

St Mary's Speen Pew News 380

Dear Friends,

- 1) **Sunday 13th December 10.30 am Holy Communion led by Rev Joy Mawdesley.**
- 2) **Midweek Private Prayer and Holy Communion:**The church will be open between **2 - 4 pm on Wednesday 16 December** for private prayer with a **short communion service at 3pm led by Rev Pam McKellen.** Following the service there will be an opportunity to enjoy a mince pie outside in the grounds of the church according to safe distancing rules. Please bring your own flask of drink if you would like to. **Thanks, Marion Burke.**
- 3) **Advent service of night prayer. At St Nic's, 15th Dec 8.00 8.45pm. Everyone welcome!** We will be following the Church of England service of night prayer (or Compline). A chance to be quiet and prayerful in the busyness of this season. Do join us.
- 4) **Sunday 20th December at 3pm – 'A Christmas no-one expected'** – a Service of Christmas readings, poems and music
- 5) **Christmas Eve Thursday 24th December –**
FOLLOW THE STAR: a Christmas Trail - an outdoor journey following the story of Christmas. Start at the Church Car Park, Church Lane, any time between 2.30 and 4.30pm
- 6) **Holy Communion at 11pm**
- 7) **Christmas Day Friday 25th December at 10am – Holy Communion**
- 8) There will be no service on Sunday 27th December

9) **Please sign up for our services by emailing christmas@stmarysspeen.org.uk or by leaving a message on 01635 32657**

All events are subject to any restrictions at the time – please see St M's website for up to date details: www.stmarysspeen.org.uk.

10) ST MARY'S FOLLOW THE STAR

A new thing is happening on Christmas Eve. Everyone can join in, in some way or another. Because COVID made us rethink the Crib service, we have planned a CHRISTMAS TRAIL between 2.30 and 4.30 on Christmas Eve for families and children of ALL ages.

More news about it next week!!

But we need **YOUR** help....

Would you like to help on the afternoon?

If so please email Pam: p.mckellen13@gmail.com for more info.

THANK YOU (exclamation mark)

11) CHRISTMAS CARDS

As it will not be possible to leave Christmas cards in church this year, (if you have prepared some, please either arrange for delivery or put in the post,) if you would like to send Christmas greetings to your friends at St Mary's Speen in an easy way, please email me a short message as in : "Jim and Dorothy Semaphore trust you are all well and send you their warmest Christmas greetings", or something like that. I will produce an extra

special Pew News On Sunday next week containing all the greetings, which will go out to all the church family..

12) BOWLS OF BULBS FOR CHRISTMAS

There may be a couple of bowls left of Brian's highly scented White Carnegie Hyacinths ready to come in to a warm room to grow on and flower around Christmas. All proceeds go to St Mary's and the suggested donation is £5 for a pot of 3 bulbs. They will be put tchurch on Sunday, and Brian is happy to deliver, or folk can collect from him.

Mobile contact 07597 719246. email briannobes48@hotmail.co.uk Regards, Brian Nobes

13) CHRISTMAS TREE NEEDS A GOOD HOME. Jo Fageant would like to pass on Helen's tall Christmas tree to a good home. Free or donation to St M's.

14) AND YOU THOUGHT COVID WAS BAD NEWS - but not in this case.

An announcement was made at the school where Hughesdon daughter is a teacher.

“ Due to the fact that a member of the catering staff has caught the virus, all kitchen staff will be self-isolating and no school dinners will be served until January. Parents will have to provide packed lunches”.

Fiona reports that a look of pure joy crept into the children's faces.

Best Wishes, Mavis

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