

## Sunday 29th November 2020 - First Sunday of Advent

#### This Sunday's Parish Zoom Worship for Advent Sunday is from St Mary's at 9.30am. This is the Link:-:

Topic: Parish Worship for Advent Sunday Time: Nov 29, 2020 09:30 AM Universal Time UTC Join Zoom Meeting <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81402521531?pwd=SDA1Q3VDdHZQcUM1eVpTRy92T0ZqZz09</u> Meeting ID: 814 0252 1531 Passcode: 396260

**Reopening of our churches for worship.** Sunday and weekday services will re-commence from next Sunday 6th December when the Bishop of Hertford will visit the parish. There will be no 8am service at St Mary's on the 6th as Bishop Michael will preside and preach at the 9.30am and then at a special 11.15am service at St Paul's. These services will officially reopen our churches for worship. The Bishop will then arrange to meet/ zoom with the Churchwardens and deputies and the PCC in the week following. On the following Sunday our usual pattern of Sunday services and timings will resume.

**Christmas Service schedule**. Our planned schedule will be published next week and will include online as well as in-church offerings for the festive season.

**Rector's recovery**. I'm feeling so much better and my recent hospital check-up has confirmed that I'm on the mend. Thanks to you all for your best wishes and prayers that have done so much to get me through. *Canon John* 



Packs have gone/are on their way to our young people. Let John know if you know of any children that could use one! Some adult advent resources are also available for your use during this important season, see links below. Also, an art-based meditation pdf file will be shared on the WhatsApp Group, let us know if you need this by email.

https://urc.org.uk/images/WalkingtheWay/documents/WtWAdvent20.pdf

Advent materials 2020 - urc.org.uk Although peace is a strong tie which binds different groups from various backgrounds, creeds, and opinions firmly together, it can also be undeniably fragile. urc.org.uk

https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/preparing-advent-christmas-2020-comfort-and-joy

Preparing for Advent & Christmas 2020: Comfort and Joy - The Church of England We hope that Comfort and Joy will better enable us to reflect where the country is and will be by the end of this year.

www.churchofengland.org

### The Annual Parish Christmas Fair

This is an important event in our fundraising calendar but cannot take place in the current situation so we are organising a major fund raiser for the Parish of St Mary and St Paul in the form of the 'Grand Zoom Draw'. A flyer has been circulated to the usual email list and there are some printed copies available in church for those not on the email list and for parishioners to take for friends and family.

There are 1,000 draw tickets to buy. If we were to sell all the tickets we would gross £1,000. If all the prizes are donated there will be no prize costs. A donation will cover the cost of printing the draw tickets.

The current situation is that 720 draw tickets have been paid for and another 150 tickets are out with people and I'm waiting for cash and counterfoils from them, leaving 130 still to sell.

We have been having a good response to the invitation to donate prizes, 18 of the 20 already having been covered. This leaves us to find the following: Lindt Chocolates, Shortcake.

# Should anybody who is uncomfortable with buying draw tickets wish to help cover part of the losses from not having the annual Parish Fair, please contact Gordon or Rosina Gaddes.

Any prizes not covered by donation will be purchased from the Draw ticket income.

One of the major prizes in the Zoom Draw is the **St Mary's Hamper**. All items for the Hamper have now been kindly accounted for and can be brought to St Mary's where they will be kept securely. The wicker hamper has been generously donated this year by Brian Crawley.

Contacts for all aspects of the Grand Zoom Draw:-St Paul's : <u>gordon.gaddes@btinternet.com</u> 01442 257920 St Mary's: <u>emlambert20@gmail.com</u> 01442 268705

### New Parish Web Site launched

Our new website that Brian Crawley has been working hard on for several months has now been launched:

https://stmaryandstpaulhemel.org.uk/

Brian would welcome any feedback to:

media@stmaryandstpaulhemel.org.uk

### Pastoral Group

This parish group meets monthly on Zoom to review the sick and bereaved list, it also raises concerns about those in need and on the margins. If you would like anyone added to the list or have concerns that someone has not returned to church post-Covid, and may have been overlooked, then email the group's secretary at: jenny.bowes27@gmail.com with 'Pastoral Group' in the subject.

We also have some funding available to help those who are in need so do send us details of anyone you know who might benefit from some practical help with food, clothing or things for their children.



Payments: Cheques should be made payable to "St Mary and St Paul PCC".

The Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary and St Paul, Hemel Hempstead Reg. Charity 1130644