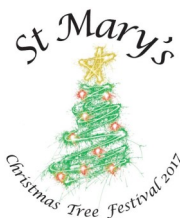


Plans are now well advanced for the Christmas Tree Festival and we are looking for volunteers to help with stewarding the Church during the weekend. We will need 3 for each session. We will also be serving tea and coffee so will need 2 people each session to cover this. Please sign the lists at the back of Church if you are able to help. Thank you very much for your support. Sally Frost



St Mary's Mission Christmas Cards

These will be on sale in the Narthex after our 10.00 am service today. Once again, thank you to Elaine Smith for her painting this year and for arranging printing.

Christmas Market

Saturday, 2nd December from 10.00am - Noon

in the Church Hall

This has always proved to be a great occasion and with your support this happy state of affairs should continue. As always any contributions to the Market are welcome and can be left at the back of church. Contributions of wine etc. to the bottle stall will encourage even more people to 'have a go'. Contributions to the cake stall: please bring to the Church Hall on Friday evening or early Saturday morning to enable the stall holders to have time to price them. Why not use this opportunity to DECLUTTER for Christmas by letting us have those bits and pieces which have been loved but are now looking for a good home.

We have stalls for books, bric-a-brac, cakes, jigsaws, craftwork, jewellery, gifts, Christmas Hamper Raffle, tombola and Treasure Island. If you have an idea for a stall, game or fundraiser and/or would like to be one of the band of helpers (get in free!) then I would love to hear from you on either phone (01384 378182 or by email at kateyfletcher@btinternet.com

Many thanks,
Katey Fletcher

Please feel free to take this pew sheet away and recycle. 

The Parish Church of St Mary Oldswinford

Sunday 19 November 2017

Trinity 23—Second Sunday before Advent



A warm welcome to any visitors who are worshipping with us today and a special welcome to Anne Batchelor, our Mission Enabler, who will be presenting her initial thoughts on our work with young people in our 10.00am service today. If you would like to find out about any of the activities associated with church please speak to a warden or sides person or visit our website at www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchOldswinford.

Our services today are as follows:

8.00am - Holy Communion

President: Revd Alex French

Collect, Epistle and Gospel reading on page 244

Sides: Eve Evans

10.00am - Parish Communion in the church hall

President: Revd Stephen Agnew

Preacher: Anne Batchelor

Warden: Les Timms

Sides: Andrew Scudamore & Marilyn Thomson

Reader: Peter Jones **Intercessions:** Peter Thomson

Children Together: Helen and Russ Fowler

6.30pm – Evensong

Officiant: Revd Alex French

Preacher: Revd Stephen Agnew

Warden: Marjorie Ferguson **Sides:** Gill Davies

Readers: Angela Price & Gill Davies

Intercessions: Revd Alex French

Anthem: Round me falls the night—Drese

Voluntary: Passacaglia in d minor—D Buxtehude

This pew sheet is also available at www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk

Collect for this week:

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings for our 10.00am service.

The New Testament Reading

I Thessalonians 5 : 1—11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

This is the Word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD.

What's going on?

Please ask if you would like to know any more about the events listed on these pages.

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

November 26
Christ The King

8.00 am
Communion (BCP)

10.00am
Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

CHURCH DIARY FOR **THIS WEEK**

Monday 20

Parish Office closed

Tuesday 21

2.00pm Tea in the Coach House

Wednesday 22

11.30am Holy Communion at
Holly Lodge

7.00pm Coach House Committee
Meeting

Thursday 23

10.30am Holy Communion in
church

Friday 24

Stephen and Alex day off

Saturday 25

10.00am Open Church and vestry
hour with Stephen

4.00pm Hospice Tree of Light
Service

MESSAGE FROM THE FOODBANK

Hi Everyone

Our volunteers are so important to us and we love to say thank you and recognise them for all their hard work. We could never do this enough! But on Monday November 6th one of our most reliable and loyal volunteers visited Westminster for a Volunteers Appreciation Evening in the Houses of Parliament. The event was designed to celebrate the hard work and dedication undertaken by volunteers in Dudley South. The evening started with a VIP tour of the Palace of Westminster including both House of Parliament followed by a celebration event in the Jubilee Room. Our volunteer had a really great time and said, "I had a lovely time and the tour of the palace of Westminster was really interesting".

Thank you to Mike Wood MP for arranging the event. Thank you everyone! :)

This week's shortages are:

UHT MILK , FRUIT JUICE, HOT CHOCOLATE, SMALL JARS OF COFFEE, PACKETS OF MASH (very low), TINNED FRUIT , ROLL ON DEODORANTS , SINGLE ADULT TOOTH-BRUSHES, SANITARY TOWELS, SHAVING GEL, SHOWER GEL

Christmas items:

Tinned meat, Packets of gravy, Tinned veg, Tinned Potatoes, Packets of mash, Mince pies, Christmas puddings, Selection boxes.

Please leave any donations in the boxes at the back of church and we will ensure that they are taken to the warehouse for distribution each week. Any donations of bags to help carry the donations from the large boxes at the back of church to the collection station would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support.



We invite you to offer prayers for

The World Church:

The Diocese of Uyo in Nigeria with Bishop Prince Asukwo Antai. Also the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church with Archbishop Urmas Vilma and Bishops Einar Soone, Tilt Salumae, Joel Luhamets and Andres Taul.

Churches Together:

St Peter's Pedmore

Bishop John has asked us to pray

For the toilet twinning initiative and how your church might get involved to help change the lives of those at risk from poor sanitation, for the work of CORD and Tearfund and for all who live daily without clean water or suitable sanitation.

The work of St Mary's.....

Freddie James Moss who is being baptised at St Mary's today. Pray for his parents and Godparents who will support him. All those who will attend the Hospice Tree of Light Service in church next Saturday. Grace Barrett who will be confirmed in the Cathedral next Sunday.

Those living in:

St Mary's Lane and Rectory Gardens

Local Community:

Pupils and Staff of Ham Dingle School

Among those who are ill:

Joni Stainburn, Betty and Joe Chiswell, The Palmer family, Julie Read, Judy Taylor, Tim Bradley, Geoff Skelding, Rosie, Colin Roberts, Lilian Bunny and Ian Moore.

We continue to pray for:

Rory Macintosh, Joe and Ros Yeates, Elian Irvine-Boden, Maureen Parmee, Anne May, Martin Aston, Ruth Hardy, Anna Scudamore, Jonathan Bryan, Noah Cantius, Michael Woodall, Finley Rogerson, Andrew and Lesley Mullen, Justin and Kevin, Peter and Lydia Wilkinson, Grace Jones, Enid Clarke, Angela Viner, and Denis Noakes.

Those in nursing home care:

Sheila Westwood, June O'Brian, Richard Aldred, Margaret Moulton, Hazel White, Betty Shore and Anne Davies.

The departed:

Vyvyan Hobby, Brenda Wootton and Brian Pickersgill.

Please inform the clergy or a member of the pastoral care team as soon as possible if you know of any illness or particular need within the congregation.

Please feel free to take this pew sheet away and recycle. 

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 25: 14-30

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord
PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

Post Communion Prayer:

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

This pew sheet is also available at www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk

Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 1: 15—40

So Bathsheba went to the king in his room. The king was very old; Abishag the Shunammite was attending the king. Bathsheba bowed and did obeisance to the king, and the king said, “What do you wish?” She said to him, “My lord, you swore to your servant by the Lord your God, saying: Your son Solomon shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne. But now suddenly Adonijah has become king, though you, my lord the king, do not know it. He has sacrificed oxen, fatted cattle, and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the children of the king, the priest Abiathar, and Joab the commander of the army; but your servant Solomon he has not invited. But you, my lord the king—the eyes of all Israel are on you to tell them who shall sit on the throne of my lord the king after him. Otherwise it will come to pass, when my lord the king sleeps with his ancestors, that my son Solomon and I will be counted offenders.”

While she was still speaking with the king, the prophet Nathan came in. The king was told, “Here is the prophet Nathan.” When he came in before the king, he did obeisance to the king, with his face to the ground. Nathan said, “My lord the king, have you said, ‘Adonijah shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne’? For today he has gone down and has sacrificed oxen, fatted cattle, and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the king’s children, Joab the commander of the army, and the priest Abiathar, who are now eating and drinking before him, and saying, ‘Long live King Adonijah!’ But he did not invite me, your servant, and the priest Zadok, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and your servant Solomon. Has this thing been brought about by my lord the king and you have not let your servants know who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?”

King David answered, “Summon Bathsheba to me.” So she came into the king’s presence, and stood before the king. The king swore, saying, “As the Lord lives, who has saved my life from every adversity, as I swore to you by the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘Your son Solomon shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne in my place,’ so will I do this day.” Then Bathsheba bowed with her face to the ground, and did obeisance to the king, and said, “May my lord King David live forever!”

King David said, “Summon to me the priest Zadok, the prophet Nathan, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada.” When they came before the king, the king said to them, “Take with you the servants of your lord, and have my son Solomon ride on my own mule, and bring him down to Gihon. There let the priest Zadok and the prophet Nathan anoint him king over Israel; then blow the trumpet, and say, ‘Long live King Solomon!’ You shall go up following him. Let him enter and sit on my throne; he shall be king in my place; for I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and over Judah.” Benaiah son of Jehoiada answered the king, “Amen! May the Lord, the God of my lord the king, so ordain. As the Lord has been with my lord the king, so may he be with Solomon, and make his throne greater than the throne of my lord King David.”

So the priest Zadok, the prophet Nathan, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and the Pelethites, went down and had Solomon ride on King David’s mule, and led him to Gihon. There the priest Zadok took the horn of oil from the tent and anointed Solomon. Then they blew the trumpet, and all the people said, “Long live King Solomon!” And all the people went up following him, playing on pipes and rejoicing with great joy, so that the earth quaked at their noise.

The New Testament Reading

Revelation 1: 4—18

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

I, John, your brother who share with you in Jesus the persecution and the kingdom and the patient endurance, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, “Write in a book what you see and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamum, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.”

Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands I saw one like the Son of Man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash across his chest. His head and his hair were white as white wool, white as snow; his eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined as in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and from his mouth came a sharp, two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining with full force. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he placed his right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive forever and ever; and I have the keys of Death and of Hades.