

PCC & Ministry News: PCC last met on 21st November 2018

Works in progress:

Estimates for scaffolding and weatherproof covering for the rear of the vestry.
The Parish Council are working on repairs to the east path.
Porch lighting – Form 4A is on display in church as part of the faculty application.
Wifi connection being progressed with a view to increasing the usefulness of the LSR.
Back of church - different styles of moveable seating are being trialled; carpet estimates to be compared.
An AED (defibrillator) is to be purchased as a donation from one of the congregation.

Finance: current balance ~£92k with 70% within restoration. Banking under discussion due to new charges from Barclays. A new 4-year utilities contract has been agreed

Admin: GDPR procedure has been finalized and issued.

Mission: Starting a discussion to understand why more people do not come to church

Charities:

BLOODWISE : Bernard and I would like to thank the PCC for including our charity in the 2018 programme. Your support was marvellous, as we were able to send a donation in excess of £800, with some items still to come in. We thank you all very sincerely for helping us to remember the support we received, when dealing with the blood condition experienced by Patti and Diane. John W

Our chosen charity for November-December is Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)

www.maf-uk.org For 70 years, MAF has been flying for life.

In today's 'connected world', the irony is that never have so many people been so isolated. Flying onto desert and jungle airstrips, lakes and rivers, tracks and roads, MAF's light aircraft and their mission pilots go the extra miles to provide a lifeline. They fly medical, relief and life-transforming help to vulnerable people in hard-to-reach places. They need our prayers and financial support".

Our chosen charity for January-February is MAGPAS www.magpas.org.uk

Magpas Air Ambulance brings crucial lifesaving care by land and air to patients in life-threatening emergencies. Based in Cambridgeshire, our enhanced medical team receives advanced training which allows them to offer procedures and treatments at the scene. They support the ambulance service and give advanced medical care when time is of the essence. This means that the frontline care the team delivers doesn't just save lives, it helps seriously ill and injured people to return to a good quality of life. Magpas Air Ambulance is not a state-funded service and relies on generous public donations to continue saving lives. Thank you in advance for your generosity

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.

St Mary's, The Parish Church of Buckden Newsletter : December 2018 – January 2019

Dear Friends,

The Christmas rush is now upon us. The frenetic rushing around, the to-do lists, the glitz & the glitter. And then we will be in 2019!

WWJD. What Would Jesus Do? We know what Jesus did. He 'went off to a solitary place where he prayed' (Mark 2.35). Can we find some time and space this Christmas to thank God for the wonderful gift of his Son Jesus, the reason for the season, who loves the world so much ... (John 3.16).

And let's remember – in prayer and action, those for whom Christmas and New Year this year will be difficult; for our friends who will be without loved ones and for the many folk in our community in need. Thank you for your continued support of the Foodbank.

The overriding message of Christmas is hope. That, through Jesus, we see that God cares for his world, and for each individual – including us and our friends and wants us to enjoy life in all its fulness. So let's invite our friends to hear this message of hope this Christmas.

Yours in Christ, *Jes*



PRAYER CORNER

Please pray:-

For our Christmas services, that many will come and recognise the true message of Christmas.

For those unwell or grieving for whom Christmas this year will be difficult.

For our national and local leaders that, moving into 2019, they may govern wisely and in the interests of all.

Advent Sunday December 2nd 2-5pm
Buckden Christmas Market & Lights
St Mary's will be open & lots going on:-
Wreath Festival; Christmas Tree; children's craft workshop; stall and refreshments;
Buckden School singers

Christmas Coffee Morning
Weds 5th December 10 – 11.30am
at Buckden Village Hall
Raffle-stalls-Gifts £4 entry includes coffee & mince pies

The Closing Date for the February Newsletter is Sunday 20th January
Items by hand to Phil Mowat or to secretary@stmarysbuckden.org.uk .

DIARY Services and events in December 2018

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

Sat 1	10:00am	Cleaning Crew / Christmas Tree / Start of Wreath Festival
Sun 2		Advent Sunday
	11:00am	Family Communion– the travelling cribs set off
	2:00pm	Village Christmas Market & Lights. St Mary's Wreath Event
Weds 5	10:00am	Christmas Coffee Morning (Buckden village hall)
Sun 9	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	Morning Service
	3:00pm	CHRISTINGLE collection to The Children's Society
Weds 12	2:30pm	Community Café (LSR)
	7:30pm	M&Ms Christmas meal (Buckden Towers)
Fri 14	6:45pm	Angel Voices rehearsal (LSR)
Sun 16	11:00am	Family Communion
	6:00pm	Evensong
Tues 18	7:30pm	VILLAGE CAROL SERVICE
Weds 19	6:00pm	SCHOOL CAROL CONCERT
Fri 21	6:45pm	Angel Voices rehearsal (LSR)
Sun 23	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	All-age Communion
Mon 24	2:30pm	CRIB SERVICE
	11:30pm	MIDNIGHT COMMUNION
Tues 25	8:00am	Holy communion
	10.15am	CHRISTMAS COMMUNION
Sun 30	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	Family Communion

Every Week - all are welcome to join us for any of these activities, just come along

Monday	2.15pm	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
	8.15pm	Bell-ringing practice
Tuesday	1.30pm	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Cup of tea & chat
	10.30am	Going Deeper - a look at Sunday's readings
Thursday	11.15am	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
	3.15pm	Jamworkx After-School Club (Buckden School)
	7.00pm	youth@thetowers Youth Club at Buckden Towers
Friday	9.15am	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
Saturday	10.30am	Coffee & Cakes til noon

There is a 9.30am Sunday service at our sister church All Saints Offord Cluny

DIARY Services and events in January 2019

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

Sat 5	10:00am	Cleaning Crew
Sun 6		Epiphany Sunday
	11:00am	Family Communion– the travelling cribs return to St Mary's
	6:00pm	Holy Communion
Weds 9	2:30pm	Community Café (LSR)
	7:30pm	M&Ms Local History Talk (Vicarage)
Sun 13	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	Morning Service
Fri 18	6.45pm	Angel Voices rehearsal (LSR)
Sun 20	11:00am	Family Communion
	6:00pm	Evensong
Fri 25	6.45pm	Angel Voices rehearsal (LSR)
Sun 27	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	All-age Communion
	6:00pm	Open Meeting
	7:00pm	Night Prayer
Mon 28	1:30pm	Bible Study (LSR)

St Mary's Church Buckden: contact information The Vicarage, Church St, Buckden, St Neots, PE19 5TL

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Pastoral Care:	Marilyn Rolin 07719 087215	pastoralcare@stmarysbuckden.org.uk
Safeguarding:	Sammy Riley 07720 244255	safeguarding@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

COMING UP IN 2019

Buckden & District Churches Together UNITY SUPPER- Sunday 20th January 2019 6pm at Buckden Towers. A bring and share meal with reflection & prayer. All welcome

Holidays at Home : **NOTE NEW DATE Monday February 25th at 12.30pm** in the Methodist Hall

Open Gardens Fun Day 2019: For our stalls, we need jars of homemade jam / chutney, plants, unwanted books, toys & games in good condition. If you wish to donate now, please see Jane Salt