

A Very Happy Christmas to all our readers!



Services 19 December: *Advent 4*

- 8.00am BCP Communion
- 10.00am Communion plus Children's Church
- 12 noon shortened BCP Communion
- 3.00pm St Matthew's Asian Congregation in the Centre
- 6.30pm Carol Service

Theme – Emmanuel, God with us: Matthew 1:18-end

THREE WEEK ISSUE

This Week:-

Please check for CANCELLATIONS if poor weather continues

Mon 20	2.00	Craft Group	Centre
	7.00	Church Hill Praise Christmas do	Longhorn
Tue 21	8.45	Morning Prayer	Church
Wed 22		Toddler Group Christmas break	
	10.00	Midweek communion	Church
Thur 23	2.00	Crib Service rehearsal	Church
	8.45	Morning Prayer	Church
	10.00	Crib Service rehearsal	Church
Fri 24	5.00	Crib Service	Church
	11.15	Midnight Mass	Church
Sat 25	8.00	BCP Communion	Church
	10.00	All-age Communion (No Children's Church)	Church

Notices

Many thanks to all our hard working staff and volunteers. It has been very busy for weeks - extra services to run, cleaning and tidying, manning the mikes, moving the furniture, etc. You have given a great Christmas to many other people through the sacrifice of your own time and effort. Well done! You are greatly appreciated.

- Thank you to all who made it to the Church Cleaning party on Saturday 18th and got the church ready for all our guests. I hope the butties made it worthwhile!
- And thankyou to those who took our Christmas flyers round the parish. It was great to distribute so many in such a short time!

Christmas flowers The flower fund coffers are empty and flowers are very dear at this time of year! Help our church look beautiful for Christmas: donate via Helen Robinson or the box at the back of Church.

Crib Service Rehearsals: Do you or your children want to take part in our Crib Service on Christmas Eve? If so you will need to come along to rehearsals on Wed 22 December 2.00-4pm and Thursday 23rd 10.00-12. Just turn up and we will find a role for you!

St Matthew's Prayer Chain If you have a specific prayer request please can you contact our Prayer Chain Co-ordinator, Colin Townsend on 01922 645431. Colin will arrange for prayer to travel down the chain.

Church and Office CLOSED Monday 27 December to Saturday 1 January. Please try not to disturb our staff who are resting after a very busy period unless it is vitally necessary. Liz Chamberlain will be on call if a member of the clergy is urgently required.

Toddler Group Christmas Break: The Group opens again on 12 Jan.

Bethlehem School Appeal Just a reminder that St Matthew's Children's Church has raised the amazing sum of over £415 for a wonderful school for Arab Christian children. At the last count the adults are still trailing with a mere £396. Come on adults! And don't forget to use your secret weapon of Gift Aid whereby the school gets back the income tax paid on the amount of your gift. Just put your contribution on the collection plate in an envelope clearly marked "Bethlehem" and we'll do the rest.

From Liz Burley: Thank you to Blue Coat Infant and Junior Schools and Children's Church for making the lovely angels displayed in church. Parents please note! Children will return from Children's Church after Communion today, to allow plenty of time for their Christmas Party.

Services Friday 24 December:

- 5.00 Crib Service
- 11.15pm Midnight Mass

Services Saturday 25 December:

- 8.00am BCP Communion with carols
- 10.00am All-age Communion - NO Children's Church

Services Sunday 26 December:

- 10.00am All-age Communion - NO Children's Church
All our other usual Sunday services are CANCELLED.

Services Friday December 31:

There is NO Watch Night Service this year

Services Sunday 2 January:

- 8.00am BCP Communion
- 10.00am Communion plus Children's Church
- NOT *an all-age service this time!*
- 12 noon shortened BCP Communion
- 3.00pm St Matthew's Asian Congregation in the Centre
- 6.30pm Church Hill Praise

Church Diary January 2011:-

5 January	10.00	Messy Church Planning Session	Centre?
11 January	7.15	(for 7.30) DCC Meeting	Centre
12 January	11.00	Pastoral Care Group	Centre
15 January	11.00	More tea Vicar? (Surgery hour)	Church
	3.30	wedding: Elisa and Scott	Church

For Your Prayers...

Give thanks for the wonder and joy of Jesus come into the world!

Making Christ Known: Pray for a great response to our Christmas flyers and many people at our Christmas services

The World: Pray for everyone who finds Christmas heavy and sad: those worried about their job, their savings, and those bereaved and ill – see below.

For Healing: Isaac James, Janet Farnell, Keith Masters, Patricia Smyth, Louise Partridge, Joan Nock, Wendy Ross, Barry McEwan, Andrew Taylor, Doreen Hammond, Hazel Joyce, Felicity Clarkson.

Rest in Peace: Audrey Draper, Vera Naylor, Stewart Marder, Florence Freeman, all named in our Memorial Book: those killed in Afghanistan.

Contact Us:-

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