



# EWELL PARISH NEWS

The monthly newspaper of St Mary the Virgin Ewell

No. 587

December 2021

60p



Sharing the Love of Christ, the Light of the World, with the people of Ewell

## Christmas Services



**Sunday 19 December**

**5:30pm Nine Lessons and Carols**  
Our choir leads us in singing  
traditional carols

**Friday 24 Dec • Christmas Eve**

**2:00pm A Perfect Gift for Christmas**  
Service and carols with a nativity play

**4:00pm The Arrival at Bethlehem**

Traditional crib service for  
all the family with carols

**11:15pm Midnight Mass**

Atmospheric choral service  
sung by our choir

**Saturday 25 Dec • Christmas Day**

**10am All-age Holy Communion**  
With carols & craft activities for kids

## CONTENTS

Canon Maggie writes ....2 & 3  
AV/Sound Desk.....3  
The Churchwardens write.....  
.....3 & 4  
Birds and the sense of sight.5



Prayers for Advent.....5  
From our Children and  
Families Worker.....6  
Helping to reduce climate  
change.....7  
Just once.....7  
1000+ questions!.....7  
From the Parish Registers....7



St Mary's Singers need you!.7  
Foodbank.....8  
October PCC report.....8  
Happy Christmas to all.....9  
Bach recital review.....10  
December concert.....10  
Games Afternoon is back...10  
EPN subscriptions 2022.....10  
Calendar for December.....12  
Our next on-line quiz.....12

**COPY FOR THE NEXT EDITION: Please email EPN copy to: epn@stmarysewell.com. Handwritten or typed copy will only be accepted by prior agreement (call 020 8393 4804). Please do not embed photos in WORD files, but send the images separately. Copy date for the January 2022 edition is noon on Monday 13 December.**

## Maggie, one of our Assistant Priests writes

How quickly a year goes by! Here we are just a couple of weeks away from Christmas, and how good it is that this year we are able to have all our usual Christmas services after the sadness of the Church being closed last year, for the very good reason, of course, to prevent the spread of Covid. Quite rightly, we are still mindful of the need to keep as safe as we can.

We are now in the season of Advent as this month's EPN is published, which marks the beginning of the Church's year. Advent is about preparing for our Lord's coming – not just in remembrance of his birth at Bethlehem, but in anticipation of his second coming at the end of time. This is why it is a penitential season and is represented with the liturgical colour purple - but it is also a season filled with hope, expectancy and joy.

Often called 'The time of waiting', Advent is really counter-cultural. While the world around us, and indeed we, too, are caught up in the busyness of preparing for Christmas, the Church asks us to be still – to take a breath – to consider the wonder of Christmas and all that it means for us as we wait to celebrate Christ's Incarnation, God in human form, becoming one of us.

The themes of Advent are very powerful – for they speak of the promises of God to bring hope to a world in despair and to bring light to the world's darkness, in the form of a tiny, helpless baby, our Saviour Jesus Christ. In Advent our focus is on our desperate need for that light to come, both into our world and, importantly, into our hearts. We sing of it in the familiar words of the Christmas carol, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*.

O Holy Child of Bethlehem  
descend to us, we pray.  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us today.

How can we prepare for our Saviour Christ to be 'born in us' this year? And what might that mean for our lives and indeed our world? How are we to prepare properly for Christmas so that it will be an experience of spiritual renewal which will transform our faith?

It is often said that the stable in which Jesus was born, gives us a picture of the human heart. It is dark, cold, messy and dirty, and who knows what lurks in the hidden corners? Is this a place fit for the Christ-child to be born? And Jesus was born in the stable because there was no room anywhere else. The world outside was teeming with people coming for the Census, noisy, busy, full of activity, no doubt with some heated arguments about who should have what rooms were available. Just like our world today.

At that first Christmas, Mary and Joseph wandered the streets of Bethlehem to find somewhere where Christ might be born. "No room here" was the answer they got at each door they knocked on. Now the point is, what about our hearts? Are we saying to God "No room here"?

Christ yearns to be re-born in each one of us, but what state are we in? Are we too full to admit the Saviour? Are

## St Mary the Virgin EWELL PARISH CHURCH 020 8393 2643

Website: [www.stmarysewell.com](http://www.stmarysewell.com)  
Registered Charity Number 1128409

### CLERGY

**Incumbency - vacant**

**For pastoral matters please call 020 8393 1297 and one of our assistant priests will be pleased to help you. Sue and Maggie can also be contacted as detailed below.**

**Assistant Priest: The Reverend Sue Ayling OBE Dip Civil Law BA(Hons)Rel&Th; 020 8337 6347;**

**Email: [assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com](mailto:assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com);**

**Day off: Wednesday**

**Assistant Priest: Canon Margaret Marsh MA Christian Spirituality; Dip Theology & Ministry; 020 8224 0607;**

**Email: [canonmaggie@stmarysewell.com](mailto:canonmaggie@stmarysewell.com);**

**Day off: Monday**

### READER

Mrs Wendy Varney 020 8393 5212

### CHURCHWARDENS

Mrs Valerie Wood 020 8393 5991

Mr Nicholas Allsopp 07899 818400

### Pastoral Assistants

Mrs Barbara Gibson-Sykes Email: [pastoral2@stmarysewell.com](mailto:pastoral2@stmarysewell.com)

Mrs Wendy Paxman 020 8224 2851;

Email: [pastoral@stmarysewell.com](mailto:pastoral@stmarysewell.com)

Mr Andrew Sykes Email: [pastoral1@stmarysewell.com](mailto:pastoral1@stmarysewell.com)

### Children and Families Worker

Miss Sandi Keen 07376 618921;

Email: [families@stmarysewell.com](mailto:families@stmarysewell.com)

### Safeguarding Officer

Mrs Helen Crossley

Email: [safeguardingofficer@stmarysewell.com](mailto:safeguardingofficer@stmarysewell.com)

### Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor

Jackie Broadfoot 07918 559387;

Email: [jackie.broadfoot@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:jackie.broadfoot@cofeguildford.org.uk)

### Social Media Officer

Position vacant

### Finance Officers

*Treasurer*

John Baker Email: [treasurer@stmarysewell.com](mailto:treasurer@stmarysewell.com)

*Day-to day financial queries*

Donna and David Boosey 07791 993261;

Email: [financeteam@stmarysewell.com](mailto:financeteam@stmarysewell.com)

### THE PARISH OFFICE

#### Administrator:

Mrs Lynne Yuille 020 8393 2643 (Office)

Office email: [parishoffice@stmarysewell.com](mailto:parishoffice@stmarysewell.com)

The postal address is: St Mary's Ewell Parish Church, London Rd, Ewell, Surrey, KT17 2AY.

The Parish Office is on the south side of the church.

**The Parish Office is closed to visitors at present. Please telephone or email instead.**

**HANDMADE  
PICTURE FRAMES**

All Frames -  
made in Our Studio  
Free local collection  
& Delivery



With this  
voucher

M: 07748 712133  
25 The Headway  
Ewell Village

www.handmadepictureframes.jiggy.com

**Christine  
Hardy**

**Soft Furnishings**

Handmade curtains, blinds,  
cushions and much more.

Measuring, estimating and,  
if wanted, time spent  
finding the right fabric,  
all come free!

Recommendations provided  
Telephone: 020 8393 1222

we so busy we have no time to nurture our spiritual lives? Are we pressured on all sides by what we “ought” to be doing, rather than what we “want” or “need” to be doing?

Are we filled with anger, or bitterness? Are we suffering the pain of bereavement, or deep hurt? Are we so focused on our own concerns that we have no time for anything or anyone else? Is there room in our hearts for Christ to be born in us? I doubt that many of us, if any, will feel that our hearts are ready. Yet, the amazing thing is that what God is offering us is pure gift – a gift of grace.

I recently discovered a beautiful Advent Meditation on YouTube\*, by contemplative theologian James Finley, which I found inspiring and would like to share some of it with you. He reminds us that if we look again at the Christmas story, we see that even in the midst of all the frantic activity going on at the time, where there was no room for a new birth to take place, **God still came**. And the only place available to him was a stable that was dark, cold and dirty, hardly a suitable place to bring a baby into the world. **But God still came**.

And so it is for us and our world today. Into our uncertain and often hostile world; despite our frantic, busy lives with no time for anyone; despite the state of our human hearts, so often broken – **God still comes**.

So let’s take a breath this year; let’s be still amid everything that is going on in the world, and in our lives; let’s reflect on what is going on in our hearts, and let’s find the true meaning of Christmas. The truth is simple and costs nothing. Into our world and into our hearts, just as we are, with all our faults and failings and despite the mess we make of things, **God comes to us**. He comes with his Light, his Joy, his Healing and his Peace, and above all, his Love. Pure, unconditional love which we can do nothing to earn or deserve. Loving us even when we feel unlovable. It is the best Christmas gift we could ever have.

*‘O come, let us adore him’!*

May we all know the blessing of Love this Christmas.

Maggie

\*Search for ‘James Finley Advent Meditation’ online if you would like to hear it.

**THE CHURCHWARDENS WRITE**

Can scarcely believe Christmas is almost upon us again. It has been another difficult year but St Mary’s has surmounted the challenge of COVID 19 and its variants still being around and we continue to take precautions wherever and whenever possible, which seems to be paying dividends. Congregation numbers are not diminishing and we are still welcoming newcomers.

The exciting news is that the official Induction of the Revd Mark Stafford as Vicar of St Mary’s will take place on 22 February 2022. What a date to remember: 22.02.2022. We wish it could have been sooner....but it will be worth the wait. However, we are hoping to arrange for you all to have the opportunity of meeting Mark and his wife, Lucy, well beforehand.

Although the numbers were fewer at the Remembrance Sunday service, due to the continuing uncertainty of the pandemic, we were pleased to greet the Mayor and Mayoress of Epsom & Ewell and our M.P. Chris Grayling, who, along with others, attended the short service at the War Memorial and laid wreaths in memory of the

*Continued on page 4*

**St Mary’s  
Toddler Group  
Is back**

Thursday mornings in  
term time 10-11.30 in  
Ewell Hall

For information please  
phone 020 8393 4804  
or see St Mary’s website



**WA TRUELOVE & SON LTD**  
INDEPENDENT FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS  
& MONUMENTAL CRAFTSMEN SINCE 1885



**Serving the local community**

- 24 hour call out service
  - Home visits available
  - Horse-drawn funerals
  - Monumental masonry
  - International repatriation
- For further details about  
Truelove pre-paid funeral plans  
Call FREEPHONE  
0800 074 3797



**EPSOM 01372 723337**

**14/18 Church Road KT17 4AB**

epsom@watltd.co.uk

www.watltd.co.uk

Branches throughout the North East Surrey Area



**AV/SOUND DESK AT ST MARY’S**

We are still seeking volunteers to learn how to operate our AV/Sound desk and to join the team helping with livestreaming/videos at our various services – mainly Sundays but could be funerals and other services.

This is now a vital part of our outreach so if you think you may be able to help, please contact the churchwardens.

*The Churchwardens write, continued from page 3*

fallen, prior to joining the service following in church. It was very moving with some lovely singing. The Mayor read the first Lesson and then the Akela of the 1st Ruxley Cubs read the poem, 'Why Wear a Poppy?' by Don Crawford; many of us had to hold back the tears at this. Many thanks go to Kathie Burgess and Barb Warwick for organising so much so well to ensure St Mary's continued to put on a Remembrance Day service that did justice to the memory of those who gave their lives for their country. Thank you to Brian Angus and Sue Ayling for



the photos above. Apologies are extended to all those who anticipated seeing the service on-line but, sadly, due to technical issues beyond our control, we were unable to live-stream the event, which is most disappointing.

November also saw the return of Ewell Castle School Monday morning Assemblies in church. It was good to welcome them back, albeit in fewer numbers than pre-COVID, but it is working very well and all suitably risk assessed. The added safety is the fogging machine used at the end of the Assemblies to decontaminate the whole area. We are looking forward to the local Schools once again having their Christmas concerts and services in St Mary's, still to be confirmed at the time of writing but, as

in previous years, Kathie Burgess is liaising with them as she has more experience of these events than anyone and also knows a number of those involved. Keep an eye on the advertising and social media for details.

By the time you read this the Christmas tree will be up and illuminated outside the front of the church. Decorations will be up inside and the Christmas tree will be erected and decorated on 5 December. The Christmas crib will be put out at a later date nearer to Christmas Day.

We will have had Advent Carols on 28 November but now look forward to the Nine Lessons & Carols on 19 December. The Christmas dinner, 'Christmas Joy', is being held on the 4th in the Hall. Ewell Yule is on the 3rd so do support that. See Sandi's separate details of the St Mary's Children's services for December as they are following a little different schedule this month, including possibly carols sung around the Christmas tree outside and with candles on 12th.

On Christmas Eve Sandi is organising a 2.00 pm service called "A Perfect Gift for Christmas" which will be a short nativity play. Then at 4.00 pm Kathie is putting on the usual "Arrival at Bethlehem", our ever-popular service for all-comers. Details will be advertised for both of these so do keep a look out.

Lucy and David are taking a well-earned rest this month from devising the Quiz. We look forward to the next quiz which will be on 12 January. Our thanks to them both. The much anticipated Board Games will be held on 22 January.

Please look at the Calendar on the back page for full details of all services and events this month and also keep a watch on the website and social media for any up-dates.

Our Area Dean, the Revd Rosemary Donovan, will be presiding at Midnight Mass at 11.15 pm on Christmas Eve and Revd John Baxter will be back with us again at 10.00 am on Christmas Day.

Special heartfelt thanks from your Churchwardens go to so many for their help and assistance and contribution to the running of all aspects of St Mary's – too many of you to mention but you know who you are – young, old, new recruits, volunteers, salaried staff – you all deserve a resounding applause. Since Russell's departure last Spring we have come across many things he did that we knew little about and have had to learn. Again, it is with gratitude that so many have given so much. Our Assistant Priests, Sue and Maggie, have stepped in and filled Russell's shoes. One person in particular who works behind the scenes and upon whom we all rely, deserves a special accolade as we would be quite lost without her knowledge and expertise – that is our Executive Administrator, Lynne Yuille. So, a huge THANK YOU to you ALL. Have a wonderful, blessed Christmas and we look forward to a happy, peaceful and safe New Year.

*Valerie Wood*

## BIRDS AND THE SENSE OF SIGHT (part 1)



*Eagle-eyed: to see with keen and piercing sight; acute intellectual vision*

We often use the expression 'eagle-eyed' about people. Eagles - and falcons, too, hence the popularity of falconry - are well known for their keen eyesight. It has also long been known that birds' vision generally is better than ours. It has to be. Useful as good vision is for us, for a bird it is absolutely crucial. Just how crucial, and in what ways, has begun to be learned only in the last twenty or thirty years. Of course, we cannot put ourselves into a bird's place. Even so, detailed study of the eye has revealed a remarkable amount that we never used to know; we have learned, too, of some pretty extraordinary differences between birds' eyes and ours some of which we will consider over the course of the next few months.

Why does a bird need good vision? Well, for one thing, it has to stay on the alert for potential predators, which can be either aerial, such as birds of prey, or ground, such as cats. Additionally, a bird needs good eyesight for avoiding collisions in flight, or for locating food, and for seeking a mate.

What are the differences? For one thing, their eyes are relatively large. A large eye basically means better vision. This is important precisely because the larger the eye the larger the image on the retina. Bigger eyes have more light receptors, in the same way that a large TV screen has more pixels and hence a better image. Some eagles have the largest eyes of all, meaning they have the greatest visual acuity of any known animal. There are drawbacks to this. Large eyes inevitably mean greater weight; the larger and heavier the eyes, the less compatible they are for flight. Too much muscle would impede a bird's power of flight. To counteract this, therefore, birds' eyes are relatively immobile. That means they have to turn the head in order to scrutinise something. An owl with forward-facing eyes, has 'binocular' vision, in other words, their fields of view partially overlap. That is the principle behind the development of our binoculars, and it allows the owl to judge distance very accurately. Their highly flexible neck muscles allow them to turn the head by up to 180 degrees. Other birds, snipe for example (a wading bird with long probing beak) and woodcock, which also feeds by probing the soil but prefers damp, shady woods, have eyes positioned high in the head. But for ducks, and garden birds, the eyes are positioned sideways, and most of their field of view is monocular, which gives little sense of depth.

What actually can a garden bird see? It has been established that they have some forward view, excellent lateral vision but, like us, no vision behind them. They cannot, therefore, see their own bill-tip but have just enough binocular vision to carry out vital tasks like feeding their chicks.

More on these differences next month.

TT

## Prayers for Advent



**'The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light'** - Isaiah 9 v.2

As we begin to make our Advent journey once again, let us begin by thinking about those who are living in darkness. They may be on the other side of the world from us, or right next door. There are many reasons for walking in darkness - fear, loneliness, oppression, depression, poverty, or violence are just a few. Besides being displaced from their homes by war, there are so many people who have also lost so much - family, friends, homes because of the many natural disasters that have occurred this year; earthquake, fire, flood, disease... God sees those in darkness and becomes light for them.

### Prayer

Lord God, we name before You those we know who are going through times of darkness. We think of them and ask that You may bring them light, hope, love, and help them to find a new direction for their lives. We also pray that You will inspire each one of us to be a light in the darkness for those we know who are in such need. In Jesus' name, we pray. **Amen.**

**'Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace to those on whom His favour rests.'** - Luke 2:14

Let us stop for a moment in the busyness of our hectic lives and find peace. Let us take a moment to be still. Be assured that God loves each one of us and is with us. Let us take a moment to think about all that the message of Christmas means. Christ has come, salvation has come, God is with us. Traditionally, during the four Sundays in Advent, we focus on four different themes: Advent 1 - Hope; Advent 2 - Peace; Advent 3 - Love and Advent 4 - Joy. This year, as we reach each of those Sundays, let us focus our prayers for the whole of following week on those different aspects and pray both for ourselves and for others that each may find, hope, peace, love and joy this Christmas.

### Prayer

Lord, as we approach Christmas, help us to receive Your love with joy and help us to show that love and joy to all those we meet during the coming days. Help us to welcome you here and now. You are good and You are worthy to be praised. You wrap each one of us in arms of grace. You smile on us and in You, we can find true peace. Thank You, Lord Jesus, for being our Saviour, our hope, our joy, our peace, and our loving friend. **Amen.**

# FROM OUR CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER – Sandi Keene families@stmarysewell.com



Jesus is the Gift

...that perfectly fits every heart,  
and it is with His love that all celebration starts.  
We rejoice in Him as we remember His birth  
and thank God for sending His only Son to earth.  
His life led from a manger to a cross on a hill,  
where He faithfully followed His Father's perfect will.  
He freely laid down everything so that we could live,  
and there is no greater treasure anyone could give.  
Like a scarlet ribbon His love wrapped around the  
cross,  
and He offered it to us all at the greatest cost.  
So when we give from the heart we remember what  
He's done  
and honour the perfect gift—*God's one and only Son.*  
*By Holley Gerth*



This Christmas, we are going to be having some incredible services lined up for you and your family. Our theme for this special time is going to be 'Gifts from Above' and as you can see from the poem written above, our greatest gift was the gift of Jesus and the love that He brings to our lives every single day. That is why, this Christmas, we are going to be sharing some gifts with those around us.

Take a look at our Advent and Christmas services taking place throughout December. We hope to see many of you there, so gather up all your friends and family members and bring them along for one of our services.

**We wish you all a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a Happy New Year.**



St Mary's welcomes you this Christmas

## The Arrival at Bethlehem



24th December at 4pm



'A perfect gift for Christmas'

Nativity play for the whole family

24th December at 2pm



**Family Advent Services at St Mary's**

- 28th Nov (First week of Advent)– Gift of Hope
- 5th Dec (Second week of Advent)– Gift of Wisdom
- 12th Dec (Third week of Advent)– Gift of Love
- 19th Dec (Fourth week of Advent)– Gift of Joy

All these services will be online St Mary's Kids services and will be posted on our Facebook page at 11am



## HELPING REDUCE CLIMATE CHANGE - HOW WELL DO YOU SCORE?

Here are twelve ways in which we can work together to better care for God's creation and to help reduce climate change. Look at each one and then work out how well you score. Can you tick that you are acting to implement more than six actions?

1. Using the car less
2. Eating less meat
3. Turning down the central heating and wearing an extra cardigan or pullover
4. Reducing the time you are heating hot water
5. Putting in home insulation
6. Turning off lights when not in use
7. Using LED light bulbs
8. Reducing flying
9. Cutting down on one-use plastic
10. Not buying more food than you need
11. Planting a tree
12. Having a green energy supplier

If you have your own favourite way of helping to reduce climate change the Eco Group would love to hear from you so it can be published in next month's EPN. Please email Sue Ayling at:

[assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com](mailto:assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com).

### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

#### BAPTISM

**Washed, sanctified, justified (1 Corinthians: 11)**

- 24 October Benjamin William Cousins  
31 October Henry Richard Attenborough

#### FUNERALS

**I will come again and take you to myself  
(St. John 14:3)**

- 25 October Michael Robert Burnham, aged 72

### ST MARY'S SINGERS NEED YOU



If you can sing a hymn you could join St. Mary's Singers. We sing at Baptisms and rehearse on the last two Thursdays in the month from 7.30-8.30pm in the Parish Room. We're a very friendly supportive group and we have fun making music and socialising together. Vacancies in all voice parts. Let Jonathan know if you'd like to give us a try.

[directorofmusic@stmarysewell.com](mailto:directorofmusic@stmarysewell.com)

## Just Once?

Dear Lord, I've met a sin today  
And mean to sin it all the way.  
And so, please turn your face away  
And let me sin in peace.  
For when these lovely sins resurge,  
Then have you never felt the urge  
To welcome them as they emerge  
And feel your joys increase?  
All right! All right! I hear you voice  
Behind me, saying I have no choice  
But to resist, so you'll rejoice  
And say that I am good.  
But what's the fun of being good,  
And always doing what I should,  
Like good things if I only could  
Not be misunderstood?  
But then, dear Lord, I want to be  
In your good books eternally;  
So please, you keep an eye on me,  
Correct me with a smile,  
And then I vow that I'll begin  
To be a little saint and win,  
If you would only let me sin  
Once in a little while.

PM

## 1000+ QUESTIONS!

In April 2021, soon after the start of the Covid pandemic we organised a light-hearted on-line quiz using Zoom for St Mary's members and friends. We wanted to provide an opportunity for St Mary's congregation to see each other during lock down and knew that quizzes previously organised by the Social Committee and Choir were always much enjoyed. The quiz was advertised in the Weekly Notes and 18 signed up - individuals and family groups. The quiz started with some time for people to chat together. It had four rounds and used photos and Powerpoint to illustrate each question. A post-quiz survey was very encouraging and now, some 20 months later, the on-line quiz remains popular and has become one of St Mary's regular social activities. The quiz on 10 November was our 28th and we have set 112 quiz rounds and more than 1000 questions. The original structure of four quiz rounds remains, though the last round is always a music round and we have added a brainteaser, with the answers being given at the start of the next quiz. No prizes are awarded, but individuals or families can give their scores anonymously after each round and at the end of the quiz if they wish.

If you would like to join us, you will need to register in advance for each quiz using the link provided in the Weekly Notes. You would be very welcome

*David Dance and Lucy Morell*

## OCTOBER PCC REPORT

At the time of writing, following their meeting on 18 October, PCC members were eagerly awaiting the announcement of who will be the new Vicar of Ewell.

As usual, finance was high on the agenda - there had been a number of unavoidable costs in the last 9 months, such as gutter repairs, maintenance and Hall expenses. However, it is hoped that income from the Hall will improve the cash flow of the church in the future – in fact the income target of £12,000 for 30 weeks of 2021 was already at £11,628 after only 23 weeks.

It was suggested that since two Village Fairs had been missed, consideration should be given to additional fund-raising activities, and especially a stewardship campaign - inflation is rising and the Parish Share will also be larger, (£85,000 plus). This should be considered once the new incumbent is in post. In the meantime, members were asked to come up with ideas for fundraising projects.

Ian gave an excellent presentation about the improvements made to the Hall. The PCC expressed their thanks to all involved and to Barbara, who had stepped down after a number of years as voluntary manager.

Discussion took pace around plans for the service on Remembrance Sunday in church, inviting the usual groups/organisations, but with very reduced numbers than in pre Covid years. It would be relayed outside with speakers and in Ewell Hall via the monitor.

There was also discussion about Christmas services. Schools will be limited to numbers compliant with government advice. Outline planning for the 'Arrival at Bethlehem' services will begin soon.

Maggie Marsh offered to organise a Christmas tree to go up outside the church for the beginning of Advent 28 November and the tree inside church will be decorated by the children at their service on 5 December.

*Liz Divall, PCC Secretary*



### *Jonathan, Epsom & Ewell foodbank founder and MD writes:*

"Wow, every year at harvest we are blown away by people's generosity. Last year due to Covid it was not a usual year for us (or anyone!) but this year people have gone far beyond what we would normally expect.

Our stores are bursting and we are able to feed generously, the people that come to us in hunger.

As we have visited schools and churches, we have been blessed by how people have treated us.

Thank you for getting us what we need, thank you for the amazing donations and thank you for supporting us. It means so much to us.

We are now fundraising and collecting for our Christmas appeal, please do help if you can".

Christmas meat vouchers. Once again we are working with local butchers, we want to give our clients vouchers to enable them to choose their meat for Christmas.

Funds for seasonal fresh fruit and vegetables to add to our Christmas meat voucher and goodie bags.

Energy top up funds for our clients' gas/electricity to cook their Christmas dinner.

Gift cards of £10 each for parents to choose a present for their children from Argos, Wilkos, Superdrug, Boots, or TK Maxx.

#### **YOU CAN DONATE FUNDS VIA THE WEBSITE**

<https://epsomewell.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/>

**MAKE A SMALL DONATION OF £1 - £20 BY TEXTING CHRISTMASGIFT followed by your chosen amount of 1-20 to 70450**

**MAKE A LARGER DONATION BY E-MAILING OR PHONING**

[foodbank@generation.org.uk](mailto:foodbank@generation.org.uk) 0208 786 8221



**Greenfield**

Independent, family run estate agents, specialising in all aspects of residential and commercial property sales, lettings and management




**020 8393 0077**

[www.greenfieldewell.co.uk](http://www.greenfieldewell.co.uk)

55 High Street  
Ewell Village  
Surrey KT17 1RX

# HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO EVERYONE

A very Happy Christmas to all at St Mary's with special thanks to the Clergy and Church Wardens for their incredible contributions over the last difficult year  
Godfrey, Lucy & Leo Morrell



To all those seen and unseen this year, I wish you a very Happy Christmas and every blessing for 2022.  
Thank you all for your continued support  
Valerie, Churchwarden

May the peace of the Christ-child enfold you this Christmas and every day through 2022  
Sue Ayling



Wishing everyone all the blessings of Christmas - Love, Joy and Peace  
Maggie and Charlie

Christmas Blessings to everyone and Best wishes for a Happy New Year.  
Rosemarie and Mike

A very Happy Christmas to everyone at St. Mary's, my special friends in particular and a prosperous and healthy 2022  
Lots of love Angie xx

Gill and Richard wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and all good wishes for 2022

Happy Christmas All. Wishing Everyone A Healthy & Peaceful 2022  
Gill & Humphrey

Wishing everyone at St Mary's a very happy and peaceful Christmas and every blessing for the New Year ahead  
Janet and Nicholas

Wishing everyone at St Mary's a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year  
Gillian Merrick

Christmas greetings and all good wishes  
Gilda and John Everson

Wishing everyone at St Mary's a very happy, peaceful, and joyous Christmas!  
Love to all from Linda Staff

Lloyd and Promilla send warm greetings to everyone for Christmas and the New year



A happy & peaceful Christmas and all the best for the New Year  
Jenny and David Dance



# BACH RECITAL

## Tuesday 14 September

*Jonathan Holmes*

The versatility of our wonderful Willis organ never ceases to impress. When you think about it, the instrument carries out its primary function – accompanying church services – week in, week out. From time to time, there are recitals where it is allowed to open out in the kind of repertoire for which ‘Father’ Willis designed it. Today it did ample justice to the music of Bach.

Many readers will know that our Director of Music, Jonathan Holmes, is fulfilling a lifelong ambition to perform all Bach’s organ works. There was an opportunity today to hear examples of how Bach ‘recycles’ music. That is, reworking and expanding music already composed. It was a common practice in Bach’s day. A typical example of this ‘recycling’ process occurs in the Trio Sonata we shall meet with below; however, ‘recycling’ in a different form can also be found in the Chorale Preludes that opened the recital. These are taken from the set called ‘**Great Eighteen Chorale Preludes**’, **BWV 651-668**. The playing of Chorale Preludes for Sunday services is a feature of the Lutheran Church, in Bach’s day as well as in ours. This particular set was prepared by Bach when he was working in Leipzig, taken from works composed earlier in his career. **Trio super ‘Nun komm’ der Heiden Heiland a due Bassi e canto fermo, BWV 660** translates as ‘Trio on “Now come, Saviour of the heathen” for two basses and ‘canto fermo’. The term ‘canto fermo’ is often used in Renaissance or Baroque music, and simply denotes the tune, here the chorale or hymn tune. It shows Bach’s skill as a composer in that he can decorate this ‘tune’ in all sorts of ways including canon – that is, imitation between different parts - or between the organ pedal and left hand. Next came **Nun komm’ der Heiden Heiland BWV 659 a due Clav. e Pedale (ornamental chorale) in G minor**. Here the same chorale as before is played by the hands while the pedals lightly play the accompaniment. Third of these Chorale Preludes was **Nun komm’ der Heiden Heiland in Organo Pleno, Canto fermo in Pedale (cantus fermus chorale) BWV 661**. You will see the text is the same as before but is now a large-scale three-part keyboard fugue.

Now for the **Trio Sonata** mentioned above. It is **no. 4 in E minor, BWV 528** and is a good example of Bach’s aforesaid custom of ‘recycling’ music he had already composed. In his programme notes, Jonathan explains where these themes came from. The term ‘trio sonata’ describes three-part music written for two manuals and pedal. There are three movements.

The recital ended with an unusual piece, the **Fantasia in G major, BWV 571** also called **Piece d’Orgue** (piece for organ). Why the French title? After all, Bach wrote ‘French Suites’ for keyboard, which do not sound particularly French. Well, there is a story here, which could be apocryphal but, like all the best stories, probably contains a modicum of truth. There was a French virtuoso touring Germany at the time (1717) called Louis Marchand, and Bach was to compete with him. In preparation for this musical ‘duel’, Bach compiled a piece in three movements with French titles as a kind of tribute to his opponent. Marchand was so terrified at the prospect of competing with such a genius that he failed to turn up at all.

Anyway, we enjoyed it even if Marchand didn’t!

TT

## DECEMBER CONCERT AT ST. MARY’S

Free Tuesday lunchtime organ recital

7 December Bach XI 1.05 pm

*Jonathan Holmes*

Prelude in G Major, BWV 568

Trio in D minor, BWV 583

Alla breve in D major, BWV 589

Erschienen ist der herrliche Tag, BWV 629

Heut triumphieret Gottes Sohn, BWV 630

Komm, Gott, Schöpfer, Heiliger Geist BWV 631

Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 547

## GAMES AFTERNOON IS BACK

Join us for a light hearted afternoon of board games, tea and cakes in Ewell Hall on Saturday afternoon 22 January. Admission is free. If you have a favorite game, please feel free to bring it along.

More details in next month’s EPN

## EPN Subscriptions in 2022

Thank you for your support of EPN during the difficult times in 2021.

The Editorial and Production Team hope that you have enjoyed reading EPN this year and finding out more about all that goes on at St Mary’s. We try to keep you abreast of our services and the many activities to which you are most cordially invited.

For 2022 EPN copies downloaded from our website are again free, but we ask you to pay 60p per printed copy for issues collected at church.

For those who have their EPN copies delivered by hand, the annual subscription remains at £6. Your distributor will be knocking on your door to ask if you would like to subscribe again.

If you would like to become an EPN subscriber for delivery by hand, post or email, please complete and return our subscription form which you can find on the church website.



All roofing and guttering repairs  
30 years experience covering  
Worcester Park and close by

Valleys, Bays etc.

All new work guaranteed

Free estimates

Special rates to O.A.P.s

### J L Hellings & Son

Tel: 020 8788 1459  
100 Kingsmead Avenue  
Worcester Park KT4 8UT

# Alan Greenwood & Sons

Independent Family Funeral Directors

[www.alangreenwoodfunerals.com](http://www.alangreenwoodfunerals.com)

The Funeral Service that caters for everyone's needs

- A choice of the latest Jaguar or Mercedes Hearses and Limousines
- Home visit arrangements
- Pre-paid funeral plans
- Memorials
- Quality Service 24 hours day

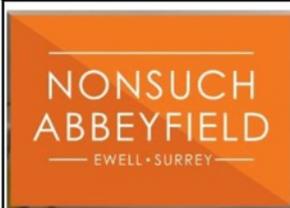


*The Greenwood Family are directly involved in the running of the Company, ensuring that your wishes are carried out with the utmost dignity and precise attention to detail.*

83 High Street, Ewell Village, KT17 1RX **020 8393 0197**

425 Kingston Road, Ewell, KT19 0BT **020 8786 7476**

706 London Road, North Cheam, SM3 9BY **020 8150 9525**



### Abbeyfield Southern Oaks - Independent living with care - Ewell

Stylish new one- and two-bedroom apartments to purchase or rent  
Restaurant cinema club-room lounges fitness suite "What's not to like?"

Phone 020 8393 0050 Email [admin@abbeyfieldsouthernosaks.org](mailto:admin@abbeyfieldsouthernosaks.org)

Nonsuch Abbeyfield Old Schools Lane Ewell KT17 1FL Charity no 247308



### Abbeyfield Southern Oaks - Supported Sheltered Houses for over 65s

The Old House Ewell Village. Affordable with comfort and companionship  
Home-cooked lunch and supper, furnish your own room. off-road parking.

Phone 020 8393 0050 Email [admin@abbeyfieldsouthernosaks.org](mailto:admin@abbeyfieldsouthernosaks.org)

Nonsuch Abbeyfield Old Schools Lane Ewell KT17 1FL Charity no 247308



# ALFRED & EWART LONGHURST

FUNERAL DIRECTORS AND MONUMENTAL MASONS

- A complete, caring professional service
- Estimates and advice freely given for funerals and memorials
- Flexible pre-paid funeral plan - details on request

21-23, KINGSTON ROAD, EWELL

020 8393 1077



# Calendar for December



Th	2	1000	St Mary's Toddler Group (Hall)
F	3	1700	Ewell Yule (Village)
Sa	4	1830	"Christmas Joy" (Hall)
<b>S</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	
		0930	Children's Hour (Hall/Church)
		0930	Sung Eucharist followed by Coffee in Church and decorating the Christmas Tree
		1100	St Mary's Kidz (on Facebook)
T	7	1305	Lunchtime Bach Organ Recital
Th	9	1000	St Mary's Toddler Group (Hall)
Sa	11	1930	"A Christmas Cracker" - popular carols for organ and audience
<b>S</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	
		0930	Children's Hour (Hall/Church)
		0930	Sung Eucharist
		1100	St Mary's Kidz (on Facebook)
		1115	Choral Mattins
T	14	1000	Holy Communion (said at side Altar)
Th	16	1445	Bereavement Café (Hall)
Sa	18	1630	First Communion Class (Parish Room)
<b>S</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	
		0930	Children's Hour (Hall/Church)
		0930	Sung Eucharist
		1100	St Mary's Kidz (on Facebook)
		1730	Nine Lessons and Carols
M	20	2000	Julian Group (on Zoom)
F	24	1400	"A Perfect Gift for Christmas" children's/family service
		1600	"Arrival at Bethlehem" service for all with blessing of the crib
		2315	Midnight Mass
<b>Sa</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	
		1000	All-age Sung Eucharist
<b>S</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS</b>	
		0930	Holy Communion (said service)





## Ewell Hall

### EVENTS + ACTIVITIES

A WELCOMING VENUE IN THE HEART OF EWELL\*

- Family parties and celebrations
- Craft, activity and art classes
- Children's parties and activities
- Musical events and dances

- Club, society and group meetings
- Exercise and meditation classes
- Business meetings and events
- Lunches, teas and dinners, etc

\* Ewell Hall, 7 London Road, Ewell KT17 2AY  
(Previously known as St Mary's Church Hall)

- Fully Equipped Kitchen and Servery
- Covid Secure
- New Furnishings
- Online Booking System

- Free Wi-Fi
- Hall Capacity up to 75
- Recently Redecorated
- Disabled Access

Please visit [ewellhall.uk](http://ewellhall.uk) for full details and to make your booking request

Email: [info@ewellhall.uk](mailto:info@ewellhall.uk)  
020 8614 0714

Ewell Hall is Managed for the Community under the Trusteeship of the Parochial Church Council of St Mary's Ewell, Registered Charity No 1128409



## Priory Court Care Home

Your Future Matters

Part of the Future Care Group

If you are looking for a local care home  
"Where your Future Matters"  
Look no further than  
Priory Court in Ewell Village, Epsom

Please feel welcome to visit anytime or call to speak to one of our friendly team to discuss your care needs

Tel: 020 8393 0137  
[www.futurecaregroup.com](http://www.futurecaregroup.com)

### ST. MARY'S ON-LINE QUIZZES

We hold on-line quizzes using Zoom on Wednesday evenings. These have proved very popular and are fun for all the family, so why not join us? Our next quiz will be on Wednesday 12 January.

You need to register for each quiz using links provided in the Weekly Notes, St Mary's emails to our main mailing list and on Facebook. For more details please email [zoom@stmarysewell.com](mailto:zoom@stmarysewell.com)

Improving homes inside and out

---

## Oakdene Home Services

---

Home Maintenance  
Painting & Decorating, Gardening & General DIY

### Roger Phillips

TELEPHONE: 07831 663 323  
EMAIL: [oakdenehomeservices@gmail.com](mailto:oakdenehomeservices@gmail.com)