

Parish of  
Harpenden



# St Mary's Monthly Missive **December 2025**



The Revd Sally Goodson – Associate Vicar at St Mary's

Tel: 01582 712754 Email: [associate.vicar@stmarys.parishofharpenden.org](mailto:associate.vicar@stmarys.parishofharpenden.org)

The Revd Prof. Nicolas Goulding – Associate Priest at St Mary's

Tel: 01582 461293 Email: [prof.goulding@gmail.com](mailto:prof.goulding@gmail.com)

## **Notices**

### **A Little Lunch – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December**

If you would like to get involved, we are always looking for drivers and helpers on the day. Please contact Sallyann Boschetti 07779 387557

### **Simply Worship – Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 4.30pm**

Carols Around the Firepit, with refreshments afterwards.

### **Tuesday Afternoon Group – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm**

Christmas Tea Party

Offers to drive and/or help during the afternoon are most welcome. Contact Sally Goodson for more information.

### **Homedell House – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 3pm**

Carol Singing and tea. If you can provide some cakes, please let Jill Horn know.

### **Service of Nine Lesson and Carols – Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 6.00pm**

St Mary's Christmas Choir is busy rehearsing. We look forward to our traditional service of lessons and carols, followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

### **Crib Services on Christmas Eve – 2.30pm and 4.30pm**

Children are invited to dress up as Nativity characters, angels, shepherds, wise men, stable animals.... If your child would like to read at one of these services, please contact Sally. If you or your child plays an instrument and would like to play with others for these services, please contact Jenny Goulding.

### **December 2025 - Green Christmas Ideas**

Celebrate a simpler and greener Christmas.

As Advent begins, let us turn our gaze to the true meaning of Christmas - God with us, Emmanuel. The humble birth of a child in a stable may seem distant from the way we celebrate today, but it offers a profound reminder of simplicity.

This season let's reflect on the story that we wish our actions and choices to tell.

Consider A Rocha UK's blog on journeying towards a zero-waste Christmas

<https://arocha.org.uk/journeying-towards-a-zero-waste-christmas/>. May our hearts and our celebrations align with the simplicity and beauty of the Christmas story.

### **Food Bank**

Please remember the food bank when you are shopping for your Christmas goodies. Try to get your donations into the Food Bank box early so we can get them to the King's Pantry at the Salvation Army in good time for Christmas.

See list of particular requests on the board by the hatch.

### **We Are Online....**

St. Mary's has its own **Facebook** page (simply search for 'St. Mary's Kinsbourne Green'). We use this to publicise both upcoming and past events. To help us reach a wider audience we'd love you to 'like' and 'share' our page.

There is also a **Parish website**. If you haven't visited it, we would encourage you to go and have a look. There you can access the latest pew leaflet, articles, our monthly Missive and so much more.

### **Tuesday Morning Prayer**

Morning prayer at St Mary's 9.00-9.25am

Do join Sally and Jenny and Nick Goulding to pray for church and world concerns.

**Holy Communion** - 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 10am

A short, quiet BCP service with coffee afterwards. **All welcome**

### **This Month Please Pray For....**

- We pray for everyone at this time of celebration, that the Christmas season may be one of peace and enjoyment while we remember the birth of Christ.
- We remember those who may be lonely this Christmas and pray for them and the people who volunteer to help those in need over Christmas, and for those who are ill and the people caring for them.
- At this challenging time, when there is so much conflict in our world, we pray that the New Year might bring a renewed commitment to find paths to peace and justice.

### **Future Dates**

Christmas season continues.....join us for...

**Epiphany:** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026 - 9.30am Family Communion.

**Little Lunch** – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026

**Simply Worship** – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – 4.30pm Christingle Service

**Afternoon Group** – Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026: Deputy Lieutenant of Hertfordshire.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:** 18<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## **St Mary's: Services December 2025**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 10.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)**

Revd Sally Goodson

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

9.30am Family Worship – Nina Featherstone and Revd Sally Goodson

11.00am Said Holy Communion – Revd Sally Goodson

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

9.30am Family Communion – Revd Nick Goulding

4.30pm Firepit Carols – Revd Sally Goodson and Jenny Goulding.

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 10.00am Holy Communion (BCP)**

Revd Sally Goodson

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

9.30am Family Communion – Revd Sally Goodson and Hilary Pask

6.00pm Carol Service with Christmas Choir

**Christmas Eve – 24<sup>th</sup> December**

2.30pm Crib Service - Revd Nick Goulding

4.30pm Crib Service - Revd Sally Goodson

11.30pm Midnight Service - Revd Nick Goulding

**Christmas Day – 25<sup>th</sup> December**

9.30am Family Christmas Communion – Revd Sally Goodson

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas**

10am Combined Parish Service at St Mary's

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas**

9.30am Family Worship – Revd Sally Goodson and Nina Featherstone

11am Holy Communion – Revd Sally Goodson

Please send submissions for January's Missive by 8<sup>th</sup> December to  
[missive@stmarys.parishofharpenden.org](mailto:missive@stmarys.parishofharpenden.org) or speak to Sally Goodson