



# EWELL PARISH NEWS

The monthly newspaper of St Mary the Virgin Ewell

No. 599

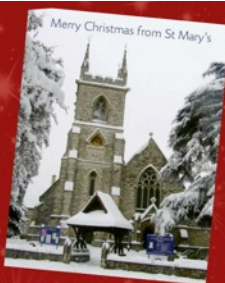
December 2022

60p



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

## Christmas Services



**Sunday 18 December**

**5:30pm Nine Lessons and Carols**

Traditional service of carols, choral  
music and bible readings

**Saturday 24 Dec • Christmas Eve**

**2:00pm The Story of Christmas**

Service for all ages. Come dressed as  
shepherds or angels if you wish

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

Traditional crib service for  
all the family with carols

**11:15pm Choral Midnight Mass**

**Sunday 25 Dec • Christmas Day**

**8:00am Said Service of Holy  
Communion**

**10:00am Christmas Communion**

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**COPY FOR THE NEXT EDITION:** Please email EPN copy to: [epn@stmarysewell.com](mailto: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 2023 edition is noon on Monday 12 December.

## Fr Mark Stafford writes

Christmas is approaching and the goose is getting fat.... Well, in our house it's more like...

Christmas is approaching, orders of services to be finished, sermons to be written, prayers to be thought through, posters to be created and crackers to be bought. There are more mince pies than you can imagine, and bottles of mulled wine stashed away for open house and post carol service celebrations. Snacks and treats are stacking up for the Christmas Day tea party and we need to arrange when we can see the children, grandchildren, parents, siblings and any other relatives, find time to eat and sleep and then....

Christmas for us is a busy time and busyness is great, and we all need the adrenalin rush of a looming deadline from time to time, but for some the constant pressure of deadlines, performance reviews can be oppressive and all encompassing.

People are often on a treadmill that is racing so quickly that it has become impossible to slow down, let alone stop.

Maybe Christmas should be that time when we stop, reflect, and reposition ourselves and think about doing a new thing.

Christmas is primarily a celebration of just that, God doing a new thing. At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we reflect on God choosing to enter into a relationship with His people in a radically new way, to rip up the old and do a different thing.

The birth of Jesus was a division in history. God changed His relationship with his people, moving from a relationship based on the Levitical law and the rule of law to a relationship based on love. At Christmas, God gave us a new way of being with him, a new experience and new insight into what it means to be fully human. Therefore, maybe Christmas, is a perfect time for us to reconsider our lives.

Many years ago, when I was considering my call to priesthood and looking for a new way of being, I found this quote from Winnie-the-Pooh very helpful, "Here is Edward Bear, coming downstairs now, bump, bump, bump, on the back of his head, behind Christopher Robin. It is, as far as he knows, the only way of coming downstairs, but sometimes he feels that there really is another way, if only he could stop bumping for a moment and think of it. And then he feels that perhaps there isn't."

Christmas is a time when we can stop, reflect, and re-imagine our lives. Christmas is when we pause to celebrate God doing a new thing in salvation history, but also an opportunity for us to stop the bump, bump, bump and start a new thing, a new walk with God.

We have the opportunity to look at things afresh and see if the old thing, the old way of life, the old work life balance was the right way of doing things, and maybe consider doing things differently?

If you would like to have a little reflective time over the 12 days of Christmas, I have some copies of the booklet "At the heart of Christmas" to give away. The booklet has stories and reflections for Christmas and is written by both our Archbishop. Let me know if you would like a copy.

## WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER

As I am sure you can imagine the December diary is very full, so here's a quick break-down of our December activities.

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

Website: [www.stmarysewell.com](http://www.stmarysewell.com)

Registered Charity Number 1128409

### CLERGY

**Vicar: Fr Mark Stafford 020 8393 1297**

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

**Day off: Friday**

**Assistant Priest: The Reverend Sue Ayling OBE; 020 8337 6347; Email: [assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com](mailto:assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com)**

**Day off: Wednesday**

### READER

Mrs Wendy Varney 020 8393 5212

### CHURCHWARDENS

Mrs Valerie Wood 020 8393 5991;

Email [churchwarden1@stmarysewell.com](mailto:churchwarden1@stmarysewell.com)

Mr Nicholas Allsopp 07899 818400;

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

### 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

Position vacant

### 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)

### 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)

*Stewardship Recorder*

Mrs Sarah Holmes;

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

### THE PARISH OFFICE

#### Administrator:

Mrs Lynne Yuille 020 8393 2643 (Office)

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

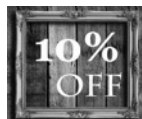
The postal address is: St Mary's Ewell Parish Church, London Rd, Ewell, Surrey, KT17 2AY.

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.**

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## St Mary's Toddler Group

Thursday mornings in  
term time 10-11.30 in  
Ewell Hall

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



Throughout December we will be opening Ewell Hall on Friday afternoons as a warm space. The hall will be open from 12:00 - 16:00. If you are worried about the cost of heating, come and warm-up in the hall. Working from home? Bring the laptop and log on to our Wi-Fi. We will provide free hot drinks and cake. Free to all, but if you want to donate to cover costs, we won't stop you!

Our "Spirit of Christmas" dinner is in Ewell Hall on 3 December with a three course meal and seasonal entertainment.

Bishop Andrew will be at St Mary's on 4 December to confirm candidates from St. Mary's and other local churches.

On December 16 Lucy and I would love to welcome you all to come and join us at the Vicarage for a mince pie and glass of mulled wine 19:00 - 21:00.

During Advent we will be running a 4-week Advent study group using the course "Travelling Light" helping us to think about our journey towards Christmas. The course will be held in the parish room on Wednesday evenings, starting on Wednesday 30 November, 19:30 for refreshments with a view to start the session at 20:00.

Advent Concert on Monday 5 December 13:00 followed by afternoon tea at 14:30. Jonathan Holmes, who is President of the Bromley and Croydon Organists, hosts the event playing Widor's great Advent Symphony 'The Gothic', plus friends from the Society, Marilyn and Norman Harper, and Simon Gregory between them playing Bach, Flor Peeters and Mendelssohn.

On 6 December we will be continuing with the Bach organ recital in Church at 13:05 followed by refreshments in the parish room.

December 10 19:30 - Return of 'A Christmas Cracker'. Carol medleys and duets for organ, and popular Christmas songs and carols with audience participation. Free Admission.

### Christmas Services

Sunday 18 December 17:30 Nine Lessons and Carols. Come and join us as we start our Christmas celebrations with a traditional service of carols, Christmas choral music and Bible readings. Followed by mulled wine and mince pies at the back of Church.

### Friday 24 Christmas Eve

14:00 The story of Christmas for all ages - Feel free to come dressed as angels or shepherds if you wish.

16:00 Arrival at Bethlehem - A Family Service for All Ages.

23:15 Choral Midnight Mass - Come and join us as we celebrate the service of Christmas.

### Sunday 25 December Christmas Day

08:00 Said service of Holy Communion

10:00 Christmas Communion.

16:00-18:00 Christmas Day tea party. We will be holding a Christmas Day party at Ewell Hall, London Road KT17 2AY, for anyone who might need some extra company over Christmas with games, crackers, snacks, and Christmas treats. **Don't be alone on Christmas Day**, come and have a few hours with us at Ewell Hall. (Please let us know if you would like to come- call 020 8393 1297 to book a space).

### Sunday 1 January 2023 New Year's Day

08:00 Said service of Holy Communion

09:30 Choral Holy Communion.

Happy Christmas and hopefully a radically bump, bump, bump free New Year.

Fr Mark



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## AV/SOUND DESK AT ST MARY'S

We are **urgently** seeking volunteers to learn how to operate our AV/sound desk and to join the team helping with livestreaming/videos at our services.

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



## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

### HOLY BAPTISM

A member of Christ, the child of God  
(BCP Baptism rite)

22 October	Sophie Rosemary Muriel Paxman Holly Elizabeth Renee Stevenson
23 October	James Wyatt McVey
6 November	Maxen Louis Ive Alice Esmeralda Marshall

### FUNERALS

And now, Lord, what is my hope? Truly  
my hope is even in thee  
(Psalm 39, used in the BCP Burial rite)

7 November	Queenie Sykes, aged 92 <i>Ashes Interments</i>
28 October	Frank Thomas Bodie, aged 88 Nigel Duncan Vaughan Bodie, aged 70
10 November	Anne Bradley, aged 69
14 November	Ann Evelyn Engham, aged 87

## DECEMBER CONCERTS

December 5 at 1pm

Advent Recital

*Bromley & Croydon Organists*

December 6 at 1.05 pm

Free Tuesday lunchtime Bach organ recital

*Jonathan Holmes*

Fugue in B minor (on a theme by Corelli) BWV 579

Pastorella BWV 590

Partite diverse sopra Christ, der du bist  
der helle Tag BWV 766

Prelude and Fugue in E minor BWV 533

December 10 7.30pm

Return of 'A Christmas Cracker'

Carol medleys and duets for organ, and popular  
Christmas songs and carols with audience participa-  
tion. *Free admission*

## ST. MARY'S ON-LINE QUIZZES



We hold monthly on-line quizzes using Zoom

These have proved very popular and are fun for all  
the family, so why not join us?

Our next quiz will be on Wednesday January 18

As always, you will need to register beforehand.

You can use links provided in the Weekly Notes or  
you can also register by emailing

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



Thank you for all of your donations.

**Urgently needed:** long-life sponge puddings, coffee,  
powdered milk, tinned meat (not corned beef, we  
have lots), tinned fish, tinned soup, tinned tomatoes,  
long-life fruit juice, custard, tea bags, shampoo / con-  
ditioner and male / female deodorant.

**Please no more of these items as we are fully  
stocked:** pasta (ie penne, fusilli, shell pasta and so  
on), washing up liquid, baked beans / pulses and dog  
/ cat food.

**We would also appreciate any bags for life/very  
strong bags!**

You can donate at Sainsbury's Kiln Lane, Waitrose  
Epsom and Banstead, Asda Burgh Heath and Tesco,  
Leatherhead, or you can bring donations to our car  
park (please wear a mask): Epsom & Ewell Food-  
bank, Good Company Hub, (Behind West Ewell Pri-  
mary School), Ruxley Lane, Ewell KT19 0JG.  
Donation drop off times: Monday to Friday 9am -  
2pm. We are closed on Bank Holidays.

You can sign up to the Foodbank newsletter on their  
website at <https://epsomewell.foodbank.org.uk/>

\* Please make sure all donations are sealed, in  
date and do not contain alcohol \*



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# Prayers for December



**'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 start by thinking about all those who are living in darkness. They may be on the other side of the world from us, or right next door. There are so many reasons for walking in darkness - fear, loneliness, oppression, depression, poverty, or violence, to name but a few. This winter, people are particularly worried by the sharp rise in the cost of living and increases in their energy bills. Will they be able to eat, and provide for their families? This year, we have seen an influx of refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine and asylum seekers looking for refuge from the terrors and oppression in their own countries. God sees all those in darkness and becomes a light for them.

## Prayer

Lord, we name before you those we know who are going through times of darkness. We think of them and ask, gracious God, that you may bring them light, hope, love, and direction in their lives. 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 in the busyness of our hectic lives and find peace. Let us take a moment to be still. Be secure in the knowledge that God loves each one of us and is with us. Take a moment to think about all that the message of Christmas means. Christ has come, Salvation has come, God is with us.

## Prayer

Lord, thank you for loving each one of us with a love that is unconditional. Knowing that you love us, help us to share that love with others - with our family, friends, and neighbours, that that part of the world where we have influence may become a better place and we may become the people you created us to be. This year may the true meaning of Christmas remain with us, not just for a few festive days, but throughout the entire year. Amen

# THE ORGANIST ENTERTAINS Simon Gregory Saturday 22 October

Simon is a well-known face at St. Mary's and it was encouraging to see such an appreciative audience for his recital tonight. It had been billed, appropriately, as 'The Organist Entertains'; this is exactly what he and the Willis organ did. Their programme was of light British classics including improvised accompaniment to a 1920s silent movie of which more below.

The evening opened with a bang. That was the *Paeon* by **Kenneth Leighton**. Anyone know what a 'paeon' is? I certainly did not. Judging by this piece, it may be a kind of fanfare. A Yorkshireman by birth, Leighton was Reid Professor of Music at Edinburgh University, a post which he held until his death in 1988.

More pieces by English composers followed. Worlds away from Leighton are the easy-going symphonies of **William Boyce** who died in 1779 and one of which we heard, the *Symphony No. 1 in B flat*. **Edward Elgar** is known for his lighter side, as well as for more serious works. Lighter works include *Chanson du Matin* ('morning song') originally composed for violin and piano; and *Pomp and Circumstance Marche No. 4 in G major*. **William Walton**, of a later generation, consciously followed Elgar's example in his own Marches such as *Orb and Sceptre* which was composed for the coronation in 1953 of our late Queen. Elgar was a Worcester man by birth. Some twenty miles away from Worcester is the city of Gloucester which was the birthplace and home of **Herbert Brewer**. The two men were well acquainted. One of Brewer's organ works is this pleasant *Elegy*. **Benjamin Britten** wrote for organ including *Variations and Fugue on a Theme of Vittoria* of 1946. The Spanish composer wrote much music for choirs; the theme concerned here is taken from one of his motets.

This turned out to be quite an evening for marches. **Eric Coates** wrote a *Knightsbridge March* which opened the second half. By this time, we were all anxiously awaiting the silent movie. Not just yet, though! First another march, part of the *Suite* that **Walton** extracted from the music he wrote for the film *Henry the Fifth*. Now for the silent film: *From Hand to Mouth* starring Harold Lloyd. Simon's accompaniment was entirely improvised. All were duly impressed at his skill: another proof, were it needed, of our Willis organ's versatility.

As the amusement died away, Simon brought the concert to an end in *Popular Tune* again by **Walton**. Very much a 'bright young thing' of the Twenties, Walton achieved success in his *Façade* - a series of poems recited rhythmically over extremely 'catchy' accompaniment. The poet was Edith Sitwell.

A footnote to conclude. A paeon is a classical Greek word meaning 'hymn of praise (sometimes to a king but usually to the gods, particularly Apollo, who, confusingly, is sometimes called Paeon). As far as I can discover, the word is not used at all in the New Testament. Knowing Leighton's reputation as a church and choir composer, 'paeon' in this context must refer to praise to God.



## GOING DIGITAL



St Mary's has taken steps in the last few weeks to improve the quality of its phone service and to introduce Wi-Fi to the church. Gone are our old analogue copper phone service with, at times, poor audio quality, and our slow copper internet connection. The church is now running on the latest high-speed digital optical fibre technology.

The quality and reliability of St Mary's streamed services should also benefit from our improved internet access.

Free BT Guest Wi-Fi is now available in church. Just search for and select BT\_Guest\_Wi-Fi on your mobile, laptop or other device, click on the BT page to accept terms, and you will connect automatically. No password is required.

The new Wi-Fi service in church will be of great assistance to those attending events and meetings as well as to anyone else who needs to be online. Another benefit of moving to the new system is that we have been able to halve our monthly payments – a saving that was very welcome in the present financial climate.

Free BT\_Guest\_Wi-Fi has also been available for about a year in Ewell Hall and it has proved useful and popular with our hirers and other hall users.

The parish office telephone number 020 8393 2643 remains unchanged.

*Ian Burgess*

### WATCHING TV

I find television very educational. Every time someone turns it on, I go in the other room and read a book." — Groucho Marx

## PARISH CHOIR AT EXETER



The weekend 29/30 October saw the Parish Choir sing the services in Exeter Cathedral; the trip being re-arranged from 2021 as our 'booking' there was cancelled due to COVID.

The cathedral virgins gave us a lovely welcome and we settled into the Song School on the Saturday afternoon to warm up. At 4.00pm we moved into the choir stalls having already sorted out the procession order and where to go. With very little time to practice on the Sunday morning, we rehearsed all the music for both days and stopped after an hour to get a drink and get ready for Choral Evensong at 5.30pm.

There was a reasonably sized congregation for Evensong. We sang the Rose responses and the Wood in Eb (no2) setting we had sung at St Mary's the previous week. The anthem was the lovely setting of "Expectans expectavi" by Wood to keep a composer theme going. It was lovely to see some familiar St Mary's faces at the service and we thank them for coming to support us.

After the service, we went on to have a lovely meal together at a restaurant in the city centre. When we had finished, we went our separate ways – to accommodation booked.

We arrived back for an 8.30am start in the Song School and ran over the music for the Eucharist going over to the cathedral for a short rehearsal before the service at 10.00am. With a large congregation present in the nave, we sang the Hassler Mass "Missa Secunda", which is well known to the St Mary's congregation, and, during the Communion, "Fear not, O Land" by William Harris as the theme was Harvest. The service was live-streamed, and you can listen to it online if you are interested.

During the notices to the end of the service we were thanked very warmly by both the clergy and congregation. I don't think we have ever received a round of applause when singing in a cathedral before. Very nice! We joined the congregation after the service for coffee and were really pleased to have so many compliments as they genuinely appreciated our efforts. We then wandered off in groups to find lunch.

We were back in the stalls at 3.00pm to practice for Choral Evensong at 4.00pm. Sunday evening saw a goodly sized congregation. We sang the Rose responses again and the Noble in A minor setting we had sung at St Mary's the previous month. The anthem was "Give us the wings of faith" by Bullock (a previous Director of Music at Exeter) to give a hint at the feast of All Saints the following day.

We waited for the congregation to disperse so we could have a photograph to record our visit then packed everything up and made our way to our cars and the long journey back along the A303. The weekend went very well, and we kept St Mary's reputation at its high level. Worcester Cathedral is next in May!

*DRC*



## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2022



On Remembrance Sunday we were pleased to welcome the Mayor of Epsom & Ewell, members and officers of the Council 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 fallen, prior to joining the service which followed in church. The first lesson was read by the Mayor. As ever the church was packed with an overflow outside.

### Ewell Yule Scavenger Hunt

**Ewell Yule 9th December**

Get an entry form from **Camille**, find the letters on the stalls to make a festive word and drop your completed form off at **St Mary's Church** to be entered into the prize draw.

**1st prize Epsom Playhouse panto tickets (family of 4)**



### Travelling Light

Advent Bible study course  
Parish room, St Mary's. Ewell

The Bible is full of stories about people's journeys, sometimes long distances, sometimes just locally.

Some travel willingly, others reluctantly; some carry a lot of stuff with them, others take little or nothing.

In this Advent course, we come alongside a few of those travellers.

Wednesday Evenings in Advent  
30th November - 21 December

7:30 for refreshments with a view to start the session at 8:00.

## Make the switch.

It's hard to get your head around the cost of energy. Most of us are hawkishly watching our smart meters, monitoring what we can turn on – all the while trying not to think about winter. **We offer certainty and stability.** Our modern, self-contained apartments and all-inclusive rent reviewed just once a year provide the peace of mind you need to live your best life in later years and put you back in control of your finances.

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## ST. MARY'S ECO GROUP

**Think of caring for God's creation as  
you do your Christmas shopping**

**Do's and don'ts for an Eco Friendly Christmas**



- **Don't** buy cards and wrapping paper with glitter or foil on. (They can't be re-cycled.)
- **Do** buy cards and wrapping paper made from recycled or FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certified paper.
- **Don't** use plastic ribbon and tape or foil-backed wrapping paper. (They can't be re-cycled.)
- **Do** use material or string to wrap your gifts.
- **Don't** buy single plastics gifts.
- **Do** look at the materials gifts are made from and keep sustainability in mind. Ensure wood and paper gifts are made from recycled or FSC certified materials. and look for things like organic-certified food and clothing.
- **Don't** buy gifts with lots of excess packaging, especially if it's plastic and can't be re-cycled.
- **Do** buy gifts with little or no packaging. Sometimes shopping local can help with this, especially if you have a local refill shop. If you must use packaging, use recycled or recyclable materials. Shopping local or using public transport reduces carbon emissions.
- **Don't** buy gifts that may not be wanted just for the sake of it.
- **Do** consider giving an experience, which will reduce demand for physical resources. Make a gift of your time by visiting someone or by bringing people together; buy tickets to shows, concerts or events; make a restaurant reservation or give a gift card or plan a day out to a National Trust or Wildlife Trust or Wetland Centre location. It means Christmas comes twice for the receiver, when they get to go on the experience!
- **Don't** forget your reusable bags to carry all your shopping home!?

If you're more inclined to shop online, consider buying from organisations that support wildlife and the environment. WWF, Surrey Wildlife Trust, the Woodland Trust and Wetland Centres are a few to choose from.

*If you have an ECO tip, the Eco Group would love to hear from you. Please get in touch with Sue Ayling at: [assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com](mailto:assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com) or 020 8337 6347.*

## PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

As we prepare for Easter by reading a Lent book it's good to prepare for Christmas by reading an Advent book and there are lots to choose from.

Here are some titles for you to consider.

~ *Let it slow* by Stephen Cottrell (The Archbishop of York) An Advent Calendar with a difference invites you to step back each day to reflect and find peace during the Advent season £6.99

~ *Sleepers Awake* Getting serious about Climate Change by Nicholas Holtam (The Archbishop of York's Advent Book 2022) £10.96

~ *Ready Steady Slow* offers a daily practical tip to help you stay cool from 1 to 24 December, as well as a reading, a prayer and a short reflection. Contributions from Jan McFarlane, Paula Gooder, Nick Baines, John Kiddle and Stephen Cottrell £4.99

~ *Wake Up to Advent!* by John Sentamu (The Archbishop of York's Advent Book 2019) is a book with a daily Bible reading, a prayer and personal stories (£1.99).

For children's books look at ~ *The Christmas Surprise* by Steph Williams aimed at 2-4 year olds and ~ *The Adventure of Christmas* by Ed Drew and Alex Webb-Peploe aimed at the whole family. Let Sue Ayling know if you'd like her to order you a book by ringing 020 8337 6347 or emailing [assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com](mailto:assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com)

Or you can learn about the Church of England **Follow the Star** theme for Advent and Christmas 2022, including a free app to download, at [cofe.io/Christmas](https://cofe.io/Christmas).

## REPORT OF PCC MEETING 31 OCTOBER

Fr Mark presented an updated paper outlining the next steps for formulating St Mary's Mission Action Plan. This followed attendance by the planning group at a diocesan training session and a working together afternoon. Information will be shared with the congregation in the New Year in order that their involvement can begin.

A new, cheaper contract has been successfully negotiated with BT, for a more efficient phone and Wi-Fi system. The free Wi-Fi is already available in the church building. (See article on page 6).

A group is due to visit the distillery to blend the St Mary's fundraising gin. This will be available to purchase from 'All Things Nice' in time for 'Ewell Yule' on 9 December.

Fr Mark reported that the local 'Yarn Bombers' have been busy knitting over 100 Christmas angels to be distributed to homes in the parish with details of services and events.

The next PCC meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 January 2023.



# HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO EVERYONE

Godfrey, and Lucy Morrell  
wish all at St Mary's a joyful  
Christmas and a healthy  
and happy 2023



Warmest wishes to you all, at Christmas  
and throughout the coming year  
Valerie, Churchwarden

May the peace of the Christ-child  
enfold you this Christmas and every  
day through 2023  
Sue Ayling



To all our new Church Family.  
Wishing you every joy on our first  
Christmas in Ewell  
Mark and Lucy

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

A very Happy Christmas  
and peaceful New Year to  
everyone at St. Mary's  
Love Angie

Wishing everyone at St. Mary's  
a very happy and peaceful  
Christmas and every blessing  
for the New Year. Gill Bird

Happy Christmas Everyone  
A Healthy and Peaceful 2023  
God Bless  
Humphrey and Gill

Wishing everyone at St Mary's  
much joy and happiness at  
Christmas and many blessings  
in the New Year  
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

May you find peace, hope and  
joy this Christmas.  
With love to all at St Mary's.  
Linda Staff

Lloyd and Promilla send  
warm greetings to all their  
friends who have been so  
kind

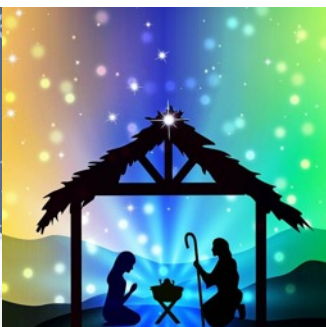
Wishing you joy and peace at  
Christmas and in the year ahead  
Wendy Varney

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

Christmas Greetings to all my  
friends at St Mary's  
With best wishes from Ray Kasey



Happy and Healthy Christmas &  
best wishes for the New Year.  
Miriam Massey





**"FIRESIDE FRIDAYS"**  
**COME AND JOIN US FOR A WARM**  
**FRIDAY AFTERNOON @**  
**EWELL HALL**  
**LONDON ROAD**  
**EWELL**  
**12:00 - 4:00**  
**HOT DRINKS AND CAKES BY**  
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**DROP IN EVERY FRIDAY FROM 18TH**  
**NOVEMBER**  
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**Christmas Day Tea Party- free to all who**  
**need a bit of company on Christmas Day**

We will have sandwiches, Christmas cake, crackers,  
 a glass of fizz, gifts and games. Come and join us  
 and share the Christmas cheer

Ewell Village Hall on Christmas Day between 16:00  
 -18:00, opposite St Mary's Church, London Road  
 for a Christmas Day tea.

Free for all, but please book  
 You can book by emailing [vicar@stmarysewell](mailto:vicar@stmarysewell) or  
 calling 020 8393 1297 or on Eventbrite at  
<https://Freechristmasdaytea-ewell.eventbrite.com>

## **BOARD GAMES** **AFTERNOON**

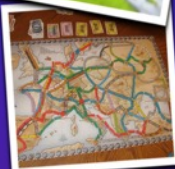
**Saturday 21 January**  
**2-5pm in Ewell Hall**



All  
 Ages  
 Welcome

**St Mary's Church**  
**plays board games!**

*Come and join us 2-5pm in Ewell Hall.  
 Games of luck and skill, familiar games,  
 some new and unusual games, suitable  
 for young and old. Free tea & cake will be  
 served. No need to book- just turn up!*



## **EPN Subscriptions in 2023**

Thank you for your support of EPN during  
 the 2022.

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.

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# Calendar for December



**Morning Prayer will usually be celebrated at 0900 Monday to Saturday and shown online**

- Th 01 1000 St Mary's Toddler Group (Hall)  
 F 02 1200-1600 Fireside Friday (Hall)  
 S 03 0630 St Mary's Christmas Dinner (Hall)  
**S 04 ADVENT 2**  
 0800 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)  
 0930 Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)  
 0930 Sung Eucharist  
 1830 Baptism and Confirmation Service by Bishop Andrew  
 M 05 1300 Advent Recital by Bromley & Croydon Organists  
 T 06 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)  
 1305 Lunchtime Bach Organ Recital  
 W 07 2000 (1930 Coffee) Advent Course (Parish Room)  
 Th 08 1000 St Mary's Toddler Group (Hall)  
 F 09 1200-1600 Fireside Friday (Hall)  
 1700-2100 Ewell Yule (Village and Church)  
 S 10 1930 'Christmas Cracker' Organ Recital  
**S 11 ADVENT 3**  
 0800 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)  
 0930 Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)  
 0930 Sung Eucharist  
 1115 Choral Mattins  
 T 13 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)  
 W 14 2000 (1930 Coffee) Advent Course (Parish Room)  
 Th 15 1445 Bereavement Café (Hall)  
 F 16 1200-1600 Fireside Friday (Hall)  
**S 18 ADVENT 4**  
 0800 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)  
 0930 Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)  
 0930 Sung Eucharist  
 1730 Nine Lessons and Carols  
 T 20 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)  
 W 21 2000 (1930 Coffee) Advent Course (Parish Room)  
**S 24 CHRISTMAS EVE**  
 1400 The Story of Christmas - for all ages  
 1600 The Arrival at Bethlehem - Family service for all ages  
 2315 Choral Midnight Mass  
**S 25 CHRISTMAS DAY**  
 0800 Said Holy Communion  
 1000 Christmas Communion  
 1600-1800 Christmas Day Tea Party (Hall) Open to all  
 T 29 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)



## Ewell Hall EVENTS + ACTIVITIES

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- Family parties and celebrations
- Club, society and group meetings
- Craft, activity and art classes
- Exercise and meditation classes
- Children's parties and activities
- Business meetings and events
- Musical events and dances
- Lunches, teas and dinners, etc

\* Ewell Hall, 7 London Road, Ewell KT17 2AY  
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