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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 fourth Sunday of Advent. Tier 3 COVID regulations do not affect public worship, so we are pleased to be able to meet in church once again.

The 10.30am Service will NOT be podcast this week. Instead, do join us for our 9 Lessons and Carols podcast, at 7pm on Sunday 20 December. It can be heard [here](#) from Sunday morning, and there will be a link there to the order of service, with words to the choral pieces and congregational carols and prayers. Do join us at 7pm, throw open your windows, and sing with gusto so that your neighbours can hear you. In fact, why not invite them to join in as well!

Zoomed Coffee Hour is cancelled this week, but will return next Sunday, 27 December at 11.30am, so that we may see each other over the Christmas holiday period. The link will be in the mailing next week.

Christmas – Epiphany Services in church and online

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 as PDFs [here in a zip-file](#). They just need to be printed, cut out and glued or taped together. You can also pick up a set from church.

Normally the collection at the Crib Service is for the Charitable Pot. This year, the charities will have suffered because of the pandemic. Please give generously via our [CAF charities page](#), even if you aren't able to make the Crib Service this year.

Topic: Christmas Eve at Home - Crib Service

Time: Dec 24, 2020 04:00 PM London

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88095241408?pwd=TW13T1ZLSWRpTXMzbXIGMW9NZXFCQT09>

Meeting ID: 880 9524 1408

Passcode: 183288

Or join by telephone 0203 481 5237 United Kingdom

Meeting ID: 880 9524 1408

Passcode: 183288

***Christmas Eve**

7pm The First Eucharist of Christmas with music

Christmas Day

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP) no booking needed.

***10.30am** Family Eucharist with music (this service will be podcasted, with carols to sing at home)

***Please note that these services are now fully booked.** There may well be space for 'walk-ins', that is, people who have not booked, but this is not guaranteed. If you have booked but decide you won't be coming to either of the services, do let us know, so that your space may be taken by others. You can do it via [Eventbrite](#) or calling the parish office.

Sunday 27 December Feast of St John the Evangelist

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)

10.30am Holy Eucharist with Music Preacher and president the Reverend Lesley Perry

Sunday 3 January 2021 Feast of the Epiphany

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)

10.30am Holy Eucharist with Procession of the Magi

The Advent Study Group meets for the final time Monday evenings at 7pm via Zoom. We will be using material from a course called Living in Hope from the York Course series.

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.

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

Food Banks Thank you to all those who week by week remember to support the food bank and homeless charities by bringing in donations of food. These have been hugely appreciated by the people who receive them, who would otherwise struggle to put food on their tables. Please continue to help us to help those who in need, living locally.

Dad's House Food Bank is 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.

Glass Door Because of the pandemic, the usual model of church-based shelters is not possible. Instead, for the coldest months of the winter, Glass Door will provide Covid-safe single-occupancy rooms in two hostels in central London. Glass Door staff will be on-site

around the clock in each hostel, meals will be provided and guests will also have access to and increased contact with our caseworkers.

Glass Door also plans to deliver a dinner service in partnership with local churches in four London boroughs: Kensington & Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham, Richmond and Wandsworth.

People in need will be able to access the dinner service, with meals cooked and prepared by volunteers, every evening from early November until early April. Those who use the service also will be able to find food, water and other forms of practical support (such as phones and toiletries). The service also provides an opportunity for people to engage with Glass Door caseworkers who give advice and support to move beyond homelessness.

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
Barclays Account Number: 80692190
Sort code: 20-80-14*

Thank you!

Thank you to our lay staff and volunteers who have been extremely busy during this difficult year. In particular, I want to mention Dave Ireton, Virger, Jane Ellard, Parish Manager, Margarete Geier, Sacristan, and John Ward, Director of Music. They have given their all to keep the church open and beautiful, the office in good order, and to enable us to offer our prayers and praises in worship, not just during the year, but particularly during our preparations for Christmas.

Finally, Philip and I thank you for the many kind greetings for Christmas which we have received. We wish you all a very happy Christmastide, and a blessed and peaceful new year.

Blessings,



**The Revd Jenny Welsh
Vicar**

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