



THE PARISH OF ST MARY & ST PAUL



NEWSLETTER -ADVENT SUNDAY

REGULAR SERVICES

St Mary's: Sundays at 8am and 9.30am, Wednesdays at 10.30am

St Paul's: Sundays at 11.15am, Thursdays at 9.30am

NOTICES

Advent Sunday! The church year starts today, Happy New Year!

Welcome and many thanks to the Revd Ian Pankhurst, presiding at St Paul's at 11.15am today.

Make sure you come along on Saturday morning to two great events at St Mary's; Pray Hemel with breakfast from 8am & Penny's crafting morning with cake, 10-12, raising money for Cancer Research!

Community Fridge - Christmas Support Initiative. See the insert from last week's notices, view our website or speak to a Churchwarden for more details of how you can help with this important appeal.

Christmas Services Flyer is now out, please take some to give away.

Secret Supper Club, St Mary's, Friday 12th Dec. Book tickets via hotsecretssupperclub@gmail.com

Save the date! Two festive drop-ins at the Rectory for you to choose from: 16th Dec, 2-4pm Festive Tea & Cake, **or** Friday 19th Dec, 6-8pm, Festive Gin Night, more details to follow.

Thanks to Jeff for producing the Bulletin for many years and sorry about this temporary replacement!

DIARY

Today after 9.30am service: Growing Together Group, St Mary's Hall

Today 3.30pm: Bell Ringing at St Mary's

Tonight at 6.30pm: Deanery Service for Advent, St John, Boxmoor

Thursday at 7.30pm: Bell Ringing practice, St Mary's

Saturday 8-10am: Pray Hemel, St Mary's

Saturday 10-12.00: Crafting event for Cancer Research, St Mary's

Next Sunday: Family Services at both churches, Old Town Market, St Mary's

CONTACTS

St Mary's Churchwardens: stmarychurchwarden@stmaryandstpaulhemel.org.uk

Andrew Darby Tel: 01582 943200

Rosamund Russell Tel: 01442 217754

St Paul's Churchwarden: stpaulchurchwarden@stmaryandstpaulhemel.org.uk

Gordon Gaddes Tel: 07561 450633

Rosina Gaddes Tel: 07720 897037

Team Rector: The Revd Canon John Williams:

Tel: 07522 504087 vicar@stmaryandstpaulhemel.org.uk

Team Clergy:

St Albans, Warners End: The Revd Pete Stevenson Tel: 01442 251897 rev_pete@onetel.com

St Barnabas, Adeyfield: The Revd Matt Renyard Tel: 0749 355742: revmattrenyard@gmail.com

The COR, Grovehill & Woodhall Farm: The Revd Austin Janes Tel: 270585: revaustin@sky.com

Team Office:

Norma Howie Tel: 07901 359117 admin@stmaryandstpaulhemel.org.uk

Bulletin: material to the Team Rector by close of play on Wednesday.

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

READINGS -ADVENT SUNDAY

COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

(2: 1-5)

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord make his paths straight
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. (24: 36-44)

Jesus spoke to his disciples:

'About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man.

Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left.

Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

POST COMMUNION

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us remaining in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen