



# St Mary's News

"One Church Worshipping in Different ways"

Sunday 22nd December  
**8am** BCP Holy Communion  
**9:30am** Holy Communion  
**11am** Decorating the church  
**6pm** Carol Service

Wednesday 18th December  
**7.45am** Morning Prayer

Tuesday 24th December  
**4pm** Nativity Service - come dressed up  
**11pm** Midnight communion

Wednesday 25th December  
**10am** United All-Age Communion Service

Sunday 29th December  
**8am** BCP Holy Communion  
**10am** United All-Age Communion Service

Sunday 5th January  
Stewart Timbrell  
**8am** BCP Holy Communion  
**9:30am** Holy Communion  
**11am** St Mary's @11  
**6pm** Praise and Prayer  
Benefice Service at St Mary's

Wednesday 8th January  
**7.45am** Morning Prayer

Sunday 12th January  
Stewart Timbrell  
**8am** BCP Holy Communion  
**9:30am** Holy Communion with Prayer Ministry available  
**11am** St Mary's @11  
**4pm-6pm** Messy Church - Epiphany

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

## Merry Christmas

As I reach my 4<sup>th</sup> Christmas here in the village, I am conscious again of the many people who make up our wide church community. I love the diversity of experience and gifting within our church and the way people offer so freely to help the church not just to survive but to thrive. Thank you to all who offer time and talents to our Church and those who give generously of their financial resources too. Thank you to all those who commit to pray for our church, the village and those we know who are in need. I believe the life of the church is very much tied up to its life in prayer, so let us try to pray in hope whenever we can. As we enter a new year, I pray that we would continue to deepen all aspects of church life, our worship, mission, fellowship and discipleship. As we receive the blessing of restoration and reconciliation through our Emmanuel – 'God with us', so we will be agents of restoration and reconciliation wherever we find ourselves in the world. May we each bear the fruit of the Spirit in our lives during this season, especially love joy, peace and patience. **Stephen**

## December PCC Meeting

For a change we met at the Rectory this month. As it was our last meeting before Christmas we had some festive snacks and mulled wine to get us into the spirit. The main items were :  
It was noted that the Alpha course had finished and that there was positive feedback from all participants. Debbie had written to thank everyone for their assistance with helping the bell project to progress so well and relatively smoothly. A set of Key Dates for 2020 was distributed for checking before being made available to the congregations. We decided which charities to give our Christmas collections towards:

- Carol Service – The Children's Society
- Midnight Communion – Faithworks Wessex
- Christmas Day – Overseas Mission Fellowship in Japan

We had an update of the accounts from Roger, our Treasurer, that showed we would be in the black at the end of this year before including any donations from recent funerals and weddings, which was good news. It was reported that the new choir frontals should be completed and delivered by local craftsman Clive Baines in time for the Carol Service on 22<sup>nd</sup> December. We heard that our Parent and Toddler group had been quiet this term and perhaps needed more publicity and possibly a new name. The team were also keen to recruit more volunteers to help Margaret set up the activities and then chat with the youngsters and their parents/carers on a Monday morning. Do speak to a PCC member if you want to contribute to the running of our church in anyway.

**Stephen**

## News Sheet

If you would like to get the News sheet by email please contact Debbie (See below)  
Or visit  
<http://www.smlm.co.uk/blog/>

## Contacts

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## Social Media

### Facebook

[www.facebook.com/StMarysLM](http://www.facebook.com/StMarysLM)

### Bellringing Facebook

[www.facebook.com/bellringingsmlm](http://www.facebook.com/bellringingsmlm)

### Twitter

<https://twitter.com/StMarysLM>

## Prayer Focus

### Prayers for:

- Those who unwell at home or in hospital
- Safety for all those who are contemplating travel to be with loved ones for Christmas
- Those who are not looking forward to Christmas for a variety of reasons
- May everyone be aware of God's joy and peace as we celebrate the birth of our saviour Jesus Christ

## The Churches Together Lunch

29<sup>th</sup> January 2020

These lunches are held on the last Wednesday of every month. Lunch will be served between 12 and 1-30, in the Methodist Church. Anyone is welcome young or old, whether or not you are Church members. Proceeds to charity. **Sheila**

### You can do it!

Many, who joined our recent wreath-garland making session in the church, said they 'couldn't do anything like this'! But, everyone who joined us, went proudly home with a beautiful garland for their door (or kitchen!). A relaxing, social day was enjoyed by everyone, including a tasty 'chatty' light lunch! Just over **£230** was raised for church funds, which included some 'Christmassy' purchases too! Thank you to all of those who were involved, and particularly those who participated!

Happy Christmas from  
**The Fundraising Team**

## Children's Society Collection Boxes

A big Thank you to all who have a collection box for The Children's Society at home and who are raising money for this important charity. You may be aware that Ann Brown has stepped down for a season and so I will be coordinating the collections this year. If anyone is able to assist me with this do get in touch. **Stephen**

### Diary Dates [St Mary's Calendar](#)

December		
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Carol Service	6pm at St Mary's
24 <sup>th</sup>	Nativity Service	4pm at St Mary's
January		
6/8 <sup>th</sup>	Home Groups restart	Mon/Wed
12 <sup>th</sup>	Messy Church	4pm-6pm
14 <sup>th</sup>	Team Rector interviews	
15 <sup>th</sup>	PCC	