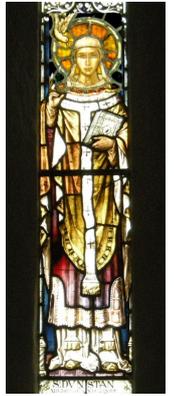




MAYFIELD
& FIVE ASHES



NEWS from ST. DUNSTAN'S

SUNDAY 20th DECEMBER
4th Sunday of Advent

10.15am Parish Eucharist with
Bishop Nicholas Reade
Anthem: Magnificat—setting by Richard Shephard

6pm Carol Service 1 (tickets only)
**Live streaming: see information
on page 3. Order of Service
available on parish website.

READINGS:

2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16
Luke 1: 26-38

COLLECT

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin
Mary to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his
coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him



when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

POST COMMUNION

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised
saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace
your holy will and with her rejoice in
your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

“Here am I, the **servant** of the Lord.” (v 38 Sunday’s Gospel). Mary uses a word about herself that brings out her humility very clearly. In the older version it’s **handmaid** which makes it even clearer. That was the woman who did the roughest work in the house. Mary is content to accept this position—what trust, what confidence and what humility. **True humility** too, which recognises the good things in oneself and acknowledges what is weak, yet can be made powerful through the action of God.

How obvious it is in the gospels, that Jesus had a poor opinion of the proud and conceited. Did he learn his love of the humble, I wonder, from his mother? **Di**

TUESDAY 22nd DECEMBER

6pm Christmas Carol Service 2—ticket holders only

**Live streaming: see information on page 3. Order of Service available on Parish website.

THURSDAY 24th DECEMBER

Christmas Eve

10.30pm Mass for Midnight with Fr David Milnes

READINGS:

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



COLLECT

Eternal God,
who made this most holy night
to shine with the brightness of your one true light:
bring us, who have known the revelation
of that light on earth,
to see the radiance of your heavenly
glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

POST COMMUNION

God our Father,
in this night you have made known to us
again the coming of our Lord Jesus
Christ:
confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him
until the day dawns
and Christ the Morning Star rises in our
hearts.
To him be glory both now and for ever.



CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND

God we thank You that You made Yourself known to someone without power, wealth or status; and we praise You for the courage of Mary, this young woman from Galilee, whose YES to the shame and shock of bearing Your Son let loose the unstoppable power of Love which changed the world. **Amen**

Angela Ashwin

FRIDAY 25th DECEMBER
Christmas Day

10.15am Festival Eucharist with Fr Christopher Channer

12 noon Said Eucharist at Cottage Hospice with Rev'd Steven Underdown. **All welcome.**

READINGS

Hebrews 1: 1-4 (5-12)

John 1: 1-14

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:
grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace,
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

POST COMMUNION

God our Father,
whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the Lord.



PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

“Fear not, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be for all the people.”

What ‘Good News’? Isn’t it that God wills to be incarnated into the whole human situation; so that every aspect of life is included? The barrier between religion and life is obliterated when true religion comes into life, as it did at Bethlehem.

To quote St. Augustine:

“You are the body of Christ, that is to say, in you and through you the work of the Incarnation must go forward. You are meant to incarnate in your lives the theme of your adoration – you are to be taken, consecrated, broken and distributed, that you may be the means of grace and vehicles of the Eternal Charity.”

Di

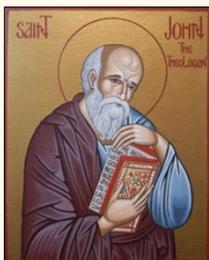
SUNDAY 27th DECEMBER
John, Apostle and Evangelist

10.15am Parish Eucharist with Fr Christopher Channer

READINGS:

1 John 1: 1-10

John 21: 19b–25



COLLECT

Merciful Lord,
cast your bright beams of light upon the Church that, being enlightened by the teaching of your blessed apostle and evangelist Saint John, we may so walk in the light of your truth that we may at last attain to the light of everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ
your incarnate Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

POST COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we pray,
that the Word made flesh proclaimed by your apostle John may, by the celebration of these holy mysteries,
ever abide and live within us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

Let us go bravely into the New Year, facing our various unknowables for 2021, with some thoughts by the late Ruth Scott, Anglican priest, writer and well-known broadcaster on the ‘Wake up to Wogan’ show.

“We generally learn through trial and error. That is why a judgemental society is one that tends to go nowhere fast. It makes people afraid of making mistakes and therefore hinders a major part of how we learn. There is truth in the statement that the only mistakes we make are those from which we learn nothing.”

Di

SUNDAY 3rd JANUARY
EPIPHANY

10.15am All Together Parish Eucharist with Fr David Milnes

READINGS:

Ephesians 3: 1-12

Matthew 2: 1-12



COLLECT

O God,
who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:
mercifully grant that we,
who know you now by faith,
may at last behold your glory face to face;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

POST COMMUNION

Lord God,
the bright splendour whom the nations seek:
may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son,
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.



EPIPHANY



'ALL TOGETHER'
10.15am Sunday 3rd January
All welcome!

WISHING YOU ALL
A VERY
HAPPY CHRISTMAS!



Thank you to all those who make it possible for the church to open and for all the services in December; to our visiting Clergy, Deacon Di, Nicky, Flower guild, sidemen and women, readers and intercessors, bell ringers, Andrew and the choir; and last but not least, to Julia for putting together our wonderful Enews. **Jo and Sheila Churchwardens**

Thank you too, to our Churchwardens for their sterling efforts during the vacancy. May they have a well-earned rest over the Christmas period. **Ed.**

WEDNESDAY COMMUNION SERVICES

23 & 30 December and 6 January
at 10am with Fr David Milnes



PRAYERS FOR OUR
CHURCH FAMILY

For those missing the usual Christmas gatherings because of anxiety over Covid.

For all known to us who are sick including Alf Thomson

For those whose anniversaries

fall over this Christmas period:

This week: Pamela Taylor, Jean Franks, Elaine Thomson, Violet Streeter, Phyllis Fenner, Patricia Begg, David Tindall, Sheila Compton, Susan Rees, Betty Bennett

27 Dec - 2 Jan: John Coomber,

Lesley Chapman, Elizabeth Hammond, William Fieldwick, Geoffrey High, William Moir

2-9 Jan: Les Chapman, Janet Peckham, Ian Hacking, Theo Packman, Joyce Law, Michael Dickson, Edward Law, Walter Podger, Bert Ashdown



The Bible Society has produced a 'Nativity Rhyme for Christmas' <https://youtu.be/D06k9vulAVQ>



ST DUNSTAN'S FESTIVE BAKE AND CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Thank you to all those who bought raffle tickets and contributed in so many different ways to last week's bake sale. Together £1,217 was raised for church funds. A wonderful result! Thank you!



CAROL SERVICES

All those attending in person in St Dunstan's, will be provided with an Order of Service booklet—please be sure to take these home with you. If watching through our live-stream, you may find it helpful to download the Order of Service direct from the church website: www.stdunstansmayfield.org.uk

YouTube **To locate the live-streamed services (6pm Sunday 20th & Tuesday 22nd) please go to YouTube and search 'St Dunstans Mayfield'. If you 'subscribe' to the link, this site will be easily accessed in the future.



ONLINE OPTIONS for Christmas Services

For BBC Radio 4: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qnds>

For BBC 1 Services: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000h05p/episodes/player>

C of E Services: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/>



GIVING TO ST DUNSTAN'S

Thank you to all those who give to the church through PGS (Parish Giving Scheme). For those who do not belong to the scheme, giving has become so much easier! You can either donate by clicking on the 'donate button' or through scanning in the QR code which will connect you directly with a secure website. The QR code allows you to gift aid your donation but in both cases, just follow the instructions. Covid-19 has had an impact on so many over the past year and St Dunstan's has not escaped a considerable reduction in incoming funds. We are hoping that you might feel able to contribute over this Christmas Season and thank you for your generosity.



DONATE

THANK YOU

... to all involved in putting up the Christmas Tree in church—we can't wait to see it all lit up!



... to Mike Hand-Bowman and Philip James for taking on the complexities of online streaming



This year in BETHLEHEM the hotels are empty, the streets are silent, and 80% residents are dependent on tourism and suffering. FHL is one of our 'chosen' charities. To respond to their Christmas Appeal: www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk



If you, or anyone you know, would like a friendly chat over the phone, please do contact:

Maggie Holliday on 1435873822
Denise Packham on 1892523704
or Karen Mack on 01435872607

HELP NEEDED! ... to cleanse down the church after ALL the December services. Please do offer a hand if you see the anti-bacterial wipes coming out—your help would be very much appreciated.



FSW WINTER FUEL APPEAL

For those wishing to donate their £200 fuel allowance towards the running costs of FSW, please drop a cheque into the office payable to FSW or leave it in the plate. Thank you.

Sunday Club EACH WEEK Margaret Neve posts activities for our younger members. Please see the Church website.

NEXT ENEWS:
Friday 8th January

For daily reflections for the period 25th Dec—2nd Jan: [Comfort and Joy: our Advent and Christmas reflections](#) | [The Church of England](#)
These are based on the traditional nine lessons and carols giving an opportunity to hear again the Christmas story and reflect on its meaning in this time of challenge. We pray that as you journey through the Christmas season, you will know that Jesus journeys with you. **May you know God's COMFORT and, in whatever your circumstances, be surprised by God's JOY.**

USEFUL CONTACTS:

Parish Office Tel: 873484 ; e-mail stdunstan@tiscali.co.uk
Website: www.stdunstansmayfield.org.uk

OFFICE CLOSED UNTIL 4th JANUARY. PLEASE BE IN TOUCH IF YOU WOULD LIKE NAMES ADDED TO OUR PRAYER LIST.