

## Notices

Instructions to access the live stream for services:-

- Navigate to the main St Mary's Woodkirk Facebook page.  
[www.facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk](http://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 07539 466724

*Email: vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org*

**READER:** Dawn Tattersfield 07840 739239

*Email: dawn@stmarywoodkirk.org*

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**EDITOR:** Dave Townsend 07745 301746

*Email: dave@stmarywoodkirk.org*

**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](http://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 20th December 2020**

**10.30am Said Holy Communion – Advent 4**

(Service In Church and streamed via Facebook live)

**4.00pm 9 Lessons & Carols/Music**

**A traditional candle lit service**

(Service in Church and 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 11.30am Baptism – In Church

Weds 7.00pm Reflective Advent Service on Love –  
Service streamed as above.

Thurs 4.00pm Christingle and Crib Service

Service streamed as above

Thurs 11.30pm Midnight Mass

In Church and Streamed as above

Fri 10.30am Christmas Said Holy Communion

In Church and Streamed as above

### Next Sunday's Services are as follows: -

10.30am Christmas 1 - Said Holy Community  
(Service In Church and streamed as above)

### Services week beginning 28<sup>th</sup> December

Weds 10.00am Said Holy Communion

In Church and Streamed as above

### FOR YOUR PRAYERS

From our Parish Prayer Diary:

From our Church Prayer Diary :

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

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

Kevin, Richard, Grace, Betty, Lionel, Frank, Nicole, Simon, Faith, Alfie, Bree, Beryl, Marlene, Philip, Christine, Jillian,

Brian, Margaret, Jerry, Louise, Mark, Cyril, Fiona, James, Sandra and Renee.

The family and friends of those who have recently died: Lewis Thornton, Queenie Wass, Enid Stevens, Brian Shaw.

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

Patty Liljekvist, Harry Haigh, Kit Michael Grange, Dave Wass.

Scripture Readings for the next two Weeks:-

**Sunday 20th December – Said HC – In Church and streamed live**

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Luke 1:26-38

**Monday 21st December – Morning Prayer – streamed live**

Psalm 121

2 Peter 1:1-15

**Tuesday 22nd December - Evening Prayer – streamed live**

Psalm 48

Matthew 19:13-15

**Weds 23rd December – Said HC – In Church and streamed live**

Malachi 3:1-4, 4:5-6

Luke 1:57-66

**Thurs 24th December – Midnight Mass – In church and streamed live**

Isaiah 52:7-10

John 1:1-14

**Fri 25th December – Said Christmas Holy Communion – In church and streamed live**

Isaiah 9:2-7

Luke 1:1-20

**Sun 27th December – Said Holy Communion – In church and streamed live**

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Luke 2:15-21

**Weds 30th December – Said Holy Communion – In church and streamed live**

1 John 2:12-17

Luke 2:36-40

The Government made a further announcement on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December and as expected we remain in Tier 3, therefore, the Government and Church of England Guidelines remain the same for now. 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.

From the 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> December 3 bubbles are allowed to meet and that includes in church, however, caution must be used as the infection rates are continuing to rise.

Please take care and look after yourselves and if you are in a vulnerable category then please follow the guidelines given by the Government.

**The next Advent Reflection Service on the theme of Love will be on Weds 23rd 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.

And these are the memories that people have shared, please pray for them and their loved ones.



### Christmas Card Gifting to Church

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).



And here is the master builder and his creation, the picture doesn't do it justice but take a look next time you come to church or pass by. Thank you Dave for an incredible amount of work you have put into this project.

#### Two last Acts of Kindness

- a) Thank you to all those who have donated food to the foodbanks. The need is greater this year than ever. Covid has hit families hard and so will continue to support out local foodbanks as much as we can. 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) Thank you so much to all those who have donated a toy. This Sunday is the last opportunity to give a toy so that it may get to a child in time for Christmas and on Monday Dawn will deliver all the toys to the Salvation Army so that they can distribute to needy family. You are all very kind with your donations.

#### Magazine for Jan/Feb

If you have any articles for the Jan/Feb Magazine please send them to me as I am going to edit this Magazine so that Dave can have a very well-earned rest. Thank you to him for editing and printing the magazine during the last nine months. **Please can I have your articles asap but by the latest Monday 28<sup>th</sup> December – thank you.**

#### **A story**

**There is an old French fable that goes like this:**

There once was a cobbler who was a happy and contented man. People who passed his shop laughed and waved when they saw him singing at the top of his voice while fixing shoes. Many people stopped in his shop just to bask in the warmth of his smile. One of the people in the town who observed the cobbler was a banker who sang little and smiled even less. He seldom slept well. At first he was irritated by the cobbler's happy disposition, but as the days passed, he was attracted by the man. Finally, he decided to visit the cobbler and discover the secret of his happiness. After the two men chatted for a while, the banker inquired, "What is the secret of your happiness?" The cobbler said that it was no secret, really. He said he wasn't always so joyful. He said his attitude changed when he woke up one day and began to count his blessings. He recognized he was blessed with a wonderful family, had a roof over his head, and a trade to make a living. He decided then and there to always be happy and thankful for his blessings. The banker was so overwhelmed by this simple, yet profound philosophy of life that he wanted to reward the cobbler for his kindness. He asked, "Do you make much money as a cobbler?"

The cobbler said "No. Many times people don't buy new shoes, so most of my income comes from shoe repairs. Also, I close my shop on feast days in honour of the saints. However, my family does not go without too much." The banker then reached into pocket and pulled out a purse containing 300 gold coins. He offered them to the cobbler and said, "Take this as a sign of my gratitude and use the money as you need it." Overjoyed, the cobbler thought that with this newly acquired fortune, his life would be even better than before. So, he quickly went home and buried the gold in his backyard. The succeeding days, however, brought him many changes. He often left the shop in the middle of the day to go home to make sure no one had dug up and stolen his fortune. He began to lose sleep at night obsessing that someone may try to steal his money in the dark of the night. Old friends noticed that he was not as cheerful as he was before and that he didn't sing like he used to. They also noticed that he often seemed suspicious when someone stopped in the shop just to chat.

Finally, the cobbler dug up his treasure and paid the banker a visit. "Thanks for your generous gift," he began,

“but I cannot really afford to be the owner of the gold coins. Please take your money back so I may enjoy music,

sleep, and my friends again. It seems that when I buried the money, I buried my joy at the same time.”

So this Christmas time let us be grateful and give gratitude to God for what we have and then our appreciation for those things will give us the joy that the hope of Christmas, the birth of Christ, God made flesh, brings to us. Help us to see anew and be ready and waiting for His second coming.

This has been such a difficult year for so many. I hope and pray that things will improve in 2021 but to all my church family I wish you a very happy Christmas and a blessed and peaceful New Year. Keep safe.

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 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec 10.00am	Said Holy Communion In Church and Streamed
Weds 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec 7.00pm	Reflective Advent Service on Joy Streamed
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec 4.00pm	Christingle Streamed
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec 11.30pm	Said Midnight Mass In Church and Streamed
Frid 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec 10.30am	Christmas Said Holy Communion In Church and Streamed
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> Dec 10.30am	Said Holy Communion In Church and Streamed
Weds 30 <sup>th</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> January inclusive. These services will restart on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 with Morning Prayer at 9.00am.**