

Dear all,

Over the past few weeks, in amongst all the usual ministry demands, I have been reflecting and planning the content for this year's Christmas Services. From All Age to Adults, including some School Virtual Christmas Services, there is so much to think about!

Compared to previous years' Christmas programmes, whilst this year's is less busy in terms of the number of services, it certainly makes up for it in rethinking how we adapt them for an online audience. The key thing is ensuring I'm ready in time!

The season of Advent that we're currently in, is all about getting ready, not just for Christmas, but more importantly for Jesus' second return. One day Jesus will return and unlike his first coming that was a very quiet affair and unnoticed by most people (except the Shepherds & Magi), his second coming will be such a contrast where all people will see Jesus coming on clouds with great power and glory (Mark 13:26). No one but God knows when this will happen!

As we all get ready for Christmas this year, may we all make sure that we are also ready to welcome Jesus when he comes again.

Church News:

The Weekly Challenge

Thanks to all who have taken part in the Advent & Christmas Weekly Challenge so far. Do send in your entry for this week. For more details and to see all the challenges coming up, click here.

· Catch up Services

Remember you can catch up on any streamed services on the Church's Website. **Click here** to discover this.

Christmas Doorstep Carolling

This Wednesday 16th December @ 6pm, there is an opportunity to join with people throughout the country carolling from your Doorstep! Visit this <u>website</u> for more information!

Christmas 2020 @ St Mary's

<u>Click here</u> to view both the Christmas Services taken place at St Mary's and some Christmas videos to feed the soul – do enjoy these!

NB: There is a special **Carols & Communion Christmas Service on Wednesday 23rd December at 10am**. This is NOT on the Christmas leaflet, so don't miss this special service.

Family Christmas Videos can be viewed by **clicking here**.

Christmas Lunch

If you are on your own this year and live in St Neots, there is the opportunity for you to receive a cooked Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day, delivered to your doorstep. For more information, please contact Tim.

Christmas Eve Get Together

Grab a Mince Pie and a Drink and join us on Zoom to wish each other Happy Christmas on Christmas Eve. Join us at 11am – wear a Christmas jumper or hat or not...! Sign up for this event by **clicking here.**

Used Stamps

St Mary's World Mission Team collects used stamps to send to the Leprosy Mission a global Christian organisation leading the fight against leprosy. Working across 28 countries through partnering with governments, churches and other organisations to defeat leprosy and transform lives, the money raised from the stamps supports their work.

Please keep all your Christmas cards and Letters stamps. We will let you know about collection arrangements early in the New Year.

Sunday's Service

This Sunday's service includes Holy Communion – if you're joining us online, please do get ready for this. To attend in person, click here to book your ticket.

Wednesday's Service

To book your ticket for the Wednesday 9am service, please click here.

Under Aslan's paw, Tim - Vicar, St Mary's Eaton Socon