

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCHES & SERVICES



15th December 2024 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

THIS WEEK

Collect: *O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Luke 3:7-18

Hymns: MP 538 On Jordan's bank

Carol book 58 Of the Father's heart begotten

Carol Book 9 Let all mortal flesh

Carol Book 7 Hills of the north

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8.30am Holy Communion at St. Mary's

10.00am Holy Communion at St. Mary's

We hope to be able to live stream the 10am service on Facebook. If so, a recording will be available to watch after end of service.

3.00pm Quiet Christmas Service

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Mon 7.30pm Bellringing Practice

Wed 10.30am Holy Communion at Reach
10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court

Thurs 9.00am Morning Prayer

Fri 10.00am Refresh Café and Lunch

Sat 9.00am Village Green Prayers

SUNDAY WORSHIP 22nd DECEMBER 2024

10.00am Holy Communion at St. Mary's

6.30pm Carols by Candlelight at St. Mary's

YOUR PRAYERS:

- For those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment, and compassion to guide their decisions. We pray for just and peaceful solutions to be reached.

We pray especially for an end to the terrible situation in the Middle East and we continue to pray for the people of Ukraine. We also pray for the volatile situation in Syria. May the leaders of violence and bloodshed know a change of heart and work towards peace.

- Look with compassion on the world where anger so often prevails over love, where false speech and evil words destroy human fellowship. For all leaders in public life, that they may rise to meet the responsibilities entrusted to them as they serve their nations and those whom they represent. For them to uphold the common good and promote the dignity of all, especially the most vulnerable, including the poor, stranger, the elderly and infirm, and migrants. For our own government; for wisdom and insight and may they aspire to create changes that benefit those that are most in need, in our society and the wider world.

- For the work of organisations helping families around the world to overcome poverty and injustice, wherever the need is greatest, and there is high risk of famine including: Haiti, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Yemen, Syria, DRC, South Sudan.

- We pray for those who have been adversely affected by bad weather and for those who work to raise awareness of climate change; that their voice might be heard above the storm. Make us people who recognise, nurture and act towards a more sustainable world for the benefit of all who draw life from this planet. Raise up campaigners who will speak out for wisdom, restraint & compassion, and pray that political leaders be guided by wisdom, vision, courage to work together and take urgent action.

- For all those struggling in today's difficult economic situation. May adequate immediate provision be made available, and support to find longer term solutions, so that everyone has their basic needs met for food, shelter, employment and security. Help us to see and serve the needs around us, whether through food banks, charity work, or simple acts of kindness. May we be attentive to the lonely, the marginalized, and those struggling in our midst.

- For our leaders as the Diocese continues the process of choosing a new Bishop of Ely. For this parish, for Eleanor, Paula, Jo, Virginia, Kevin & all in leadership.

- For our work with children, young people and families, including Refresh Café, Messy Church and the ideas for engaging with young people. For those involved on the teams, and for others to come forward.

- For those who are unable to meet with us, now in residential care, including Jennie, Janey, Vi, Don, Marian.

- For those living in:- Baker Drive, Ness Court, Ness Road, The Avenue (Burwell), Swaffham Road (Reach).

- For those in special need: Danny, Sarah, Jackie C, Neil, Don, Sonya (Anna Hopper's sister), Carol, Janice, John H, Sonny (Jackie & Tony's Great Grandson), Kate, Jennie D, John D, Joanne, Pam C, Jessica, Pauline, Michael (Ysanne's brother), Jackie L, Sue A.

- For the bereaved including the friends and family of John Wilson and for those remembering anniversaries of loss of loved ones.

FOR YOUR ATTENTION

* **Thank you** to those who helped clear up after the break-in at St Mary's last Sunday, particularly to Ken for responding to the emergency call out. **Thank you also to Angela** for all the hard work in putting together the Christmas Tree Festival, and to those who helped with Thursday evening's concert.

* **Carols by Candlelight** Sun 22nd Dec. We would be grateful for **Donations** towards the refreshments after the service: **red wine** for the mulled wine (by Sat 21st), either leave in Church kitchen or contact Val who will collect, and **mince pies** on the day (please let us know in advance if you can contribute). Thanks very much. Val, & Wendy.

* **Dee and Rob Smith** are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their Granddaughter Phoebe Franklin Jones, on Tuesday 10th December 2024. Catt, Matt and Phoebe are all well and looking forward to their first Family Christmas.

* **Free Advent books** – take one and one to give away!

* **Greetings Cards and fridge magnets** of St Mary's by local artist Sarah Gausden available to purchase, with some of proceeds to come to the church. Cards £2.50, Magnets £3.50.

PASTORAL CARE

Please contact Eleanor or Paula with messages about pastoral news, needs & concerns, requests for prayer. Revd Canon Dr Eleanor Williams 01638 741262 vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk Revd Paula Spalding (Associate Priest): 07849 936085 associatepriest@stmarysburwell.org.uk Revd Virginia Moggridge (Curate) 07566 773020 curate@stmarysburwell.org.uk