

The Parish Church of  
St Mary the Virgin, Great Shelford



Charity No: 245456

**Sunday 23rd December 2018 – The Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**10:00 Parish Communion**

**Hymns:**

<b>Opening: 19</b> (omit *vv)	<b>Gradual: 41</b>
<b>Offertory: 21</b>	<b>Communion: 275</b>
<b>Final: 186</b>	

**Kyrie eleison**

**Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, eleison.**  
**Christe eleison, Christe eleison, Christe eleison, eleison.**  
**Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, eleison.**

**Collect:**

**God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen**

**Sanctus/Benedictus:**

**Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth,**  
**Pleni sunt caeli et terra, gloria, gloria tua,**  
**Hosanna in excelsis, Hosanna in excelsis,**  
**Benedictus, benedictus qui venit in nomine,**  
**In nomine Domini.**  
**Hosanna in excelsis, hosanna in excelsis,**  
**Hosanna in excelsis, in excelsis.**

**Agnus Dei:**

**Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,**  
**Miserere, miserere, miserere nobis.**  
**Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,**  
**Miserere, miserere, miserere nobis.**  
**Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi**  
**Dona nobis pacem,**  
**Pacem.**

*Settings by Richard Terry Short Mass in C*

**8:00 Holy Communion      10:00 Parish Communion**

**First Reading: Micah 5. 2 - 5a**

The Lord says to his people: But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

**Second Reading: Hebrews 10. 5 - 10**

When Christ came into the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, "See, God, I

have come to do your will, O God" (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).' When Christ said 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law), then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

### **Gospel: Luke 1. 39 - 55**

Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.' And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

### **Post Communion Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



**Sunday Club:** Where is Mary Mouse hiding today?

Sunday Club meets on the first Sunday of each month. For details contact Gillian, [gillian.pett29@gmail.com](mailto:gillian.pett29@gmail.com)

We are looking for helpers on an occasional or regular basis.

**Toddler group:** for babies and toddlers with their parent(s) or carer, meets on Thursdays from 9.30 to 11.00 during term time, in the Community Room

### **INTERCESSIONS:**

Please refer any pastoral concerns for members of the congregation or members of the local community to any member of the Ministry team including our Co-ordinator for Pastoral Services, Mrs Frances Simms. Please pray for the sick, frail, housebound and those in care. Please let the priest in charge know about all cases of sickness and others for whom we should pray. Intentions left in the loose leaf book at the back of the North Aisle will be offered each week at the Parish Communion. If you prefer, you can write your prayer intention on one of the tags provided and hang it on the prayer tree at the back of church, or light a votive candle.

**Cloakroom facilities** are available in the Community Room during church services.

**Gift Aid Donations** We welcome all donations from visitors and there are Gift Aid envelopes at the back of church. If you pay tax we can reclaim 25p for every pound you donate to the Church at no cost to yourself, if you have completed the declaration on the envelope. For further information, or to join the planned giving scheme, please contact Mrs. Ann Seaman mobile no. 07710 452647; email [juliet.a.seaman@outlook.com](mailto:juliet.a.seaman@outlook.com)

## **ST. MARY'S GREAT SHELFORD – WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

**The Greatest Journey Nativity - today at 4pm:** A special service for families and children. No Christingle service this year, but a Pop-Up Nativity, **The Greatest Journey Nativity**, for all ages, but especially children.

No rehearsals needed but everyone is welcome, dressed up or not, as a Nativity character, e.g. shepherd, donkey, sheep, Mary etc. We will be telling the story of the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem and the birth of Jesus with carols, pictures and your participation. Collection in aid of The Children's Society.

**POSADA** – making room for Jesus this Christmas. Don't forget to sign up on the journey rota (on the table at the back of the church) to be hosts for Mary, Joseph and the donkey on their way to Bethlehem. Information sheets are available at the back of the church with a collection box for homeless charities. Information is also available on the church website, following the 'services and events' link, or from Gillian, [gillian.pett29@gmail.com](mailto:gillian.pett29@gmail.com), or Maureen, 01223 840076

### **Salve et vale!**

I am aware that some of you will be going away over the holiday break. Please give our good wishes to any church community that you may visit. We shall be welcoming several visitors to St Mary's during the holiday – I do hope that all will feel at home and warmly welcomed here.

**Christmas Services:** All the information relating to services over the Christmas period can be found on our website -

<http://www.stmarysgreatshelford.org/>

Details are also available in the Dec. edition of Village News, on posters around the community and on cards available at the back of church.

**Travelling?:-** There is a national website for locating church services over the Christmas period - 'A Church Near You':-

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/>

Handy if you are travelling to visit family or friends!

**Wednesday Holy Communion:** The celebration of Holy Communion on Wed. 26<sup>th</sup> Dec. is regrettably cancelled. This is due to a lack of celebrants.

' **Follow the Star** ': The Church of England is offering special resources for prayer and reflection over the Christmas period. Visit the website:-

<https://www.churchofengland.org/followthestar>

We also have some '**Follow the Star**' small booklets available at the back of church that offer a reflection and a short prayer and reading for each of the 'Twelve Days ' of the Christmas season. Please take one home with you - they are free!

**Christmas Holy Communion:** If you are aware of anyone who is sick or housebound and would appreciate receiving Holy Communion in the pre-Christmas period, please let us know.

**The Pilgrim House group** met for its last meeting of 2018 on Tuesday 4 December with a lively discussion on Forgiveness. We considered it from four points of view

- Forgiving others
- Being forgiven
- Asking for forgiveness
- Asking God to 'Forgive us our trespasses'

We had plenty of examples where forgiveness could be very beneficial and we talked about feeling brave enough to confront a situation and perhaps other times where it might be prudent not to interfere.

We restart on Tuesday 8 January at 68 High Street at 7.30pm.

All welcome. Anne Roberts 07745 562702.

**Joy Amis** - sends her good wishes for a Happy Christmas and asks to be remembered to those who know her.

**Alms Giving 2018:** The alms on the first Sunday of each month are donated to Shelford School. The alms for the remaining Sundays in December will be going to Mission to Seafarers. Alms can be gift aided provided your giving is in an envelope marked 'Alms' and with your PIN. Alms not in envelopes should be placed in the alms bowl as you come into church. This stands on the offertory box at the back of church, near the back pew.

**Today**

**16:00 The Greatest Journey  
Nativity  
Evensong is cancelled**

