

We aim to be a growing community of Christian people who desire to be:

mature disciples : committed church family members : effective witnesses : caring neighbours



Happy Christmas!



"Unto us a child is born... and he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" Isaiah 9:6



Christmas Services at St Mary's:

Sunday 17 th December	8am as usual
	10am Nativity service (no Holy Communion)
	6.30pm Christmas Carol Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the hall
Sunday 24 th December	3.30pm Crib Services
	11.15pm Midnight Communion
Monday 25 th December	No 8am service
	10am All Age Christmas Celebration followed by a shortened communion service
Sunday 31 st December	Normal Sunday Services

Dates for your Diary:

• Sunday 3 rd December	Homemade stall, second-hand books and Fairtrade in the Church hall
• Sunday 3 rd December	Christingle Service – 4pm
• Sunday 3 rd December	Joint Advent Service at 6.30pm - Church of the Holy Spirit
• Wednesday 6 th December	Transform Carol Service at 6.30pm followed by refreshments in Fetcham Park House
• Sunday 10 th December	Carols at the Bell from 6pm
• Sunday 17 th December	Nativity Service at 10am
• Sunday 17 th December	Carols by Candlelight at 6.30pm
• Tuesday 19 th December	Open House at the Rectory – 6-10pm – all welcome
• Friday 5 th January	FM Life
• Friday 12 th January	Footprints
• Saturday 27 th January	Who let the Dads out

Weekly Services

Thursday: 10.00am Holy Communion

Sunday: 8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion

11.15am Gener8 - All-age Service - **NB: not on 3rd December due to Christingle**

Activ8 for under 12's and Crèche for under 3's every Sunday at 9.30 and 11.15am (except first Sunday in the month when there is Gener8)

Thursday – Mid-week communion at 10am followed by coffee in the hall

December Evening Services

Sunday 3rd December - No evening service at St Mary's but there is the Advent service at the Catholic Church

Sunday 10th December – Carols at the Bell from 6pm

Sunday 17th December – Christmas Carol Service followed by refreshment in the hall at 6.30pm

Sunday 24th December – No evening service but midnight communion at 11.15pm

Christingle Service 4pm Sunday 3rd December - The combination of children and lit candles may seem like a recipe for disaster but we haven't had a mishap yet! Christingle communicates the Christian message in a visual and accessible way – come and see how – and stay for goodies afterwards. Bring all your friends and neighbours too. **Homemade stall** is open in the hall to all after the service.



Transform carol service on Wednesday 6th December at 6.30pm. Do come along to this carol service in aid of wonderful charity 'Transform' - the biggest charity you have never heard of, transforming the lives of those in poverty. Please join us for refreshments in Fetcham Park House following the service.

Thursday coffee and hearing aid clinic - Please note there will be no Thursday Coffee or Hearing Aid Clinic on Thursday, 21st December as they will be holding their Christmas Lunch.



Open House at the Rectory. Tuesday 19th December, 6-10pm. Please join us for a festive drink and a chance to wish each other a Happy Christmas . ALL WELCOME.

Charity Post – delivers Christmas cards in the local area. Please support by buying 30p stamps available from shops in Fetcham, Canon Court Pharmacy, Nikki's News, Contact and Open All Hours. www.charitypost.org If you are a local resident and interested in joining the team, please contact Michael Agius 01372 456545 Email: meagius@charitypost.org



BAY GUNN - Happy 100th Birthday - Many congratulations to Bay who will be celebrating her 100th Birthday on the 1st January. Bay moved to Scotland a few years ago and lives in Ross-shire with her granddaughter and family. She would love to hear from her many friends. For her full address contact Karen in the office - office@stmarysfetcham.org.uk

Local causes – can you help?

For the last few years the folks of St Mary's have been fabulously generous in supporting several local charities – we would love to have your help once again.

- The Christmas Lunch at the village hall hosts 120 people that might otherwise spend Christmas alone; they include folk with blindness, homelessness, mental health problems, addictions & loneliness. Graham Peddie and the team will be delighted to receive any presents for their guests.
- We are again collecting presents for Surrey's Vulnerable Teenagers, mainly age 16-18. Suggestions include sweets and chocolates, DVDs hats, scarves , gloves and socks, games and books
- Christians Against Poverty would be grateful for presents for some of the children coming to their Christmas party.
- B@titude would love us to make up some shoe boxes once again, to give to their neediest families - toiletries and luxury food items, sweets and chocolates always go down well - do feel free to donate an item and we'll make up the shoe boxes.

Please don't feel any obligation to get involved; the opportunity is there for those who would like to participate, not to make people feel guilty. There is a full list on the website stmarysfetcham.org.uk. All donations by the tree in church, or in the hall Christmas box, by Sunday 10th please **Thank you so much for your generosity**



Sunday 3rd December - The Christmas Home-made stall will be a bumper affair with lots of presents to buy. Do please bring any homemade items, especially jams, mincemeat, marmalade, cakes, cookies and Christmas decorations and presents and do bring your purses. (Remember - we take a rest in January, so help us raise lots of money for Kibera this Christmas). Penny Day has made a wonderful raffle to raise money for the homework clubs in Kibera and the other slums of Nairobi - only £1 a ticket - do buy some tickets and give your children or grandchildren a special treat. The draw will be after the Christingle this Sunday, 3rd December. Do please visit the home made stall for festive treats and present ideas. Remember – **no homemade stall in January**, returns February.

A sneak peek at our preaching programme for 2018 - Although we have not yet had Christmas 2017, we are well on the way to firming up our teaching and preaching programme at St Marys for 2018. We are going to be looking at both the Old and New Testament in some detail. In April and May we will be considering aspects of practical Christian discipleship as we explore the three letters of John, before moving on to examples of living by faith as we examine the life and times of Abraham in Genesis. August and September see us in the book of Nehemiah, as we seek to understand the challenges and opportunities of rebuilding the temple in Jerusalem after the exile of the Jews, and how those same challenges are ones that we face in contemporary life. In October and November we will be back in the New Testament as we spend some time with the writer of the letter to the Hebrews, this being an opportunity to bring both Old and New Testament strands together. We are also delighted to announce that Canon David Bracewell will be leading our Lent course this year. Many of you will already know of David's ministry and what a privilege it will be for us to have him with us here at St Mary's.

A big thank you to:

- All the helpers who make the Women's breakfast such a huge and growing success
- The Postcard distributors and especially Kowoon for her wonderful design and to Karen for coordinating the distribution.
- To everyone who donated to the hamper for the Boughtons, which grew and ended up as three large cardboard boxes, decorated in Christmas paper and was full of some wonderful gifts - enough wine, chocolate and coffee to last them well into the new year, Christmas socks and luxury toiletries and £175 in cash, plus lots of tokens.

Please pray for:

Those who are sick, including; Gordon Lake, Sybil Francklow, Sebastian Nohl, Joan Nash, Nancy Hand, Liz Crawford, Paul Boughton, Elaine Mead, David Watson, Ron Ellis, Daphne Burfoot, Barbara Grant and Mary Dawson.

St Mary's, Fetcham Parish Church: <http://stmarysfetcham.org.uk/> Rector: the Reverend Andrew Smith, tel 01372 375000.

Please submit copy for inclusion in the Newsletter to Tracey-Anne by e-mail (newsletter@stmarysfetcham.org.uk or tracey-anne@ntlworld.com),

The newsletter is issued on the 1st weekend of each month. If you would like to provide any content, please ensure it is sent to Tracey-Anne by 3pm the SUNDAY before.