

# Life News @ St Mary's

St Mary's Eaton Socon Newsletter - DECEMBER 2022

## Verse for 2022' - Psalm 127 v1

Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain.

Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.

## Christmas at St Mary's, Eaton Socon



- + **Thursday 8th December | Christmas Lunch Event | 12.30pm**  
*(Tickets required – see website for details)*
- + **Sunday 11th December | The Carol Service | 6pm**
- + **Wednesday 14th December | Afternoon Carol Service | 2pm**
- + **Sunday 18th December | Instant Nativity Play Service | 10.30am**
- + **Saturday 24th December | Family Carol Services | 3pm & 5pm**  
*(Christmas Eve)*
- + **Sunday 25th December | Family Service | 10am**  
*(Christmas Day)*
- + **Sunday 1st January | Family Celebration | 10am**  
*(New Year's Day)*

For all enquiries, please contact the Church Office:  
**office@eatonsocon.org | Tel: 01480 352154**  
*(Tues-Thurs 9am-11.30am)*



*Scan this QR Code to support St Mary's Eaton Socon ministry this Christmas time*

## **A Word from the Vicar**

When you hear words like Destruction and Division, what comes to mind? Most likely, they're not positive thoughts! Yet these words are what lie at the heart of the season of Advent. This is because Advent is about looking forward to Jesus's second coming and the day when Jesus will bring all these things to pass.

The good news is that there is hope! This is because for all who love Jesus, this is also a day of Deliverance from the curse of sin and death, when the whole world will see Jesus' Doxa (Greek for Glory!)

For those who choose to reject Jesus however, it will be a day of Destruction.

To prepare ourselves for this day, we need to examine our lives and ask ourselves if we are living the way we would want Jesus to find us. If we are – great! If not, what do we need to change to ensure we are ready to meet our Saviour, Lord, Judge and King?

As we journey through Advent, may we find ourselves in an ever-increasing state of readiness to welcome Jesus.

**With every blessing**  
**Tim**

**THANK YOU** to all those who  
helped in any way with the  
Christmas Fayre.

## **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

We have again put up a board in Church for people to 'post' Christmas cards to the Church family. This should mean sending less cards to other Church members, so reducing (slightly) our demands on the planet and also saving some money.

We suggest that people instead make a donation to charity. There are envelopes on the board labelled for the Tearfund East Africa Hunger Crisis Appeal.

Please use one of these envelopes to put your donation in the offering bowl.

More information at <https://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/east-africa-hunger-crisis-appeal>

Please also remember to sign the Christmas cards for our mission partners.

## **PASTORAL CARE TEAM**

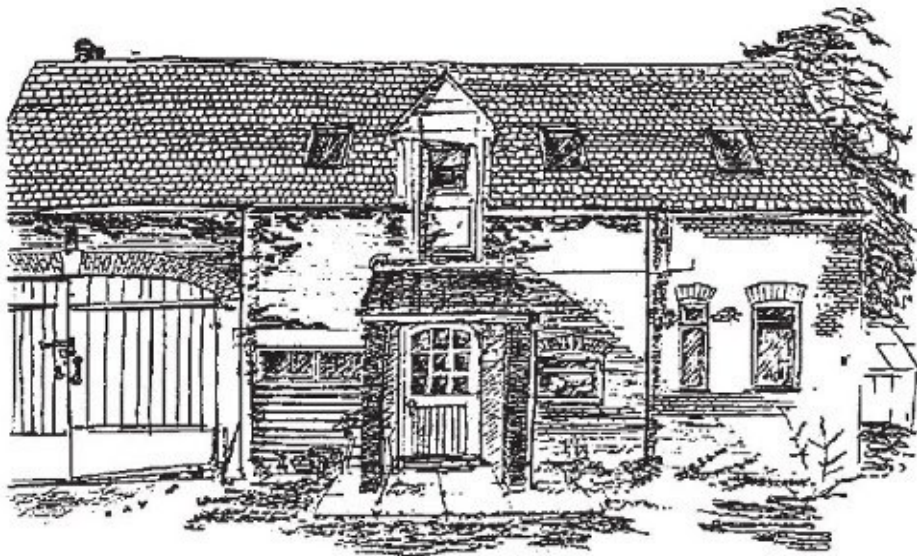
Please contact us  
if you need help:  
07305 210416 (messages  
listened to within 24 hours)  
[pastoralcare@eatonsocon.org](mailto:pastoralcare@eatonsocon.org)

Roger Peppiatt  
(team co-ordinator)

## **VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED!!**

As our Sunday School begins to regrow after Covid we are in desperate need of some more volunteers to join both our teaching team and support team one Sunday a month. No experience necessary, just an enthusiasm to encourage and develop the faith of our youngest church members. DBS and reference check required (completed via our safeguarding officer).

**Speak to Liz Faulkner for more details.**



### **Stables Christian Centre, Bolnhurst**

Christmas Sale – Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 10am-2pm  
Homemade Preserves, Crafts and Gifts

### **From the Mission Team**

Well, here we are starting the season of Advent! A time to reflect on receiving the greatest gift of all...Jesus. Not only to reflect but to praise, worship, adore and thank God for his love and grace to us.

There are multitudes of ways we can do this. One of these is through St Mary's support of our Mission Partners. We do this by physical means (financial) and spiritual means (prayer).

We, the Mission Team, know how much the support you give to our Mission Partners all year round is appreciated. So from the Mission Team and our Mission Partners a huge thank you!

Please don't forget to keep up to date by looking at the Mission Board for updates and Newsletters from our Mission Partners.

Thank you also for the support you have given to the Shoebox Appeal. These boxes bring a touch of love into what can be desperate situations. A touch of love from a stranger can be the greatest gift ever! After all we were all strangers before discovering the gift of God...Jesus.

God bless from the whole mission team.

## CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2022



### MONDAY

Café on the Green - 10am (Not 26th)

### TUESDAY

Morning Prayer - 9am

Craft Group - 10am



### WEDNESDAY

Holy Communion - 9am (Not 21/28th)

Little Stars - 10am (Not 21/28th)

Afternoon Carol Service - 2pm (14th)

Wednesday Welcome - 3pm (Not 21/28th)

Bell Ringing practice - 7.30pm

### THURSDAY

Prayer Meeting - 9am

Christmas Lunch - 12.30pm (8th)



### FRIDAY

Food bank 10am - 12noon

Decorate the church for Christmas - 7.30pm (2nd)

Fusion 7.30pm



### SATURDAY

Stables Christmas Sale - 10am (3rd)

Christmas Eve Family Carol Services - 3pm and 5pm (24th)

## SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER

4th - 6pm - Evening praise and Worship

11th - 6pm - Christmas Carol Service

18th - 10.30am - Instant Nativity Service

25th - 10am - Christmas Day Celebration

