



# St Mary's News

"One Church Worshipping in Different ways"

*Depending on COVID updates any of these could be changed but we would notify you through our Newsheet mailings*

## Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December

8am BCP Holy Communion  
9:30am Holy Communion  
(4pm Christingle - **just online**)

## Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December

8am BCP Holy Communion  
6pm Carol Service  
(booking required)

## 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve

(4pm – Nativity – **just online**)  
11pm Midnight Communion  
(booking required)

## 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day

10am –Christmas Communion  
(booking required)

## Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December

### Online Only

8am BCP Holy Communion  
10am Holy Communion

## Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January

8am BCP Holy Communion  
9:30am Holy Communion  
11am St Mary's @11

## Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January

8am BCP Holy Communion  
9:30am Holy Communion  
11am St Mary's @11

## Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January

8am BCP Holy Communion  
9:30am Holy Communion  
11am St Mary's @11

[www.smlm.co.uk/livestream/](http://www.smlm.co.uk/livestream/)

[St Mary's Calendar](#)

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

## Christmas Message

Thank you everyone for your support and the significant parts that you play in being the Church, in Lytchett Matravers and further afield. I encourage you not to underestimate your contribution to **God's work** wherever you are. The seeds you have sown, as a people who have a living hope in Jesus, will surely grow and help more to know **God's blessing in** their lives. You may have smiled at a delivery person, spoken kindly to a shopkeeper (from behind your mask), or enquired how your neighbour is doing. Perhaps you have connected up with someone else from our Church, sent a link for the livestream service to a friend, or found a new way of giving to others. I am so encouraged by the creative ways people have **stayed connected to** one another and God in these times.

It has certainly been a testing year for all of us, and my heart goes out to those who have been bereaved, those who have had significant health issues to deal with, or those who have had to cancel a longed-for event alongside the extra challenges of the pandemic. But, amidst all of this, I think the Church as a people, both locally and nationally, has shown a resilience and a **determination to stand firm**. I am encouraged that, even though we may not see so many people through our door and into the Church building we have a vibrant and healthy church that is playing an important part in serving one another and the communities where we are, in Jesus' name.

I hope and pray that, even though this may be a quieter Christmas for many of us, we will not miss the significance of **the child in the manger**, worshipped and adored by the heavenly host, the outcast shepherds and the pilgrims from a land far away. Let us recognise that the first Christmas was simple too, but no less special. And then let us look to the future which, as Slade remind us every year 'has only just begun'. I pray that you will each know **God's presence** and his Blessing as you celebrate this year, and let us look forward to 2021 with a hopeful and prayerful heart.

**Stephen**

## Christmas Bellinging

As you know we have only be able to ring **one bell** at services for most of this year so some of our bellringers thought they would give you a surprise for two of the Christmas Services. They have been practicing outside – socially distanced and are ready to show you what they have learnt on **handbells** – bear in mind they only had 2 sessions to learn the tunes!! ... Not quite to the standard of Clapper Chaos!! We hope you enjoy our inexperienced ringing.

**Debbie**

## 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

Vicar  
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(emergency or texts)

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Prayers  
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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>

## Pray For

- Please pray for Molly and her family following the passing of her husband Ray
- All to remember the real reason we celebrate Christmas
- Those bereaved and suffering from ill health
- Families and friends as they plan their Christmas gatherings amidst covid-19 restrictions

## Give thanks

- For the wonder of the Christmas story and the beginning of our relationship with Jesus

## Chequers Christmas Market

A big **thank you** to all who came to the Chequers Christmas Market, to take part in our 'lucky dip'! Over £200 was raised, and we had sold out after a short time...

So, if you missed seeing us we will be at the market on **Saturday December 12th, at The Chequers between 12noon and 5pm.**

This week we will be selling 'yummy' eats...from baked items to preserves. Please do come and support us. Buy a cake, or some pickles to support our fundraising efforts for St Mary's!

A very big thanks go to those who have kindly donated items for our fundraising.

The following week, **December 19th** we will be selling **Christmas decorations and crafts**...so 'deck the halls' (as they say) with our fresh decorations and crafted items.

Seasons wishes **The Fundraising Team**

## Christmas Services At Church

- **Carol Service** at 6pm on Sunday December 20<sup>th</sup>
- **Midnight Communion** on 11pm on Thursday December 24<sup>th</sup>
- **Christmas Day Communion 10am** on Friday December 25<sup>th</sup>

To attend these services, you will need to book a seat by contacting Elizabeth Carter with your name, contact details and the number of people who will need a seat together.

## Church Calendar

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

December		
Dec 13	Christingle Sunday 4pm	Just Online
Dec 20	Carol Service Sunday 6pm	Booking required
Dec 24	Nativity service 4pm	Just Online
Dec 24	Midnight Communion 11pm	Booking required
Dec 25	Christmas Day Communion 10am	Booking required