

**St Mary's Church & Vicarage, Church St, Buckden, PE19 5TL**  
Rev Jes Salt 01480 819377 [priestincharge@stmarysbuckden.org.uk](mailto:priestincharge@stmarysbuckden.org.uk)  
Anne Carter 07779651974 [anne.carter@stmarysbuckden.org.uk](mailto:anne.carter@stmarysbuckden.org.uk)  
David Riley 07774154438 [david.riley@stmarysbuckden.org.uk](mailto:david.riley@stmarysbuckden.org.uk)  
[www.stmarysbuckden.org.uk](http://www.stmarysbuckden.org.uk)

**PCC & Ministry News:** The PCC last met on 15th November 2017.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR & THANK YOU -**

A year ago we reached out to the whole community to help with fund-raising for essential work on the church building. We had a great response from the village but we could not have done it without the hard work of the whole congregation. Here's what we have achieved with your help during the year.

- Repairs to the chancel roof & organ chamber roof completed
- Repointing and repairs to the stonework including that high on the tower (due to finish by Christmas)
- Renovation of the clock on the tower
- 800 & counting challenge - £800 grew to £10,000 (for the clock)
- Grant of £40,000 from the Amey Community fund (for the stonework)

There is still work to do on the building - the exterior wall and roof of the vestry – and the organ is in need of renovation. So, the fund-raising will continue but for now we give thanks for the amazing achievements of 2017.

**Our chosen Charity for November-December is DEC East Africa Crisis Appeal**

[www.dec.org.uk/appeal/east-africa-crisis-appeal](http://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/east-africa-crisis-appeal)

Hunger on a massive scale is looming across East Africa. Drought and conflict have left 19 million people in urgent need of food, water and medical treatment. Women, children and older people are suffering the most; half a million children under five are at risk of dying from severe acute malnutrition and require immediate lifesaving treatment.

**Our chosen Charity for January-February is Cornerstone Pregnancy Advice Centre** [www.pregnancyadvice.org.uk](http://www.pregnancyadvice.org.uk)

A local Huntingdon charity giving help and support to women with unplanned pregnancies.

**Foodbank at Christmas:** As the Christmas season approaches, our gifts of food are so important. We deliver to Godmanchester Food Bank every week from the food collection box at the back of church.

**News of Joseph Wandera:** you may remember that some years ago St Mary's provided financial support to Joseph during his ordination training. We have heard that he is now the new Bishop of the Mumias in the diocese of Kenya. He sends his grateful thanks to St Mary's Buckden and comments how important the church was in supporting his training for ordination.

## St Mary's, The Parish Church of Buckden Newsletter : December 2017 – January 2018

Dear Friends,

As I write this, we are gearing up to the Buckden Christmas lights switch on. Then to Christmas itself and then to 2018. Where has this year gone?

It has been a traumatic year. Terrorist atrocities, the uncertainties in our political life and associated with Brexit being just some of the challenging and difficult events this year. Although the just announced engagement of Prince Harry seems to have lightened the mood at least temporarily.

In our church it has been an exceptionally busy year, with many significant events including – Open Gardens, the Holiday Clubs, the '800 project', 6 friends being confirmed, the repairs to the church and sadly saying goodbye to some good friends. I would like to say thanks to all who have worked so hard and provided such faithful and enthusiastic support. Through the busyness, the highs and lows, we have seen God at work enabling and growing us as a church community.

Christmas is a manically busy time of year for many of us. But primarily it is when we celebrate 'a Saviour who is born to us, Christ the Lord'.

Have a blessed Christmas and New Year.

*Jes*



### PLEASE PRAY

Please give thanks for the ways God has blessed us this year and pray for clients of Foodbank and others in need this Christmas.

For the services throughout the village that many people will come to hear the Christmas message

For our world. May 2018 bring a greater desire for peace.

**December 3<sup>rd</sup> – Advent Sunday 2-5pm**  
**Buckden Christmas Market & Lights**  
**St Mary's will be open & lots going on:-**  
Christmas Wreaths on display  
Christmas Tree with personalised baubles  
Children's Craft Workshop  
Craft & card stall and refreshments  
Buckden School singing at 2.45pm  
Come and light a candle for someone  
BDCT Why Christmas? stall on the High St

**St Mary's Christmas**  
**Coffee Morning**  
**Weds 6th Dec. 10 –**  
**11.30am**  
**at Buckden Village Hall.**  
Raffle-stalls-Gifts  
£3 entry includes coffee & mince pies

## DIARY Services and events in December 2017

*all events & services take place in St Mary's unless otherwise indicated.*

Sun 3	11:00am	Family Communion <b>Advent Sunday</b> – the travelling cribs set off
	2.00pm	<b>Village Christmas Market &amp; Lights.</b> <b>St Mary's Wreath Festival</b>
	6.00pm	Holy Communion
Wed 6	9.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	<b>Christmas Coffee Morning</b> (Buckden village hall)
Sat 9	3.30pm	<b>CHRISTINGLE</b> collection to The Children's Society
Sun 10	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	Morning service
Wed 13	9.30am	Holy Communion
	2.30pm	Living Stones Café refreshments served til 4pm
	7.30pm	M&Ms Christmas meal (Buckden Towers)
Fri 15	6.45pm	Angel Voices (LSR)
Sun 17	11:00am	Family Communion
	6.00pm	Evensong
Tues 19	7.30pm	<b>VILLAGE CAROL SERVICE</b>
Wed 20	9.30am	Holy Communion
Fri 22	6.45pm	Angel Voices (LSR)
Sun 24	11:00am	All-age Communion
	2.30pm	<b>CRIB SERVICE</b>
	5.30pm	<b>QUIET CHRISTMAS</b>
	11.30pm	<b>MIDNIGHT COMMUNION</b>
Mon 25	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.15am	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> Family Communion
Weds 27	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 31	8.00am	Holy Communion
	11:00am	Family Communion

### The Daily Office (daily prayers) is said in St Mary's on

Monday 2.15pm                      Tuesday 1.30pm  
Thursday 1.00pm                      Friday 9.15am

All are welcome. Prayer requests may be left in church.

There is also a 9.30am Sunday service each week (9am on Christmas Day) at our sister church, All Saints' Offord Cluny.

**The Closing Date for February's Newsletter is Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January**  
**Items by hand to Phil Mowat or to [secretary@stmarysbuckden.org.uk](mailto:secretary@stmarysbuckden.org.uk).**

## DIARY Services and events in January 2018

*all events & services take place in St Mary's unless otherwise indicated.*

Sun 7	11:00am	Family Communion - <b>Epiphany Sunday</b> – the travelling cribs return
	6.00pm	BCP Holy Communion
Wed 10	9.30am	Holy Communion
	2.30pm	Living Stones Café refreshments served til 4pm
	7.30pm	M&Ms group – local history at the vicarage
Sun 14	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	Morning service
Wed 17	9.30am	Holy Communion
Fri 19	6.45pm	Angel Voices (LSR)
Sun 21	11:00am	Family Communion
	6.00pm	BDCT Unity Supper at Buckden Towers
Wed 24	9.30am	Holy Communion
Fri 26	6.45pm	Angel Voices (LSR)
Sun 28	8.00am	Holy Communion
	11.00am	All-age Communion
	6.00pm	Open ministry meeting – all welcome
Weds 31	9.30am	Holy Communion

### Every Week

Mondays	2.15pm	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
	8.00pm	Going Deeper - a look at Sunday's readings (meet at the Vicarage)
	8.15pm	Bell-ringing practice – newcomers welcome
Tuesdays	1.30pm	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
Wednesdays	9.30am	Holy Communion then tea & chat
	10.45am	Growing as a Disciple Course (LSR)
Thursdays	1.00pm	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
	3.15pm	JAMworkx at Buckden School
Fridays	9.15am	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
Saturdays	10.30am	Coffee & Cakes til noon

Sunday services                      SEE LIST OF SERVICES & SPECIAL EVENTS

### UNITY SUPPER - Buckden & District Churches Together

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2018 6pm** at Buckden Towers. A bring and share meal with reflection & prayer. All welcome