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St Mary The Boltons

rooted in faith - open in thought - reaching out in service



Friends,

This week we are keeping the Second Sunday of Advent. We are pleased to be back in church for Sunday services, as well as providing the podcasts.

This week's podcast can be heard [here](#) and the order of service, with words to the hymns and prayers can be downloaded [here](#), with a large print version, [here](#). If you are listening to the podcast, do remember to light a candle at home as we light the Advent Candles and say the prayer together.

The service will be an All Age Service for Advent, including some of our children reading the lessons, leading the intercessions both in church and online.

St Nicholas' Day Raffle for the Charitable Pot will be drawn in church on Sunday directly after the 10.30 Eucharist. If you've not got your tickets yet, contact Clair Gordon immediately, and she'll arrange them for you. Tickets £2 each You can bring your payment to church when you come on Sunday. Even if you aren't in church, as long as we know you

bought your tickets, we'll make sure the prizes will get to you if you are a winner.

Friends of Brompton Cemetery Christmas Sale Weather permitting, there will be a sale on behalf of the Friends of Brompton Cemetery of cards, calendars, preserves and handicrafts on Sunday outside the church after the 10.30 service. Bring along your cash and support the Friends.

Sunday Morning Coffee will not be held this week, but will resume next Sunday with a new Zoom link. Do join us, even if you've been to church. It will be good to see everyone's faces again!

Silent Prayer next week will take place on Tuesday 8 December, at 11am.

Stamps Please remember to bring your used postage stamps with a small margin of envelope still round them, to church to be given to the Leprosy Mission who raise money from them. There is a specially marked collection box at the back of the church.

Christmas Services and Covid Details of the Christmas services are in the Clarion
Do be aware that this year in order to keep proper distancing, the services for Christmas will be ticketed. You can book your places (for free) either by contacting the office or online via [Eventbrite](#) or by calling / emailing the office. Do book in early to avoid disappointment.

Main services will also be podcast as usual, and will offer a chance to sing the Christmas carols as loudly as you like. Why not open your windows wide and let your neighbours hear you!

The Crib Service, Christmas Eve, 4pm. Normally held in church this year's crib service will be a purely domestic event. It will be an interactive service inviting you to put your own crib together at home, as we hear the Christmas Story. If you don't have a crib set already, you can make your own – we have a set of templates available at PDF's and will be glad to share them with you – just ask me for them. They just need to be printed, cut out and glued or taped together. [Here is an example](#) of one of the figures.

The Advent Study Group is meeting on the 4 Monday evenings at 7pm in Advent, via Zoom. We will be using material from a course called Living in Hope from the York Course series.

Monday 7 December Dying well

Monday 14 December Hell Bent on Destruction

Monday 21 December Going to Heaven when we die?

If you'd like to join, let the Vicar know and she'll give you the Zoom link.

Enjoy music for Christmas and Advent at home - and support our musicians!

Musical Advent Calendar Subscribe to a musical Advent Calendar and

support Fenella Humphreys, violinist and friend of St Mary's, who played for us (online) on Remembrance Sunday this year.

Further details here: <https://fenellahumphreys.com/campaigns/652807>

To sign up, email Fenella on fenella.website@gmail.com

Classical Christmas Concert Tickets for Danae Eleni's concert (streamed from Warsaw) are now available here: <https://www.danaeeleni.com/shop/christmas-concert-2020-online-ticket>

The concert of songs, arias and carols is about one hour in length and will be available online from 4pm Thursday 10th December. (A ticket to access the concert is £5 - then you can watch it as many times as you want between then and the 12th January 2021). Danae has been part of the St Mary's community for a long time, singing in our choir and as a soloist on Sundays and for festivals; and indeed continuing to give us wonderful music for our podcasts during the pandemic. Do have a listen to her concert during the Christmas period – and share it with your friends.

Food Banks

We are glad to support Dad's House Food Bank which has opened at 22 Lillie Road in Fulham. They are open 7 days a week, between 10am and 3pm and anyone is able to access their help without a voucher. This food bank's shelves are empty because of the huge increase in people accessing their help. Please help the most needy in our area by bringing along your donations of food to the church. [Here is a shopping list](#) if you aren't sure what to bring.

Finance and giving

Thank you to all those who have continued to support St Mary's through regular giving and one off donations. Our income suffered during the lockdown with the loss of Sunday collections as well as income from the Hall. We can now receive your offering in church using cash or the contactless devices. We encourage regular members of the congregation to consider giving by bank transfer, whether each week or by standing order? It is easy; we can still benefit from your GiftAid, and it will help us to maintain our ministry in this difficult period. We now accept donations on line, via the website, and the link is [here](#).

PCC of St Mary with St Peter and St Jude

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Blessings,



The Revd Jenny Welsh
Vicar

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