

**HELP PLEASE.** We have produced a Christmas Card from the church which advertises all of our Christmas Services beginning with our Advent Carol Service. We would like every home in the parish to receive a card. There are bags of cards with street names on at the back of church. Please take as many bags as you can and deliver. Many hands make light work.

**Missing Mince Pies!** At this year's Christmas Market we shall not have our usual supply of numerous mince pies to sell on the Cake Stall so we're appealing for your help. If you could possibly make or supply some for us to sell, along with your generous gifts of cakes for the stall, we would be most grateful. **Thank you** - all funds raised go to our church.

**Brierley Hill Choral Society**



**A Musical Christmas Celebration**

**Saturday December 1<sup>st</sup> 7.30 p.m.**

**Saint Michael's Church Brierley Hill DY5 3AA**

Seasonal pieces, extracts from Messiah,  
and featuring the Festal Te Deum by Graham Price  
**Soloist Alan Fairs**

**Conductor Rory Freckleton**

Tickets £10 on the door or from choir members

CHARITY REGISTERED NUMBER: 1111932  
[www.brierley-hill-choral-society.org](http://www.brierley-hill-choral-society.org)

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH HALL**  
Rectory Rd. OLDSWINFORD



**CHRISTMAS MARKET**

**SAT. 1<sup>st</sup> Dec.**  
**10.00 til 12.00**



**ADMISSION £1, children FREE**

Lots of stalls, Books, Cakes, Bric-a-brac, Tombola,  
Gifts, Plants, Bottle Stall, Games, Treasure Chest,  
Raffle, Win-a Hamper. Coffee & Mince Pies, and more.

Please send any notices or information for the pewsheets to the Parish Office by 12 noon on a Wednesday. Send to [st.mary.os@btconnect.com](mailto:st.mary.os@btconnect.com) or text to 07956675990 or phone 01384 441003. This pewsheet is printed on recycled paper.

**The Parish Church of St Mary Oldswinford**  
**Sunday 25 November 2018**  
**Christ The King/Sunday before Advent**



A warm welcome to any visitors who are worshipping with us today. Please join us for a chat over a cup of coffee after our 10.00am service. 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](http://www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk) or our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchOldswinford](http://www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchOldswinford).

**Our services today are as follows:**

**8.00am - Holy Communion**

**President:** Revd Alex French **Preacher:** Revd Alex French  
**Readings from the BCP page 247 Sides:** Eve Evans

**10.00am - Parish Communion**

**President:** Revd Alex French **Preacher:** Roger King  
**Warden:** Tony Tatford **Sides:** Sue Tatford and Gill Davies  
**Reader:** Gill Davies **Intercessions:** John Sutton  
**Children Together:** Activity sheets will be available  
**Communion Motet:** Let all mortal flesh  
**Organ Music:** Vesper Voluntary No 11 - Elgar  
**Coffee:** Carole Duff and a volunteer please

**6.30pm - Evensong**

**Officiant:** Revd Alex French **Preacher:** Revd Alex French  
**Warden:** Marjorie Ferguson  
**Sides:** A volunteer needed please  
**Readers:** Marjorie Ferguson & Tina Timms  
**Anthem:** Rejoice, the Lord is King - M Archer  
**Organ Music:** Chorale from Suite for Organ—M Archer

This pew sheet is also available at [www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk](http://www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk)

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

## Collect for this week:

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## Readings for 10.00am service.

Old Testament Reading  
Daniel 7: 9 –10, 13—14

As I watched,  
thrones were set in place,  
and an Ancient One took his throne,  
his clothing was white as snow,  
and the hair of his head like pure wool;  
his throne was fiery flames,  
and its wheels were burning fire.  
A stream of fire issued  
and flowed out from his presence.  
A thousand thousands served him,  
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.  
The court sat in judgment,  
and the books were opened.

As I watched in the night visions,  
I saw one like a human being  
coming with the clouds of heaven.  
And he came to the Ancient One  
and was presented before him.  
To him was given dominion  
and glory and kingship,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages  
should serve him.  
His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that shall not pass away,  
and his kingship is one  
that shall never be destroyed.

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

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

## What's going on?

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

### SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY December 2 Advent Sunday

- 8.00 am Communion (BCP)
- 10.00am Parish Communion
- 3.00pm Baptisms
- 6.30pm Advent Carol Service

### CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

- Monday 26**  
Parish Office Closed  
Interviews for a new Rector taking place today.  
2.00pm—4.00pm Sewing group using the narthex
- Tuesday 27**  
10.00am Y6 pupils from Ham Dingle School visiting St Mary's  
2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the narthex
- Wednesday 28**  
11.30am Holy Communion at Holly Lodge  
1.30pm Mums and Toddlers meet in the church hall
- Thursday 29**  
10.30am Holy Communion in church.
- Friday 30**  
Alex's day off.
- Saturday December 1**  
10.00am—12.00 Christmas Market in the church hall.

### MESSAGE FROM THE FOODBANK

Hello Everyone

It's November so it's time to start thinking about Christmas.

A celebration for many but a time of great worry and concern for others. The pressures of warm clothes, heating and paying all the extra costs that come with Christmas can be daunting for many. Please consider donating food, toiletries and money to Black Country Foodbank so we can help provide some relief for those struggling.

**This week's shortages are:**

**FRUIT JUICE, JAM/MARMALADE, PACKETS OF MASH, TINNED FRUIT, JARS OF COOKING SAUCE, MEDIUM SIZED BOXES OF BREAKFAST CEREAL, SMALL JARS OF COFFEE, HOT CHOCOLATE, TINNED POTATOES, TINNED MEAT, ROLL ON DEODORANTS, SHAVING FOAM, SMALL BOXES OF WASHING POWDER, CAN OPENERS, INDIVIDUAL BARS OF SOAP, COMBS**

**Please note that the foodbank cannot accept donations of alcohol. Thanks.**

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.**

This pew sheet is also available at [www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk](http://www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk)

**BLACK COUNTRY  
FOODBANK**  
LOVE . CONNECT . INVEST

**We invite you to offer prayers for .....**

**Worldwide Church:**

The Lusitanian Church in Portugal with Bishop Jose De Pina Cabral

**Churches Together:**

St Peter's Pedmore

**Bishop John has asked us to pray .....**

for all those involved in the children's and youth Councils as they hit the streets of Worcester to share God's love. And for all the shoppers and tourists that they'll come into contact with.

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

For the children and staff of Ham Dingle Primary School that are visiting this week. For all those involved in the selection of a new Rector for St Mary's and for our churchwardens who have taken on extra responsibilities at this time.

**Those living in:**

Stanley Road and Bramber Way

**Local Community:**

The residents and staff of Holly Croft Care Home

**Among those who are ill:**

Joyce Agnew, Sandy Hollywood, Miriam Palmer and Cam Raffan.

**We continue to pray for:**

Colin Millward, Ian Moore, Brian Drew, Betty and Joe Chiswell, Judy Taylor, Rory Macintosh, Joe and Ros Yeates, Elian Irvine-Boden, Anne May, Martin Aston, Ruth Hardy, Anna Scudamore, Jonathan Bryan, Noah Cantius, Michael Woodall, The Rogerson Family, Andrew and Lesley Mullen, Justin and Kevin, Peter & Angela Viner, Lilian Bunney, Penny Webb, Jennie Webb, and Denis Noakes.


**Those in nursing home care:**

Margaret Moulton, Mabel Arnold, Betty Shore and Geoff Skelding.

**The departed:**

Mary (May) Hill, Peter Gordon, Christine Williams, and Anne Davies

*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**

John 18: 33-37

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John*

**GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.**

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

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

**Post Communion Prayer:**

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people: that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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## Readings for our 6.30pm service.

### Old Testament Reading

#### Daniel: 5

King Belshazzar made a great festival for a thousand of his lords, and he was drinking wine in the presence of the thousand.

Under the influence of the wine, Belshazzar commanded that they bring in the vessels of gold and silver that his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem, so that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them. So they brought in the vessels of gold and silver that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.

Immediately the fingers of a human hand appeared and began writing on the plaster of the wall of the royal palace, next to the lampstand. The king was watching the hand as it wrote. Then the king's face turned pale, and his thoughts terrified him. His limbs gave way, and his knees knocked together. The king cried aloud to bring in the enchanters, the Chaldeans, and the diviners; and the king said to the wise men of Babylon, "Whoever can read this writing and tell me its interpretation shall be clothed in purple, have a chain of gold around his neck, and rank third in the kingdom." Then all the king's wise men came in, but they could not read the writing or tell the king the interpretation. Then King Belshazzar became greatly terrified and his face turned pale, and his lords were perplexed.

The queen, when she heard the discussion of the king and his lords, came into the banqueting hall. The queen said, "O king, live forever! Do not let your thoughts terrify you or your face grow pale. There is a man in your kingdom who is endowed with a spirit of the holy gods. In the days of your father he was found to have enlightenment, understanding, and wisdom like the wisdom of the gods. Your father, King Nebuchadnezzar, made him chief of the magicians, enchanters, Chaldeans, and diviners, because an excellent spirit, knowledge, and understanding to interpret dreams, explain riddles, and solve problems were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar. Now let Daniel be called, and he will give the interpretation."

Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king said to Daniel, "So you are Daniel, one of the exiles of Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah? I have heard of you that a spirit of the gods] is in you, and that enlightenment, understanding, and excellent wisdom are found in you. Now the wise men, the enchanters, have been brought in before me to read this writing and tell me its interpretation, but they were not able to give the interpretation of the matter. But I have heard that you can give interpretations and solve problems. Now if you are able to read the writing and tell me its interpretation, you shall be clothed in purple, have a chain of gold around your neck, and rank third in the kingdom."

Then Daniel answered in the presence of the king, "Let your gifts be for yourself, or give your rewards to someone else! Nevertheless I will read the writing to the king and let him know the interpretation. O king, the Most High God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar kingship, greatness, glory, and majesty. And because of the greatness that he gave him, all peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him. He killed those he wanted to kill, kept alive those he wanted to keep alive, honoured those he wanted to honour, and degraded those he wanted to degrade. But when his heart was lifted up and his spirit was hardened so that he acted proudly, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and his glory was stripped from him. He was driven from human society, and his mind was made like that of an animal. His dwelling was with the wild asses, he was fed grass like oxen, and his body was bathed with the dew of heaven, until he learned that the Most High God has sovereignty over the kingdom of mortals,

and sets over it whomever he will. And you, Belshazzar his son, have not humbled your heart, even though you knew all this! You have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven! The vessels of his temple have been brought in before you, and you and your lords, your wives and your concubines have been drinking wine from them. You have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or know; but the God in whose power is your very breath, and to whom belong all your ways, you have not honoured.

"So from his presence the hand was sent and this writing was inscribed. And this is the writing that was inscribed: mene, mene, tekel, and parsin. This is the interpretation of the matter: mene, God has numbered the days of your kingdom and brought it to an end; tekel, you have been weighed on the scales and found wanting; peres, your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians."

Then Belshazzar gave the command, and Daniel was clothed in purple, a chain of gold was put around his neck, and a proclamation was made concerning him that he should rank third in the kingdom.

That very night Belshazzar, the Chaldean king, was killed. And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old.

### The New Testament Reading

#### John 6: 1—15

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

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