

PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

Retiring Collection: as is our custom during Advent there will be a retiring collection in both churches on the Sundays of Advent to defray the costs of the Christingle Service, in order that the whole of the collection at that Service can be sent to our Advent Appeal. This year's appeal is in aid of the MK Winter Night Shelter Project.

Carol Singing around the Parish: please do come along on one of the two evenings when we shall be singing carols around the parish in aid of our Advent Appeal. Full details of where to meet and who will be leading each evening may be found on the poster place on the free standing notice-board in St Mary & St Giles.

Christingle Making: will be held at 2:00pm on 23rd December in St Mary & St Giles. Please see Sister Janet if you can help make the Christingles in readiness for the extremely popular service on Christmas Eve. Thank you.

Parish Weekend Pilgrimage to Walsingham 2017: Thank you to all those who have booked places so far. Please could all completed booking forms along with deposits of £30 per person be given to Fr Ross as soon as possible, so that we can give the Shrine an early indication of numbers and secure rooms. If you have not been to Walsingham before this is an ideal introduction to the wonderful ministry of the Shrine. Fr Ross or any previous pilgrims will be only too pleased to tell you more.

Rough Sleepers: A number of people have been asking where the rough sleepers that were in the lychgate have gone. The first thing to stress is that they have not been required to leave by Rector, Churchwardens or Parochial Church Council. Their 'move' has been brought on by the simple fact that the lychgate is open to the elements and it does not provide sufficient warmth or shelter from inclement weather now that the winter is upon us. One of the four people who were sleeping in the lychgate is, we are told, sleeping rough in an underpass in central Milton Keynes. The other three are still within the parish in a location known to the authorities, the Rector and others. They are sheltered and comparatively warm and keep the Rector fully informed as to their well-being.

Please continue to pray for these men and for all those sleeping rough in our Parish and elsewhere; as well as for all those charities and agencies that seek to minister to them.

Advent Boxes: Please return these on the Feast of the Epiphany (*observed on Sunday 8th January next year*) at either the Parish Mass or the Family Mass.

A number of you have asked if MK Night Shelter Project has Gift Aid forms. We have made enquiries, but unfortunately, have not been able to acquire any.



**St Mary & St Giles, Stony Stratford
with All Saints, Calverton**

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

18th December AD 2016



Welcome to the Parish Church where, after the example of the early church, we celebrate the Eucharist: the "apostles teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42)

"behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1: 21-22

Rector: Fr Ross Northing SSC - Tel: 01908 562148

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Associate Minister:

Fr Tunji Adebiyi - Tel: 01525 790954

Honorary Assistant Priests:

Fr Joseph Loveday SSC - Tel: 01327 351511

Church Army Officer:

Sister Janet Northing CA - Tel: 01908 562148

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Arrangements for Banns, Holy Matrimony & Baptisms:

May be made by contacting Fr Ross on 01908 562148

Confessions: May be made after Masses or by appointment.

Parish Website: <http://parishstonystratfordcalverton.com>

To Hire the Parish Hall:

'Phone Nicola Crompton on 07979 653515

INFORMATION

The Order of Mass is on the laminated card. The references to the Scripture Readings, which may be either listened to or followed in the Bibles provided, along with the Psalm and the Prayer of the Faithful are also included in this Sheet. Hymns are unannounced but are indicated on the boards towards the front of the Nave.



Large Print Orders of Service are available at St Mary & St Giles. Please ask a Sidesman for a copy.



A Loop System is in operation at St Mary & St Giles - please set hearing aids to the "T" position.



Access for the Disabled at St Mary & St Giles is via the path on the north side of the church. **At All Saints** it is via the South Porch.



Gluten-Free Hosts: if you are on a Gluten-Free diet and would like a Gluten-Free Host when you receive Holy Communion please mention this before Mass to one of the Sidesmen who will arrange this for you. Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest so that he is aware of your need.



Collections: for the continuing mission of Christ are taken while the altar and gifts of bread and wine are being prepared. If you are a visitor and a taxpayer and would like to make a donation please use the Gift Aid envelopes provided at the end of each row - please fill in your details. This enables us to reclaim, from the Inland Revenue, 25p for every £1 donated.



We observe a period of quiet prayer and reflection before the celebration of Mass, between the end of the Organ Voluntary and the Sacristy Bell being rung, in order that we may be better prepared to worship almighty God.

Reception of Holy Communion: All Baptised and Confirmed Christians are encouraged to receive Holy Communion. If you are unwell or uncertain about receiving the Precious Blood please do still receive the Host. Our Chalice Assistants are not authorised to permit the intincting (dipping) of the Host.



Please join us at the back of church for tea or coffee after Mass. A priest will be near the main door shortly after the end of Mass should you need to talk with one.

Please take this Service Sheet home with you and use as part of your devotions during the week.

Prayer Thought

Advent reaches its climax as we celebrate and rejoice in God who is faithful to his promises, and as we rejoice with the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Joseph who trusted him completely.

(STAND) THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The priest greets the people

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
and also with you.

The Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

The priest invites a child to light the Fourth Candle on the Advent Wreath, and then leads the people in prayer:

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, merciful and gentle: to you be praise and glory for ever! Your light has shone in our darkened world through the child-bearing of Blessed Mary, Ever-Virgin; grant that we who have seen your glory may daily be renewed in your image and prepared like her for the coming of your Son, who is Lord and Saviour of all.

Blessed be God for ever.

Penitential Rite

The priest invites the people to call to mind their sins and re-

praise and glory. Amen.

(STAND)

THE CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

For the dismissal, the Priest faces the people and blesses them using a form appropriate to the Season:

May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Communion Reflection:

Jesus born in the House of Bread, Bethlehem, Emmanuel become the Bread of Life. Bread given and broken that we might live. Bread with us - within us that we might become Christ, Emmanuel in our world.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Today:	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (O Adonai)
9:30am	PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles
4:00pm	Nativity Play & Carols at St Mary & St Giles
6:00pm	Carols by Candlelight at All Saints
<i>Intention:</i>	<i>Our Parishes</i>
Monday:	O Radix
9:30am	'Squeals on Wheels' in the Parish Hall
8:00pm	Bellringing Practice
<i>Pray for:</i>	<i>the Sick, Housebound & Handicapped</i>
Tuesday:	O Clavis
10:30am	Mass + Elevenses at All Saints
11:30am	Confessions at all Saints
7:30pm	Carol Singing around the Parish
<i>Intention:</i>	<i>The Church in Sweden</i>
Wednesday:	O Oriens
6:00pm	Arrangements for Banns, Holy Matrimony & Baptisms in the Parish Office
6:30pm	Confessions at St Mary & St Giles
7:30pm	Mass at St Mary & St Giles
<i>Intention:</i>	<i>A deepening of the Spiritual Life</i>
Thursday:	O Rex
10:30am	Mass at St Mary & St Giles
11:15am	Confessions at St Mary & St Giles
7:30pm	Carol Singing around the Parish
<i>Intention:</i>	<i>For Rough Sleepers</i>
Friday:	O Emmanuel
11:30am	Confessions at St Mary & St Giles
12:00noon	Angelus & Litany of the Sacred Heart
12:15pm	Mass at St Mary & St School
2:00pm	Christingle Making at St Mary & St Giles
7:30pm	Parish Singers Rehearsal
<i>Intention:</i>	<i>For Vocations to the Sacred Ministry</i>
Saturday:	Christmas Eve
10:00am	Confessions at St Mary & St Giles
10:30am	Mass (of the day) at St Mary & St Giles
3:00pm	Confessions at St Mary & St Giles
4:30pm	Christingle Service at St Mary & St Giles
11:30pm	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
<i>Pray for:</i>	MIDNIGHT MASS OF THE LORD'S NATIVITY at All Saints
<i>Pray for:</i>	<i>Wisdom from on high.</i>
Next Sunday:	CHRISTMASS DAY
9:30am	PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles
4:00pm	Nativity Play & Carols at St Mary & St Giles
6:00pm	Carols by Candlelight at All Saints
<i>Intention:</i>	<i>Our Parishes</i>

Readings next Sunday - Christmass Day

1st Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-10 Psalm: 98
2nd Reading: Hebrews 1: 1-6 Gospel: John 1: 1-18

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

The priest introduces the Lord's Prayer: (STAND)

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The Agnus Dei (KNEEL)

When sung at SMSG: (Page 8 of Mass Setting)

**Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Bread of Life, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Cup of Hope, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Prince of Peace, you take away the sins of the
world, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Word of Love, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

The priest shows the consecrated Host to the people, saying:

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.

**✠ Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

An antiphon and/or hymns may be sung quietly as the people reverently receive Holy Communion. It is customary to kneel throughout the distribution of Holy Communion except when going forward to receive the Blessed Sacrament and upon returning to your place.

Prayer after Communion (STAND)

Let us pray.

And all pray in silence with the Priest for a while, unless the silence has just been observed. Then the priest, with hands extended, says the Prayer after Communion; at the end of which the people acclaim:

Amen.

All then pray:

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body
and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer
you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us
out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your**

pent of them.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought and word and deed.
We have not loved you
with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours
as ourselves.**

**In your mercy
forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we
are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you our God. Amen.**

The priest pronounces the general absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Music for the Mass texts is available on a card in each of our Parish Churches for those who wish to use it)

The Kyries: When sung at SMSG: (Page 1 of Mass Setting)

Kyrie, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison.

Christe, eleison.

Christe, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison, eleison.

The Gloria in excelsis is omitted in Advent

The Collect

Let us pray.

O 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. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (SIT)

The First Reading Isaiah 7:10-14

(Old Testament Page 586 in the Bibles) God encourages his people of the Old Testament period with the promise that he would be with them.

The Responsorial Psalm (from Psalm 24)

R/. Let the Lord enter! He is the King of glory.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. ®

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. ®

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. ®

The Second Reading Romans 1:1-7

(New Testament Page 126 in the Bibles) tells us that God kept his promise made to his people when Jesus, son of David, was born. Jesus, however is also Son of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name shall be called Emmanuel: God is with us. **Alleluia!**

The Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

(New Testament Page 1 in the Bibles) assures us that in Jesus, son of Mary, God is really with us.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

As the Gospel is announced the people respond:

✠ ✠ ✠ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel Reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Homily

The Nicene Creed

(STAND)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, *(all bow during the next three lines)*
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayer of the Faithful

(STAND)

Priest:

My brothers and sisters, knowing the times in which we are living, let us pray that our deeds will take on the light of Christ's love.

Intercessor:

By the power of your Spirit inspire our hearts to learn the ways of peaceable living. We pray:

V/. Christ, hear us.

R/. **Draw us to your light, O Christ.**

By the light of your truth open our minds to the church's teachings on justice for the economically poor among us. We pray:

By the voices of the prophets past and present, guide us away from violence in our ordinary actions and speech. We pray:

By our hope in your coming in glory strengthen our resolve to live honourably and respectfully whether at work or at play. We pray:

By the love you manifest in the eucharist help us to be

more genuinely concerned for the moral and spiritual good of our children, the elderly, and the sick among us, especially...Fiddy Abraham, Anna Archer, Henry Blake, Shirley Brown, Steve Cooper, Liz Halliwell, Jane Holman, William Leese, Terry Mason, Sue Maton, Pete, Tony Oakley, Wendy... We pray:

By the splendour of your mercy welcome into the day of salvation those who have died, especially...those who died recently...and for those whose anniversaries of death occur during this week...**18th** Michael Houghton (Bishop), John Jesson, Frederick Webb; **19th** Fred Buttrum, Winifred Culver, Ann Jones; **20th** Thomas Stockings, Flora Bodfish, George Russell, , Robert Martin; **21st** Stanley Barker, Denis Church, Jane Bailey, Frederick Baker, Myrtle Wrack, Annie Cowley; **22nd** James Newbury, Winifred Chambers, Marion King; **23rd** Caroline Read, Sarah Newbury, Rudy Zehothofer, Amy Palmer, Robert Williamson; **24th** Margaret Paterson... We pray:

✠ Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.

And let light perpetual shine upon them.

Priest:

Eternal God, graciously receive the prayers of your church that joyfully awaits the coming of Christ, who lives and reigns forever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*The Gifts of Bread and Wine are brought to the altar by **Anna & Rosie Page**. Then priest says the Offertory Prayers as we sing a hymn (either standing or sitting). A collection is taken and brought forward. If the hymn has finished and the priest is still saying the Offertory Prayers the people respond:*

Blessed be God for ever.

(STAND) Pray brethren that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Church.

The priest says the Prayer over the Gifts to which all respond:
Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The priest sings a Eucharistic Preface appropriate to the celebration, after which all join in the acclamation: (KNEEL)

When sung at SMSG:

(Page 5 of Mass Setting)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes,
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

The priest continues the Eucharistic Prayer of thanksgiving, recalling the command of Jesus Christ, 'Do this in memory of me.'

Priest: The mystery of faith:

(Page 5 of Mass Setting at SMSG)

**All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.**

The Eucharistic Prayer continues with the priest interceding for the Church, the world, all those present at this celebration, and the Faithful Departed. At the Doxology at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer all join in the Great Amen.

(Page 7 of Mass Setting at SMSG)

Priest:

.....for ever and ever.

All: Amen.