

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 16th December

10.00 am Family Carol Service

Readings: Isaiah 9:2-7, John 1:1-14, Philippians 2:1-2

7.00 pm Carols By Candlelight

**Readings: Genesis 3:8-19, Genesis 22:15-18, Isaiah 9:2-7,
Isaiah 11:1-9, Micah 5:2-5, Luke 2:1-7, Luke 2:8-20, John 1:1-14**

Wednesday 19th December

10.30 am Communion Service led by Canon Martin Coppen

Sunday 23rd December

10.00 am United Parish Communion

The Light Approaches - Isaiah 60:15-22 & John 1:1

Monday 24th December

Theme: The Light Approaches

4.00 pm Christingle Service led by Reverend Phil Dykes

Readings: Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 1:26-38, Luke 2:1-7 & Luke 2:8-20

11.30 pm Midnight Communion

Readings Titus 2:11-14 & Luke 2: 1-14

Canon Martin Coppen

Tuesday 25th December

10.00 am All Age Christmas Communion

With Tom Etherton & the Bishop of Basingstoke

Sunday 6th January

10.00 am United Parish Communion

6.00 pm Taizé Service

Update on Resource Church.

The current programme for announcing the start of the Resource Church has been amended. 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. The timetable for next year is currently as follows:

- 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 summary, Rev Chris Bradish and his family will be in the Vicarage by the end of the year and will spend January settling in. From February we shall see them around church, as they take time to get to know us, although Chris will not be leading the Sunday services. On 3rd March every member of St Mary's is warmly welcomed to our Civic Launch, when Chris will be formally inducted as our Vicar. He will be fully undertaking the new role from this date onward.

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 or just turn up on the day 😊

Grapevine deadline

The final Grapevine before Christmas will be published NEXT WEEK, 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.

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 from 7 until 10 every night. Volunteers are needed to host between 10th December 2018 and 28th February 2019. **Contact the Bridge on 01264 335 522** or email office@thevalleychurch.org.uk.

Christingle Service 24th December 4pm

Are you planning to come to this service? Would you be able to come early at 2.45pm to help welcome the large congregation that attends this service each year? Alternatively, would you be available after the service to help give out goody bags and sweets to all? Please contact Diane in the office.

Foodbank

We would like to take this opportunity to say an ENORMOUS thank you to everyone who has donated to the foodbank during the past year – we are so, so grateful – you have been AMAZING!!!

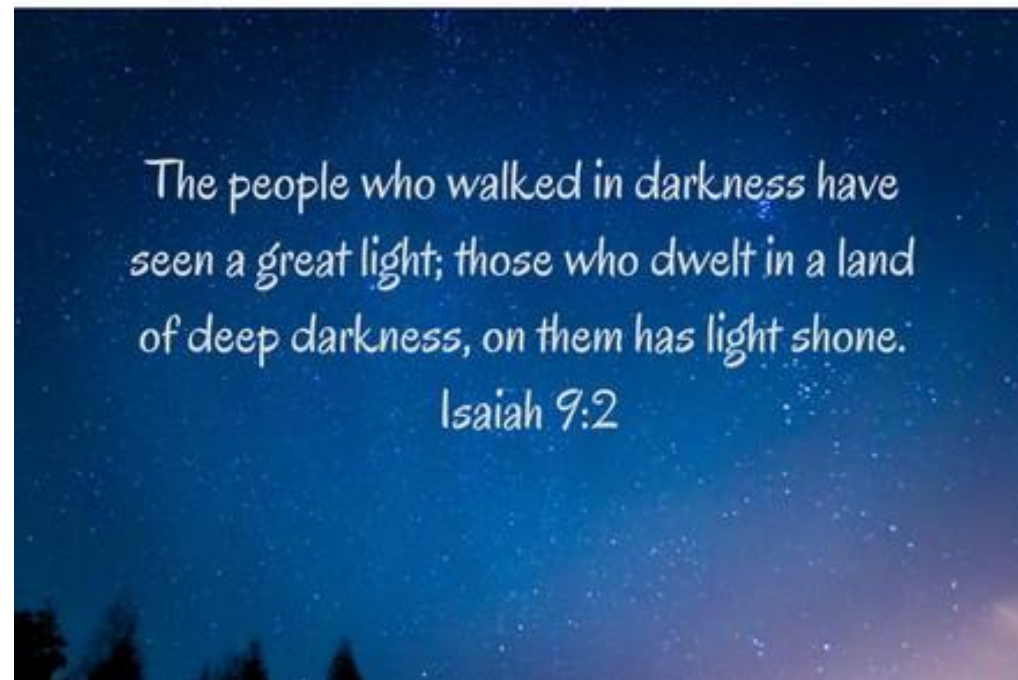
The foodbank will be closing at noon on Friday 21st December and will be re-opening on Wednesday 2nd January 2019.

With very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year

From All the staff and volunteers at the Andover foodbank

Christmas Cards

Please remember to check the pigeon-holes at the back of the church for Christmas cards from friends in church. There are often cards still there in January.



2019 Dates for your Diaries (contact the office for more information)

Wednesday 2nd January - Church Office reopens

Wednesday 2nd January - 10.30 am Holy Communion the Memorial Chapel

Saturday 5th January - 10 am Friends of St. Mary's Coffee Morning, Church Centre

Wednesday 7th January - Regular Art group meets in the Church Centre

Friday 11th January - Mustard Seed Toddler Group restarts (Church Centre)

Sunday 13th January - Children's Church starts again

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.

St. Mary's Office, The Church Centre, Marlborough St, Andover SP10 1ER

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 0930h to 1500h, Friday 0930h to 1600h

Office closed from 4pm on 21st December until 2nd January.

Vicar

Vacancy

Parish Administrator:

Diane Wilson

☎366373

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