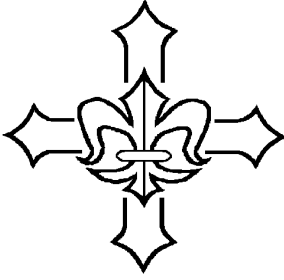


Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Godmanchester

Weekly Newsletter



Sunday 2nd November 2007
Advent Sunday

Holy Communion

President David Busk *Preacher:* Jerry Craddock

Sung Eucharist

President: Jerry Craddock *Preacher:* Jerry Craddock
Deacon David Busk

Readers

Jen Weedon, Nigel Pithey

Readings

Isaiah 2: 1 – 5; Romans 13: 11 – end

Gospel

Matthew 24: 36 – 44

Intercessions

Catheryn Turrell

Hymns

11 (omit vv 5 and 6), 6, 14, 9

Communion

18, 499

Advent Carol Service

Minister: David Busk

Separate order of service

Collect

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Street Prayer Mission: Park Lane, The Avenue, Pavilion Close

Charity of the month: Small donations

Holy Communion. All are welcome at the altar rail. If you are a communicant member of your own Church, you are welcome to receive the Sacrament here. Or if you would like to receive a Blessing, please come forward with a hymn book, kneel at the rail and bow your head.

NOTICES

Advent Carol Service

This evening at 6.30 we will be holding our traditional Advent Carol Service instead of Evensong, and we hope that it will be well supported. To mark this important date in the church's calendar, the choir is inviting all members of the congregation to join them for a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie in the hall after the service.

Bangladesh Cyclone Appeal

As you will know the coastal areas of Bangladesh have recently suffered considerable devastation by a tropical cyclone. The cyclone was one of the worst to hit the region in the last 37 years. Thousands have died, homes and crops have been destroyed and livestock lost. Millions have been affected and need help. To this end, Christian Aid has set up an appeal for help. In order for us to respond we will hold a retiring collection over the next week or so to give those who wish an opportunity to make a donation.'

Roy Norris (431961)

The Reverend Peter Moger

We are delighted to receive the news that the Reverend Peter Moger is one of the five 2008 recipients of the distinguished honorary award of Associate of the Royal School of Church Music (ARSCM) and offer him our warmest congratulations. It will be presented to him in Liverpool Cathedral in May

Sidespersons Rota

The new, January to June 2008, rota will soon be prepared. If any sidespersons have dates they wish me to avoid for them or if they wish their name to be removed from the rota please advise me as soon as possible. Thank you

Peter Hartwell (453336)
peter.hartwell@btinternet.com

Children's Church Christmas Card

Members of Children's Church have again made a large Christmas card, which will be available at the back of church from Advent Sunday. This is for everyone who would like to write a single Christmas greeting to friends at St Mary's, and donate the money they would have spent on individual cards, to charities of their choice.

Victoria Richardson (431430)

Preparing the Christingles

This year, we will be preparing the Christingles at my house, 34 Sweetings Rd, from 10.30am on Saturday 15 December, ready for the service the next day. Please let me know if you would like to come along and help: those who've helped before, and newcomers, are all welcome!

Victoria Richardson (431430)

Choir Members Needed

For as long as most of us can remember, our church has been blessed with a strong and loyal choir who give their services week after week without fail. However, over the years the numbers have inevitably fallen slightly and we are now looking for additional singers to swell our ranks, either as full members or as 'augmenters' who join us for special services or when regular members are away. We would be particularly pleased to welcome some new young people into the choir. I would therefore be very pleased to hear from anyone who is interested in joining us in either capacity.

Ken Diffey (458846)

St Anne's CE Primary School

The closing date for applications for admitting pupils to the Reception Class in September 2008 is Friday 7th December. If you have a child born between 1st September 2003 and 31st August 2004 you

can apply for a place. Anybody can apply, irrespective of where they live, and if there are sufficient vacancies the child will be given a place. The school admits a maximum of 30 pupils. If there are more than 30 applications, detailed criteria for allocation of places are laid down in the school's admission policy. Up to 12 places are allocated on religious grounds.

For the last two years the Reception Class has not been full. If you are interested in applying for a place, or you would like more information, or you would like to visit the school, please contact the school office on (375300). We look forward to hearing from you.

Dai Morgan (417502)

Leprosy Mission – Stamp collection

Please save your stamps, especially commemorative ones and ones from abroad. They can be put in the box at the back of the church or posted through my door (36 Old Court Hall). I will be sending them to the Leprosy Mission in the New Year.

Jean White (454920)

Christmas Cards

The Men's group are willing to deliver our Christmas cards this year but need more help as they are a small group. So please put on your walking shoes and help them out and help us all save on postage. Please talk to Peter Ballantine on 450432 or Peter Dawe on 392188 if you can help.

Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union works during the year to raise funds for our various charities both at home and overseas. This year we have been able to donate £800 to our charities and this is because so many of you have supported our events. So a big 'thank you' to all of you for helping us in this way.

Our next meeting will take place at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Tuesday December 4th. This will be our pre-Christmas meeting and we shall be entertaining members of other branches in the deanery. If you need a lift, please contact Megan Macdiarmid on 437278 or Jean Morgan on 417502.

Youth Group

Youth group meets tonight at Jen and Mike's house (38 London Road, Godmanchester) for a chillout, at the usual time of 6.45pm. We'll also be looking at what the Simpsons have to say about the Bible!

Jen Weedon (391093)

Tea Makers Wanted

The 0s-5s group urgently needs some people who would be willing to make tea and coffee for them once a month. They meet on Thursdays in the Comrades' Club at 10am. The people making tea need to be there for an hour between 10.30 and 11.30. If you feel you can help please contact Jo Jones on 395862.

Coffee Morning

Members of the Flower Guild are holding their annual Christmas coffee morning on Saturday December 8th from 10.30am to 11.30am at the home of Trish Pope 43a West Street. There will be sherry and mince pies, a bring and buy sale and a raffle. Please do come along and bring your friends. Everyone is welcome.

Jean Miller 437488

Newsletter Compiler

Bizz Thackray is the Newsletter compiler for December and January. Contact: bizzthackray@hotmail.com (457722).

DIARY

Sunday 2nd December Advent Sunday

- 08:00 *Holy Communion*
- 09:45 *Sung Eucharist (Children's Church)*
- 18:30 *Advent Carol Service*
- 18:45 *Youth Group*

Monday 3rd December

- 13:30 *Stepping Stones (Baptist Church Centre)*
- 19:30 *Prayers, followed by:*
- 20:00 *Planning for Parish Praise Service (Vicarage)*

Tuesday 4th December

- 11:00 *Holy Communion (The Chestnuts)*
- 14:00 *Mothers' Union Pre-Christmas Meeting (QE School)*
- 19.30 *Men's Social Group Christmas Dinner (9 Porch Close)*

Wednesday 5th December

- 09:15 *Advent Eucharist and Christingle (St Anne's School)*
- 18:00 *Mayor of Godmanchester's Carol Service (School Hill)*

Thursday 6th December

- 10:00 *St Mary's 0-5s (Comrades Club)*
- 09:45 *Holy Communion*

Friday 7th December

- 19:30 *Choir Practice*

Saturday 8th December

- 10:30 *Flower Guild Coffee Morning (43A West St)*

Sunday 9th December Second Sunday of Advent

- 08:00 *Holy Communion*
- 09:45 *Sung Eucharist*
- 11:30 *Grassroots with Baptism*
- 18:30 *Sung Eucharist*
- 18:45 *Youth Group Murder Mystery Christmas Party (Church Hall)*

Coffee is served in the Church Hall after the morning Eucharist. Everyone is welcome

Visit the church website at www.stmarysgodmanchester.org