

Grapevine



Welcome to St. Mary's Andover

We are a community of faith

that SEEKS God in worship

SERVES one another

and SHARES the love of Jesus

Sunday 2nd December

Advent Sunday

9 am Holy Communion

Theme: A Prophetic Voice

Readings: Jeremiah 33:14-16 & Luke 21:25-36

Led by Canon Martin Coppen

10.30 am All Age Service

Theme: Preparing for Christmas

Readings: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 & 1 Thessalonians 5:1-2, 16-18

Led by Reverend Phil Dykes

6 pm Taize Service

Wednesday 5th December

10.30 am Holy Communion Service

Led by Reverend Lee Davies

Sunday 9th December

Theme: Keeping Watch

Readings: Malachi 3:1-4 & Luke 3:1-6

9.00 am Holy Communion

led by Canon Martin Coppen

10.30 am Morning Worship with Communion

Led by Reverend Ron Corne

There is an unsupervised play area available, through the doors at the back of church. This area contains toys, books, colouring and comfortable seating, in addition to sound and vision, so you can see and hear the service.

Update on developments of the Resource Church.

The current programme for announcing the start of the Resource Church is very challenging. Following discussions with Rev. Chris Bradish and the team at the Diocese it has been decided that a longer timescale would be beneficial. In essence we are proposing to give ourselves some headroom to make the changes to the church building and prepare the congregations for the future by launching Resource Church next Summer rather than at Easter. We can also confirm that the Suspension of Presentation has been formally approved. The new timetable will look like this:

- Chris and Naomi move into Vicarage 28 December 2018
- End of December 2018 Chris appointed as Priest in Charge
- Saturday 2 February 2019 PCC meets with Chris
- Tuesday 12 February 2019 – PCC Meeting
- Sunday 3 March 2019 – Formal induction and licensing of Chris as Vicar with senior members of Civic/Military/Church/Town community
- Tuesday 16 April 2019 – PCC Meeting
- Tuesday 30 April 2019 – APCM
- Summer 2019 – Launch Resource Church (date to be agreed in New Year)

In the mean-time the Churchwardens are continuing with preparations to enable the Resource Church to be announced as soon as possible and will continue to keep everyone fully informed. Gordon Bell Churchwarden

Vine Trust Book Stall

The Vine Trust are running Book Stalls in the south Transept after both services today. Do please support this great Christian resource we have in Andover, buy some Christmas Cards or calendars or look for some presents.

Christingle Factory

We will be making Christingles as usual in the Church Centre on **Sunday 23rd December from 3pm to 5pm**. There will be refreshments, Christmas music and lots of laughter. Do join us even just for part of the time, all ages very welcome. Please sign up at the back of church or email the office ☺

Grapevine deadline

The Final Grapevine before Christmas will be published for Sunday 23rd December and will last until Saturday 12th January. Please send in anything you want included in this issue by Wednesday 19th December.

The office will be closed from 4pm on 21st December until 2nd January.

Parish Prayer Evenings

The next Prayer Meeting will be on **Thursday 6th December, 8pm** in the Church Centre. Please do join Richard, Karyn and Lucy as we pray into the worshipping life of St Mary's and ask the Holy Spirit to help us make worship an all day, every day activity. There will be a time of sung worship, as well as opportunity for corporate and private prayer.

Walk TODAY

St. Mary's Walkers will be putting their best food forward again after the service today at about 12.15 - talk with Simon Nash if you'd like to join them.

Mince Pies

We would like to serve mince pies at both the Carol Services in St. Mary's on 16th December. Please consider if you could donate some; home-made or shop bought - both are fine.

Carols and Pies

St Mary's Church, **Saturday 22nd December 10.30am-12.30pm**. Join St Mary's worship band for an all age Christmas themed celebration! We will sing festive carols and songs together, share refreshments and mince pies and have activity sheets for kids too. Whether you can drop-in for 20 minutes, 2 hours or anything in-between we'd love to welcome you. Free event (donations welcome).

Christmas Bookmarks

Please take some Christmas Bookmarks from the back of church detailing all our services over the festive season and pass out to friends and colleagues.

Community Christmas Lunch

The Christmas Day lunch for anyone in the Andover area who will be on their own will be at Lion Oak Court on Salisbury Road, Andover. To book or volunteer please telephone Liz on 07914 025741 or 01264 394025.

Winter Homeless Drop-in

The Bridge Community Building team will be running a homeless evening drop-in again this year throughout the winter where the homeless can get a hot meal and a warm and safe place to be from 7 until 10 every night. Volunteers are needed to be part of the 3 person team to host. You can volunteer for one night or several between 10th December 2018 and 28th February 2019. We are particularly keen to hear from some more men. **Contact the Bridge on 01264 335 522** email office@thevalleychurch.org.uk.

Churches Together Lantern Parade

Friday 7th December, 6 pm starting at Pilgrims' Cross School before a parade around Picket Twenty. All welcome!

Foodbank

At present we are short of: Long Life Milk, Tinned fish, Sugar 500g. We will be hosting a Christmas Coffee Morning on **Friday 14th December 2018** at **10.30** in the Parish Hall. We are looking forward to seeing you!!

Mustard Seed Toddler Group

Mustard Seed parent/carer and toddler Christmas Nativity session is on Friday 14th December. Usual time 10am to 11.30am, meet as usual in the upper room of the Church Centre, come dressed as an angel or a shepherd.

Andover Choral Society

Andover Choral Society and the Westminster Chamber Orchestra Christmas Concert **Saturday 1st December at 7.30 pm**. Tickets £12 from The Lights.

Enham Trust Christmas Concert

The Enham Trust Concert is in St. Mary's Church on **Friday 7th December, 7.30 pm** featuring Salisbury Plain Military Wives Choir & Andover Light Orchestra. Tickets £12 (£6 under 16) from www.enhamtrust.org.uk/Event/enham-trust-christmas-concert .

Test Valley Brass concert

Saturday 8th December at 7pm in St. Mary's Church. Under 14s free, Tickets £8 on the door, or via www.testvalleybrass.co.uk .

Harmonium Singers' Concert

Saturday 15th December 7.30pm Christmas Concert "O Holy Night" in the Church. Proceeds to Countess of Brecknock Hospice. Tickets £10 on the door, £8 in advance from Newbury Building Society or the Lights.

St. Mary's Office, The Church Centre, Marlborough St, Andover SP10 1ER
Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 0930h to 1500h, Friday 0930h to 1600h

Vicar

Vacancy

Parish Administrator:

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