



St Mary's News

"One Church Worshipping in Different ways"

Welcome to the St Mary's Church family. We are a diverse Church community meeting in and for our village

Services

Sunday 6th October

8am BCP Holy Communion
9:30am CW Holy Communion
6pm Wellspring

Sunday 13th October

8am BCP Holy Communion
9:30am CW Holy Communion
@11 Informal All-age Worship

Sunday 20th October

8am BCP Holy Communion
10am United Worship
5pm Forest church
@Adventure Pirate
6pm BCP Evensong

Sunday 27th October

8am BCP Holy Communion
9:30am CW Holy Communion
@11 Informal All-age Worship

Christmas Event at St Mary's

We are already planning for what will be happening in church for Christmas! This year our 'Thursday morning Home Group' will be organising an event whereby the church will be open over a couple of weekends in early December for a 'Festival of the Nativity' – a display of Nativity scenes reflecting the timeless message of the birth of Jesus – God's greatest gift to all people.

A 'Nativity' or 'Crib/Manger' scene is something which many households have. They come in a variety of forms to be used as part of a seasonal display and festive decorations. Many families have one which has been passed on by previous generations and which has been central to the retelling of the Christmas story to our children and our children's children. We are inviting church members and also those in the local community to 'lend' us 'scenes' to form a display.

If you would like to be a part of this 'event' and have a Nativity set which is unusual/has an interesting back story or is particularly well crafted/fascinating/different in some way, then do please have a chat with Ruth and David - or any member of the Home group. Any items included in the displays will be returned by mid-December in time for inclusion in your own decorative scheme. And, if you have an item but are reluctant to lend it for any reason, then it might be possible to arrange for photographic display instead.

We hope to encourage many people to visit the church and to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. Although not primarily a 'fundraising' event there will also be the opportunity for us to provide hospitality and a 'Christmas crafts' stall as well. If you would like to donate any hand-crafted Christmas decorations or make some edible Christmas goodies (mince pies, preserves/chutney, fudge etc) they will help to raise much needed funds which go towards the upkeep of our beautiful church. We also hope to include an activity area for children to explore the Christmas story too. If anyone would like to join the organising team to offer practical help in any way then do please let us know. All are welcome.

Karen – on behalf of the Thursday Morning Home Group

All morning services also available online: www.smlm.co.uk/livestream/

<https://www.smlm.co.uk/events/calendar/>

Contacts

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Church Administrator

Riette Hodson

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Safeguarding Officer

Charles Hodson

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Website & Bellringing

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News sheet

Frances Tomlinson-Mynors

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Prayers

prayer@smlm.co.uk

Welcoming all to St Mary's

As we seek to welcome new folk to St Mary's we would hate for the relative 'remoteness' of our location to be a barrier to anyone joining us!

We are aware that several people who are now connecting in regularly with us on a Sunday morning might appreciate a lift to church. If you are able to help in this way then please have a chat with Stephen, Ann or Karen and we can link you up.

Stephen, Ann & Karen



Prayers

We pray for our young people as they start their exams. We pray for everyone in the church family and places where there is conflict around the world.