

## WELCOME TO OUR CHURCHES & SERVICES



22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

### THIS WEEK

**Collect:** *God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

**Readings:** Micah 5.2-5a; Luke 1.39-45[46-55]

**Hymns:** The angel Gabriel

Long ago prophets knew

Thou did'st leave thy throne

Tell out my soul

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

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.*

6.30pm Carols by Candlelight at St. Mary's

### WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

**Mon** 5.00pm Christingle service at Reach

7.30pm Bellingring Practice

### Tues Christmas Eve:

3.00pm Crib Service at St. Mary's

11.30pm Midnight Communion at St. Mary's

### Weds Christmas Day:

8.30am Holy Communion at Reach

10.00am Holy Communion at St. Mary's



**Thurs NO MORNING PRAYER**

**Fri NO REFRESH CAFÉ**

**Sat** 9.00am Village Green Pray-ers

### WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> DEC. 2024

**Collect:** *Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity.*

**Readings:** 1 Samuel 2.18-20,26; Luke 2.41-52

Sun 10.00am Holy Communion at St. Mary's

Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Jan **NO SERVICE**

Thurs 9.00am Morning Prayer at St. Mary's

Fri 10.00am Refresh Café and lunch

Sat 9.00am Village Green Pray-ers

### SUNDAY WORSHIP 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2025

**Collect:** *O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.*

**Readings:** Isaiah 60.1-6; Matthew 2.1-12

8.30am Holy Communion at Reach

10.00am Epiphany Café Church at St. Mary's

### YOUR PRAYERS:

- As the Advent season draws to a close, we remember the real meaning of Christmas and ask God that the birth of his Son will bring peace on Earth to all. We pray for the Church, that the message of Joy that Christmas brings will be proclaimed in every part of our communities, as we give thanks for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ into our world

- For those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment, and compassion to guide their decisions. For just and peaceful solutions to be reached, especially for an end to the terrible situation in the Middle East and for peace in Ukraine. We 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 that they may 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.

- 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.

- 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 the new initiative, Connect Café, beginning on 15<sup>th</sup> January.

- 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 and for those remembering anniversaries of loss of loved ones.

### FOR YOUR ATTENTION

\* **A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. With our love, Eleanor, Roger and family.** Open House at the Vicarage 11.00am-1.00pm Sat 4<sup>th</sup> Jan. All welcome for a drink and a snack.

\* **Carols by Candlelight** Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec. We would be grateful for **Donations** towards the refreshments after the service: **red wine** for the mulled wine and **mince pies**, on Sunday morning. Thanks very much.

\* **Congratulations** to Dawn celebrating her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December.

### 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