



St Mary's News

"One Church Worshipping in Different ways"

www.smlm.co.uk

Welcome to the St Mary's Church family

Welcome to St Mary's church

We are a diverse Church community meeting in
and for our village

20th December 2015

Worship Today

Sunday 20th December

**8am BCP Holy Communion
(Methodist Church)**

**10am Morning Worship with
Holy Communion
(Methodist Church)**

11am

*St Mary's @11
Spontaneous Nativity
(Village Hall)*

Come dressed as a Nativity
character

6pm Carol Service
Led by Churches in
Harmony choir
(St Mary's)

In the coming week

Christmas Eve

**11pm Midnight Communion
(St Mary's)**

Christmas Day

**8am BCP Holy Communion
(St Mary's)**

**10am Family friendly
Morning Worship with Holy
Communion
(Methodist Church)**

Further dates over the page

A Note from the PCC (Parochial Church Council)

Ali and Kat have been busy packing up and leaving the Rectory this week. We owe them such a debt of gratitude for the new ventures and life they brought to our church community over the five years they were here. Let us all remember them in our prayers in the coming weeks as they adjust to their new home, unpack all those boxes, and settle in to new schools for the children.

Let us especially pray that the rare chance to have a non-working Christmas for a vicar would be a real blessing to them as a family. Without the pivotal point of a vicar there are many people working hard to keep the church activities going.

Please be patient if things are not just how you like it and please volunteer to help in any way you can, many hands make light work and we don't want burn out from anyone! We are enormously grateful to Frances Tomlinson for the work she has done with the accounts and how she has managed to enable the church to pay its annual "dues" called a "Parish Share" to the diocese on time this year. Of course aided fantastically by the fundraising team bringing in the money! Frances has stepped down as Treasurer as she has a lot more commitments supporting her husband Michael. Please pray about the need for a new treasurer and think about whether you could do any aspect of the job or help out.

All volunteers rush to Annie Mitchener or Bill Carter please!" (Phone numbers over the page)

Worship Next Week

Sunday 27th December

No 8am BCP Holy Communion

10am Morning Worship with Holy Communion

(Methodist Church)

11am

No @11 Today

News Sheet

We are aiming to produce a News Sheet each week but would like those who can to access it from the website.

Click on **News**

Then click on **Recent News**

If you are unable to get the news this way then please ask a member of the PCC or phone **01202 632858** and we will make sure you get a printed version.

Contact

PCC Vice Chairman

Bill Carter

01202 625296

Church Wardens

Annie Mitchener

01202 622512

07831 129201

Mat Riddell

07743 720175

News Sheet and Website

Debbie Phipps

01202 632858

Prayer Focus

- For members of our Church Community and those known to us
- Kat Riddell and her family
- The Mepham family
- Need for new treasurer ASAP
- Derek Baker
- Arthur Haddon
- Meeting with Archdeacon in January
- Our churches Together family

8am and 10am Services in January

These services will be held in the Methodist Church

11am @11 Services in January

Services in January will be held at the **Rectory**.

In general the 1st and 4th Sundays will be informal chat/coffee/ fellowship, with the "service" usually on a second Sunday – though this sometimes does change.

03/01/2016	Community Gathering
10/01/2016	Informal Service
17/01/2016	No meeting
24/01/2016	Gathering and Worship
31/01/2016	Walk & lunch

Fundraising

We would like to thank all of you, our local businesses and local residents for helping us to raise a wonderful

£4644.99 since June which will go towards planning and works for our new Heating System.

Website

We apologise that the website went down for a few days and has been restored back to earlier in the year so some items are out of date. Services will be resumed as soon as possible!