



St Mary's Church, Thorpe

Christmas & Winter 2019 Quarterly

News



CHARITY NO: 1176929

Welcome

to our quarterly news update from St Mary's Church in Thorpe Village. We are known for our hospitality and we look forward to you visiting us for worship, a tour of the church, prayer or your special occasion soon. www.stmaryschurchthorpe.co.uk

St Mary's Church, Thorpe – **always a welcome for all.**



A Message from Father Damian Miles, Anglican Vicar of Thorpe:

With a general election due shortly and Christmas fast approaching, there seems to be so much uncertainty as we enter the season of 'goodwill'. Stories on the news and in the papers of natural disasters and civil unrest in various places could leave us feeling somewhat insecure and wondering what is next? And then there is Brexit; if it is 31st January we will be open all day for prayer – come along! The Christmas story is a timely and confrontational reminder that life has ever been thus: a heady mix of political wrangling, power grabbing and exploitation. This is the same world that Christians believe God made good, even if we are not good ourselves, by our own choices and failings. This is also the same world that God has chosen to participate in, by being born among us in Bethlehem 2019 years ago. That is who Jesus Christ is, God's very presence among the harsh realities of life: born in a stable (perhaps a cave) surrounded by animals and only a manger to be laid in; then visited by shepherds – the outcasts of society, followed by travellers from the East with their enchanting and symbolic gifts of gold, incense and myrrh. Then Mary, Joseph and their baby have to flee for their lives, becoming refugees in Egypt, away from the ruler Herod who in anger slew the Holy Innocents. The time Jesus was born was horrific in many ways – today by comparison we are relatively blessed. The Christmas story we know and love reminds us that God has chosen to be among us, experience the chaos first hand and demonstrate another way of being, living and loving. So this winter, don't be dismayed or concerned. God knows and loves you, all of who you are, and longs through Jesus – whose name means 'the one who saves' – to welcome you into his church family here in Thorpe, comfort you, pray with you, laugh and cry with you. St Mary's is here for you – you are invited. Wishing you a very Happy Christmas 2019 and Peaceful 2020, your Vicar and friend, *Revd Damian Miles*.

www.stmaryschurchthorpe.co.uk
The church is open for visitors:

CHARITY NO: 1176929

Email: stmaryschurchthorpe@outlook.com

Parish Office Number: 01932 565986
Wednesday 10am – 4pm
(Thursday by appointment)
3rd Saturday 1pm to 4pm
Sunday 7:30am until 12noon



BREXIT DAY OF PRAYER Friday 31st January 2019

10am – 4pm with prayer stations, reflections, meditation and a 12noon Eucharist followed by a bring & share lunch (soup provided). **THIS EVENT IS FREE!**

WEDDINGS AT ST MARY'S 2020 / 2021

We are holding an evening of wedding planning on Monday 20th January at 7:30pm in the Rutherwyke Room. Car Parking at the Vicarage.

All interested couples are welcome to come along to find out more!

ST MARY'S CHURCH THORPE

SATURDAY CHURCH OPEN

On the 3rd Saturday monthly we are open from 1 – 4pm for visitors to explore St Mary's Church and have a coffee, cake and chat. Bring neighbours and those who live alone as we try to combat loneliness in our community. Contact: 01932 565986 stmaryschurchthorpe@outlook.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT ST MARY'S

8am Said Holy Communion

10am Sung Parish Eucharist

2nd & 4th Sunday monthly with Faith & Fun for children age 4 to 11

11am Café Church –

refreshments in the Rutherwyke Room

1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays monthly:

11:30am Family Service

Always a Welcome for All

FAITH & FUN on a Sunday at **10am**

2nd & 4th Sundays monthly – for children age 4 to 11 – with Bible stories, songs, craft, drama and children's prayers. Our Sunday

***FAITH & FUN** runs every Sunday of term time from September to July.*

**Contact: Margaret Alderson
01784 435292**

ST MARY'S CHARITY LUNCHES

Rutherwyke Room at 11:30am

Wednesday 15 January

Bring a dish to share and a donation for the charity.

Noah's Ark Toddler &

Pre-school Age Group. We meet on Term Time Thursdays, 9:30am – 19 December Christmas Party – in the Rutherwyke Room.

Fun, games and songs for little ones with toast, tea and chat!

Contact: Margaret 01784 435292

From St Mary's Church Registers September, October & November 2019

Baptism: 15/9 River Blake Billam, Beau Bill Billam, Rhys Aurelio Leonard Layton; 22/9 Rosalind Olive Dennis; 29/9 Annie Yvonne Downs; 20/10 Ethan Grosvenor Ogilvie, Caroline Sophia Sibley; 3/11 Louisa Jane Lee, Alex Charles Lee, Louise Lee, Alex Charles Morris; 24/11 Adam Braulio Olearczuk, Ralph Henry Gentry. Weddings: 8/10 Daniel Filipe Gouveia Freitas & Charlotte Christine Gillies. Funerals: 2/9 Shirley Bland; 23/9 Barbara Joan Ward; 16/10 Valerie Irene Dowell; 29/10 Maisie Kathleen Lloyd; 19/11 Enid Minnie Peake; 25/11 Jean Stubbs. Burial of Ashes: 12/10 Stephanie Jean Carter; 2/11 Roger James Grayer.

ADVENT

AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, THORPE

www.stmaryschurchthorpe.co.uk



ADVENT SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER
6PM

COMPLINE by CANDLELIGHT



SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER
4PM

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

(Part of Winter Wonderland afternoon of community events & Fair 12nn-6pm)



SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER 6PM
TRADITIONAL LESSONS &
CAROLS

with St Mary's Church & The Hythe Singers Choirs
with Mulled Wine & hot Mince Pies in the Rutherwyke Room



WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER 8PM
THE EGHAM BAND CHRISTMAS
CONCERT

with Mulled Wine & hot Mince Pies at the interval



SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER 4PM
INFORMAL CHRISTMAS
CAROLS & SONGS

with David Howard & Feltham Choral Society
with tea and cake available at the interval



Parking Available

CHRISTMAS



AT ST MARY'S CHURCH THORPE

Sunday 22 December

8am	Holy Communion
10am	Sung Eucharist
4pm	Christmas Concert

Christmas Eve

3pm	Crib Service
5pm	Crib Service
11:30pm	Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

8am	Said Eucharist
10am	Sung Festival Eucharist

Boxing Day

10am	Eucharist
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Parking available

Church Approach,
Thorpe, Surrey,
TW20 8TQ

www.stmaryschurchthorpe.co.uk



Christmas Raffle with 3 top prizes of £50 and lots of other fantastic prizes will be drawn on Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24th December at 6pm. Please return raffle ticket stubs and money by Monday 23rd December to St Mary's Church Thorpe, Church Approach, Thorpe Village, Surrey, TW20 8TQ. (The Church letterbox is located beside the door into the Rutherwyke Room)