

Notices

Instructions to access the live stream for services:-

- Navigate to the main St Mary's Woodkirk Facebook page.
www.facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk.
- All scheduled lives will be pinned at the top of the page and you can join them by clicking on them at the time that they start.
- Alternatively a link to the live will also be published on our **A Church Near You** page
- Find the event taking place and click on "More about this event" this will automatically take you straight to the live service on Facebook.

If you wish to make a donation to the work of this church or if you wish to pay your weekly collection via our bank account then the details are given below:-

Yorkshire Bank Morley
Sort Code 05-01-31
Account – Woodkirk PCC 31405751

Thank you - Sharon

VICAR: Revd. Sharon Wilkinson 07953 466724

Email: vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org

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CHRISTENINGS can be booked by contacting:

BAPTISM CO-ORDINATOR: Barbara Tate

Email: barbara@stmarywoodkirk.org

WEDDINGS can be booked by contacting our:

WEDDING CO-ORDINATOR: Gail Townsend 07792 975814

Email: gail@stmarywoodkirk.org

CHURCH WEBSITE: www.stmarywoodkirk.org

FACEBOOK: regular updates about life at St Mary's can be found on our Facebook pages:

*St Mary's Church, Woodkirk,
and Friends of Woodkirk Churchyard.*

TWITTER: tweet us and follow us @stmarywoodkirk

WELCOME TO ST MARY'S WOODKIRK

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds



*Engaging with God
Engaging with Each Other
Engaging with the Community*

Sunday 6th December 2020

10.30am Said Holy Communion – Advent 2

(Service In Church and streamed via Facebook live)

4.00pm Family Carol Service with the Nativity Story

(Streamed via Facebook live)

Instructions to Connect given in column 4

Services for next week

Mon 9.00am	Morning Prayer streamed as above
Tues 6.00pm	Evening Prayer streamed as above
Weds 10.00am	Said Holy Communion – In Church and Streamed as above
Weds 7.00pm	Reflective Advent Service on Peace – Service streamed as above.
Thurs 9.00pm	Night Prayer streamed as above
Fri 9.00am	Morning Prayer streamed as above

Next Sunday's Services are as follows: -

10.30am	Advent 3 - Said Holy Community (Service In Church and streamed as above)
4.00pm	Blue Christmas – A service for those who find Christmas difficult (Service In Church and streamed as above)

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

From our Parish Prayer Diary: For those who have contributed to the development of the COVID Vaccine
From our Church Prayer Diary : For our New Members of PCC – Gary who is the new church Warden and Jason and Heather who become new PCC members.

We pray for Baptism Families, Wedding Couples and Funeral Families.

Those who have asked for **prayers for healing**:

Kevin, Richard, Grace, Betty, Lionel, Queenie, Frank, Nicole, Ethan, Barbara, Diane, Margaret, Jerry, Louise, Simon, Faith, Alfie, Bree, Beryl, Marlene, Philip, Christine, June, Steven, Shelley, Jillian, and Brian.

The family and friends of those who have recently died: Luis del Valle, Dennis Roughsedge, Mary Collins, Lewis Thornton

And those whose **anniversaries** fall at this time:

Scripture Readings for the coming Week:-

Sunday 6th December – Said HC –In Church and streamed live

Isaiah 40:1-11

Mark 1:1-8

Monday 7th December – Morning Prayer – streamed live

Psalm 44

1 Thessalonians 1

Tuesday 8th December - Evening Prayer – streamed live

Psalm 74

Matthew 12:22-37

Weds 9th December – Said HC – In Church and streamed live

Isaiah 40:25-31

Matthew 11:28-30

Thurs 10th December – Night Prayer – streamed live

Psalm 143

Mark 13:35-end

Fri 11th December – Morning Prayer – streamed live

Psalm 86

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

St Mary's Church re-opens again on Sunday 6th December at 10.30am. Please note we are still in Tier 3 and must obey Government and Church of England Guidelines. Masks must be worn in church unless you have an exemption that is on the Government's list. Please sanitise your hands on entry and exit. Only one bubble per pew please. When the service has finished please stay in your pew until a sidesperson indicates it is okay to leave. Unfortunately, there will be no singing inside of church at this point in time. Communion will be offered in one kind only. If you are isolating or have any COVID symptoms then please do not come to church at this time.

The next Advent Reflection Service on the theme of Peace will be on Weds 9th December at 7.00pm and will be streamed live. Why not give it a try? make yourself comfortable, light a candle and take some quiet time.



There are two trees at the entrance to the church. **These are memory/prayer trees** – please bring a bauble and write a loved ones name (in indelible ink) either in loving memory or for prayers to be said.

As I said in my last notice sheet Christmas is not cancelled, we need more than ever to acknowledge the greatest story ever told and however we celebrate it this year, it will not take away from the birth of Christ more than

2,000 years ago. Jesus was the world's hope then and He is still the hope of the world today. He is the light in the darkness and as such the clergy in this area are using the picture below and are asking their communities to light up their windows symbolising the hope in our world today during these dark winter months and in the midst of the pandemic.



This picture is being made into a banner and will go on the back wall of the Stable that Dave is has been building. The Stable will have the finishing touches put to it on Saturday and will be ready for when church re-opens on Sunday.

If anyone would like me to send the picture to them so that they can print it off and put it in their window with some white lights then please email me and let me know. I will print off some in due course for when church opens.

Advent Gifts/Christmas Cards

At this time of year we usually ask if people want to buy St Mary's Church an Advent Gift and I put a list in church with the consumables we use in church such as candles, wafers, wine etc etc. Times are hard at the moment and as we have not used many consumables this past year we are not asking for any gifts this year.

Last year quite a few members of the church donated money to St Mary's Church instead of buying Christmas Cards for each other. If you want to do that again this year then please let me know and I will ensure that a Christmas Message from you is either put in church or on the Notice Sheet. Please do not bring cards to church and leave them for other people – it is not COVID safe to do so (Thank you).

Do you know how the Robin acquired its distinctive red breast?

Legend has it that on that first Christmas night the temperature dropped in Bethlehem, and the air became bitterly cold. The small fire that burned in the middle of the stable was nearly out, and Mary began to worry as the baby Jesus shivered in her arms.

Joseph had gone to find firewood and, in his absence, Mary turned to the animals about her and asked for help. The strong ox lay sound asleep on the stable floor and did

not hear her. Nor did the hardworking donkey, or the stately horse. Mary wondered what to do.

Suddenly she heard the fluttering of wings and looking up, she saw a small, plain, brown-coloured bird fly into the stall. The bird went directly over the dying fire and began to flap his wings hard.

His tiny wings acted like little bellows, puffing air on the embers, until they glowed bright red again. The bird continued to fan the fire, singing all the while, until the ashes began to kindle.

Then with his beak, the bird began picking up dry sticks and dropping them into the fire. As he did, a flame burst forth and burned the little bird's breast bright red. But he simply continued to feed the fire until it crackled brightly and warmed the entire stable. The baby Jesus slept happily.

Mary thanked the bird for his selfless act. Then she looked tenderly at his red breast, burned by the flame, and promised the robin that from now on his red breast would be a reminder of how he saved Jesus from the bitter cold, and a sign to the world of the hope that acts of kindness bring.

The legend of the robin teaches us a valuable lesson – not to be overwhelmed by the size of the mission in front of us, or to think ourselves too small to make a difference. Rather, we must do what we can to bring hope to the world.

Two last Acts of Kindness

- a) If you are able to support your local foodbanks when you go shopping then please do so – if you wish to leave food at the Church on Weds and Sun services, or at the Vicarage (anytime) or want food to be collected from you (COVID securely) then please don't hesitate to call me and I will make sure it is delivered to the Foodbank (my mobile is 07539466724)
- b) Normally we have a toy collection for two weeks in December and in previous years this again has been very successful. Need will be greater still this year. If you are able to donate a toy I would be very grateful and as above they can be dropped off at church on Weds and Sun services, or at the Vicarage (anytime) or if you want a toy collected from you (COVID securely) then please do not hesitate to call me (as above) and I will make sure they go the Salvation Army in time for Christmas. The last day these can be donated is Sunday 19th December.

If anyone needs anything please do not hesitate to contact me. May God's blessing be with you. Sharon

Upcoming Services for Christmas 2020

*(Please note these could be subject to change due to Government Guidelines/Church of England Guidelines. Please see either facebook or our webpage for details on the relevant day as the services will be advertised there).

Weds 9 th Dec 10.00am	Said Holy Communion In Church and Streamed
Weds 9 th Dec 7.00pm	Reflective Advent Service on Peace Streamed
Sun 13 th Dec 10.30am	Said Holy Communion – Advent 3 In Church and Streamed
Sun 13 th Dec 4.00pm	Blue Christmas – A Service for those who find Christmas difficult In Church and Streamed
Weds 16 th Dec 10.00am	Said Holy Communion In Church and Streamed
Weds 16 th Dec 7.00pm	Reflective Advent Service on Love Streamed
Sun 20 th Dec 10.30am	Said Holy Communion – Advent 4 In Church and Streamed
Sun 20 th Dec 4.00pm	9 Lessons and Carols/and or Music In Church and Streamed
Weds 23 rd Dec 10.00am	Said Holy Communion In Church and Streamed
Weds 23 rd Dec 7.00pm	Reflective Advent Service on Joy Streamed
Thurs 24 th Dec 4.00pm	Christingle Streamed
Thurs 24 th Dec 11.30pm	Said Midnight Mass In Church and Streamed
Frid 25 th Dec 10.30am	Christmas Said Holy Communion In Church and Streamed
Sun 27 th Dec 10.30am	Said Holy Communion In Church and Streamed
Weds 30 th Dec 10.00am	Said Holy Communion In Church and Streamed

Please note there will be no Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer or Night prayer from the 23rd December – 3rd January inclusive. These services will restart on Monday 4th January 2021 with Morning Prayer at 9.00am.