

## of St. Mary Bromley

*Jesus said 'Therefore, keep awake for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn.'*

*Mark 13.35*



Jesus has a vigorous view of the Christian life. He wants the goodness of God to be in our lives and from us for the world to know his goodness. Yes there is a time for rest, he took his disciples away from the crowds from time to time for refreshment. But he wants us to be alert to the needs and opportunities around us now.

This Sunday we will welcome Henry Musson for his baptism along with parents Ben and Claire and godparents Joseph, Eleanor, Barry, Katie and Jamie

### Sunday Clubs



All children and parents are welcome to join us for the Sunday Clubs session on Sunday 3 December. We start in church at 10.30 a.m.

### Together magazine



The latest edition of our Diocese's magazine is available in church and electronic copies online <https://www.rochester.anglican.org/for-parishes/communication/together-magazine/>

### Candlelit Compline – Saturdays in Advent, 6pm



Watching and waiting for the coming of the Lord at Christmas with a focus each week on one of the following: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. Please bring with you a sentence to add to the prayers on the topic for the week either of thanksgiving or of intercession. In church and online for half an hour in December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>

### Follow the Star



This is a series of reflections from the Church of England about Christmas. There are a number of booklets containing reflections in the church. You are welcome to take a copy.

### Thank you Scout and Lola

These are Lisa and Brian Morris' dogs who found the reason for the flies in church last week. The remains of a poor animal probably a squirrel, was found and have been disposed of.

### Church Breakin

Sadly the church building was broken into on Monday night. One of the glass doors has been smashed. Fortunately little harm was done to the building or its contents. Many thanks to Clem Sutton for arranging a quick temporary fix. As part of enhanced security there is now a chain around the handles of the outer porch door. If you need to know the combination code please contact Atlanta Topham.

### Christmas Leaflets



With a wide range of Christmas services coming up it is good to invite residents of our parish to share with us. There will be bundles of leaflets in church from this Sunday. Please do take one (or more!) and invite our neighbours to celebrate with us the Good News of Jesus birth.

### Starter Packs

Anne Horner-Tree of St. Peter and St Paul's church produces packs of utensils and domestic goods to support people who are beginning independent living. She is asking for help with toiletries. In St. Mary's church there will be some bags with tags to identify the goods to be supplied. There are three kinds, one for men, one for ladies and one for cleaning. Please think about taking one of these, supplying the items and returning the bag to St. Mary's. It will be wonderful if in December we can have filled all of the bags we have been given. For more about Starter Packs see <https://www.bromleyparishchurch.org/starterpacks>

## Live Stream Operators



You may notice some new faces on the Livestream desk in the next few weeks. When Gill and Alan retire we will be relying on just a few (3) volunteers and we do need a few more to be confident that we can continue to provide a reliable Livestream option. Take advantage of training available and help to learn a new skill. Let Alan or a Churchwarden know if you are ready for the challenge.

## Service Assistants

There is a long tradition of people welcoming worshippers to services and dealing with practicalities in preparing for the service. The position has been called Sidesman. We are grateful for so many people who have done this role over the years. The Church Wardens are now looking to reestablish this position. We would now like them to be called Service Assistants, a term which is inclusive of male and female. We hope you will understand this and support the change. There will be a sheet on the back table for people to sign up and there will be preparation events to explain what is involved. Please do think about continuing what you have been doing or joining this important role.

## Guild of Church Flower Arrangers – Monday 4th December, 2 pm



Siân Tribe's will be giving a Christmas demonstration. This is an afternoon meeting at West Wickham and Shirley Baptist Church, Wickham Road, Shirley CRO 8EH. All welcome. Visitors £5.

## Evening Study Group – on Tuesday 5 December, 8pm



Evening Study Group meets next via Zoom when we will be thinking about the readings for Sunday 10th December: Isaiah 40, 1-11; 2 Peter 3, 8-15a; and Mark 1, 1-8. For further details please contact Peter Boyden.

## Grace Café with Christmas tree decorating – Wednesday 6th December, 10am - noon



There will be our usual coffee, cake and fellowship with added Christmas preparation. You will be most welcome to join the volunteers who host the Grace Cafe. There is a sign up sheet in the church if you would like to help.

## JusB's Showcase of Talents with fundraising – Wednesday 6th December, 6pm - 8pm



This will be at Brook Lane Church, Bromley. The Mayor of Bromley will be attending. Please RSVP to [anne@iusb.co.uk](mailto:anne@iusb.co.uk) if you would like to attend. Further information at [www.iusb.co.uk](http://www.iusb.co.uk)

## Christingle Service preparation – Saturday 9th December, 9.30 am approx



As many of you will know members of our Mothers Union always make the "Christingles" which are handed out during the service to all the children and many of the congregation also. We make them up the day before on the Saturday morning in Church House at 9.30 am approx. Any offers of help would be much appreciated. Friendly company and refreshments are provided. We look forward to seeing you.

## Sunday 17th December, Sunday Club Nativity



Calling all shepherds, star watchers/wise men/kings, angels, Marys and Josephs - you are all invited to the Sunday Club Nativity Service on Sunday 17th December at 10.30 a.m. Costumes available or bring your own.

## Carol Singing – Tuesday 19th December, 6.00pm

Come and join the choir singing in Mooreland Road. We will meet outside John Cox's house (47), with refreshments following the singing.

## Carol Service refreshments



There will be mince pies and mulled wine after the carol service on 17th December. Please contact Alison Tyler or Trine Hevezi if you would like to help.

## Welcare in Bromley Carols – Wednesday 20th December, 11.00am and 1.00pm

Come and join us in The Glades between to raise money for local families. Meet at the higher level of the Glades, outside Zara. We hope to continue our reputation of being well represented by members and friends of St Mary's church. Drop in as convenient.

## Newsletter Editor

Alan will be handing this task over to Atlanta Topham, St. Mary's Parish Administrator. Please can material for the editions from December onwards be given to her by noon on a Wednesday.

## Refreshments Rota



Many thanks to all who willingly and regularly serve refreshments on a Sunday morning after the service. If you would like to volunteer to help, please have a word with Anne Yolland.

## Prayer

### A Prayer for the week

Almighty God,  
as your kingdom dawns,  
turn us from the darkness of sin to the  
light of holiness,  
that we may be ready to meet you  
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

### Requests for prayer

#### Weekly

Denis Dodds

#### Monthly Week 5

Our monthly scheme only has four weeks. So how about thanks for those closest to you, a big issue in your life or just five minutes of silence?

## Memorial Book

There is a memorial book at St. Mary's in which may be inscribed names of people associated with this place. If you would like to know more details please contact Alan or Jean Read on 020 8402 0886.

## Worship, Prayer and Fellowship

Our service on Sundays are Live Streamed. See <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysbromley/>

At our 10.30am Family Communion on 3rd December:

Readings	Isaiah 64.1-9, 1 Corinthians 1.3-9, Mark 13.24-37
Hymns	358 O come, O come Immanuel
	98 Come thou long expected Jesus
	311 Lord Jesus Christ
	277 Jesus shall reign

The Order of Service: <https://www.stmarys-bromley.org.uk/lockdown/st-marys-worship>

*Please can contributions for the Newsletter now be given to Atlanta Topham by noon on Wednesdays  
Atlanta's email is [admin@stmarys-bromley.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmarys-bromley.org.uk)*