our sins and  
wickedness we are grievously  
hindered in running the race that is  
set before us,  
your bountiful grace and mercy  
may speedily help and deliver us;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our  
Lord, to whom with you and the Holy  
Spirit, be honour and glory,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Father in heaven,  
who sent your Son  
to redeem the world  
and will send him again  
to be our judge:  
give us grace so to imitate him  
in the humility and purity of his  
first coming  
that, when he comes again,  
we may be ready to greet him  
with joyful love and firm faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**



## **Mothers' Union News**

**Many thanks to all the members and friends who gave a donation.** We raised the marvellous sum of £120 for the Britain and Ireland Fund, this has now been sent. On the 8<sup>th</sup> December is our annual Carol Service along with the Ladies Afternoon Group, this will be followed by refreshments in the Church Hall. Please bring Mince pies if possible.

### **Ladies Afternoon Group**

Our next meeting will be on **WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021** when we shall be joining our Mothers Union friends at a Carol Service in the Church at 2.15pm. After the service you are invited to the Church Hall for tea, coffee and mince pies.

On **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022** we are holding our A.G.M. which will be followed by a Bring and Share tea. We look forward to seeing you at both these events. Audrey and Marian.

### **The Ribbon of Poppies**

Many thanks to all those who came to see the Poppy Ribbon, the donations and for all the fantastic feedback and conversations. Tom Austin has said, "The fundraising total for the display is £2,294.60 including the bucket collection in church". What a tremendous achievement, well done to all.

**At the heart  
of Christmas**

# **St Mary's Wistaston & St Luke's Willaston**



**We invite you to celebrate with  
us the birth of Jesus.  
Why not join us for a special  
Christmas Service?**

---

**18 December (Saturday)**

**5pm - Carols on the Green at St Mary's**

**19 December**

**9am - St Luke's Carol Service**

**6pm - Nine Lessons and Carols at St Mary's**

**Christmas Eve**

**6pm - Crib Service at St Mary's (ticket required\*)**

**11:30pm - Midnight Holy Communion at St Mary's**

**Christmas Day**

**9am - Holy Communion at St Luke's**

**10.40am Holy Communion for**

**Christmas for all the family at St Mary's**

---

**\* Tickets available at [bit.ly/book4christmas](https://bit.ly/book4christmas)**

**or the Church Office: 01270 567119**

**More information on our socials**

**[stmaryswistaston.org.uk](http://stmaryswistaston.org.uk)**

**[stmaryswistaston.blog](http://stmaryswistaston.blog)**

**Twitter @maryandluke**

**All services are subject to change - please check our socials**

**#AtTheHeartOfChristmas**



## A Quarter Peal dedicated to Ken

On the evening of Monday 22 November our Bell Ringers rang a quarter peal which was dedicated to Revd Ken Sambrook and his faithful service. Ken's funeral took place at St Mary's on 29 November 2021.

### Chester Diocesan Guild

Wistaston, Cheshire

St Mary the Virgin

Monday, 22 November 2021 in 38m (5-3-24 in B)

**1272 Minor** (2m)

552 St Clements College 720 Plain Bob

- 1 Warren S Oliver
- 2 Paul G Stubbs
- 3 Robert A Galloway
- 4 Jacqueline H A Thompson
- 5 Craig Chaplow
- 6 Frank R Morton (C)

In memory of Rev Ken Sandbrook, minister at this Church for many years.

## Nantwich Based Listening Service Seeks Volunteers

Do you have a heart for the bereaved? Do you have an hour or two free a week and would you like to use it to help others? Insights Bereavement Listening Support Service is a new initiative following research in our local area which has revealed a desperate shortage of support for those affected by bereavement. Insights is being supported by The End of Life Partnership, Nantwich Town Council and the National Lottery.

As a completely volunteer-led group, we are looking for compassionate people who are willing to undertake brief training to become a listening volunteer.' An enhanced DBS will be paid for by Insights. The listening can take place in a booked room, in a client's home, outdoors on a walk, or even over the phone/Skype, according to client and volunteer preference/availability. Clients receive 8 – 10 sessions depending on need, although some clients feel so much better after 1 or 2 sessions that they finish then.

### Bereaved?

Have you lost a loved one? Would it help to talk to someone? Self-referrals to this free service welcome. (Listening sessions take place in Nantwich.) Your loss does not have to be recent...often we need to talk about things that happened years ago as much as those very recent losses.

If you'd like more information, contact [insightsnantwich@hotmail.com](mailto:insightsnantwich@hotmail.com) or call 07942 337801

## From the Church Registers

**Baptisms** – *we pray for these children as they continue their Christian journey*

07 November: Bonnie Rose HILL

Beau Rivers HILL

21 November: Elijah Anthony Stephen SHORT

28 November: Bella Angela CASEY

### Weddings

No weddings this month

**Funerals** – *may they rest in peace and rise in glory*

29 November 2021	Kenneth Henry SAMBROOK	79
------------------	------------------------	----

# At the heart of Christmas



## Chester Diocesan News & the Magazine

The Chester Diocesan News can be viewed/downloaded from the Diocesan Website each month and we will put a link on our Blog when it's available.

**We would like your articles for the January Magazine.** You can submit an article on the [Blog](#) through the Magazine Menu and click on 'Submit an Item', email it to: [magazine@stmaryswistaston.blog](mailto:magazine@stmaryswistaston.blog) or drop it to the Church Office or the Rectory **by Monday 20 December.**

## Keeping in touch

**Church Office:** 01270 567119 Email: [office@stmaryswistaston.org.uk](mailto:office@stmaryswistaston.org.uk)

**Rector: Revd Mike Turnbull** The Rectory 104 Church Lane Wistaston  
01270 665742 Email: [revd.mike@stmaryswistaston.org.uk](mailto:revd.mike@stmaryswistaston.org.uk)

**Curate: Revd Paul North** (usual days in the parish Mon, Thurs & Sunday)  
Mobile: 07488 354358 Email: [revd.paul@stmaryswistaston.org.uk](mailto:revd.paul@stmaryswistaston.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.stmaryswistaston.org.uk](http://www.stmaryswistaston.org.uk)

**Blog:** [www.stmaryswistaston.blog](http://www.stmaryswistaston.blog)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/stmaryandstluke](http://www.facebook.com/stmaryandstluke)

**Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/maryandluke](http://www.twitter.com/maryandluke)