

PCC & Ministry News: PCC last met on 4th November 2020. This was the first meeting of the new PCC post-APCM and we welcomed Vas, new to the PCC as churchwarden. PCC officers were appointed / confirmed as follows:-

Treasurer – Peter Mount

Secretary – Ian Carter

Electoral Roll Officer – Ian Carter

Vice-Chair – David Pickavance

Deanery Synod – no nominations at APCM - Ian Carter & David Pickavance will attend meetings voluntarily

Ministry: arrangements for Remembrance and Christmas services were discussed and agreed. See overleaf for Christmas service details. Jes will be leaving in April 2021, plans for the vacancy are in early stages.

Building: The water supply has been reconnected. Wifi installation is being progressing. Work on the vestry should proceed in the spring.

Finance: PM has been appointed as treasurer and will report next month.

Safeguarding: C1 and C2 courses are now available online. VM has started her DBS checking process as a new churchwarden. Volunteer lists are unchanged post-APCM.

Charities:

St Mary's chosen charity for November-December is Brain Tumour Research

<https://www.braintumourresearch.org/>

Brain tumours are indiscriminate; they can affect anyone at any age. What's more, they kill more children and adults under the age of 40 than any other cancer... yet historically just 1% of the national spend on cancer research has been allocated to this devastating disease. Brain Tumour Research is determined to change this. They are the only national charity in the UK that is dedicated to raising funds for continuous and sustainable scientific research into brain tumours and are a leading voice calling for greater support and action for research into what scientists are calling the last battleground against cancer.

St Mary's chosen charity for January-February is Amos Trust www.amostrust.org

Founded over 25 years ago, Amos Trust is a small, creative human rights charity that challenges injustice, builds involvement and creates change. It works with vibrant grassroots partners for justice and hope for the forgotten. Partners are based in Palestine, India, Nicaragua, South Africa, Burundi, Tanzania and beyond. They develop creative and effective local solutions to global issues of injustice in three areas of work: promoting the rights of street children in South Africa, Burundi, India & Tanzania; creating a just peace in Palestine; building sustainable rural communities in Nicaragua and India; always working with local people & organisations. See the display in church in the New Year and the website for more details.

The total raised for **Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust** in September-October was £230 in Ride & Stride sponsorship plus the £300 PCC contribution.

St Mary's The Parish Church of Buckden Newsletter: December 2020 – January 2021

Dear Friends,

It is a happy coincidence that Lockdown 2 is being lifted at the start of Advent, and that public worship services can resume. It is good to think that we will be able to join together to worship each Sunday and Wednesday through Advent as we approach Christmas. I do hope that many will feel able to join us.

There are two things I would ask that we focus on in our prayers and our individual and church ministry as we come to the end of this difficult year.

Firstly, hope in the Christian sense of the expectation of God's blessing. Advent is all about hope as we look forward to celebrating Jesus' birth and also look forward to his eventual return. So, let's spend time being thankful for these certainties on which our faith stands.

Secondly, this year has been extraordinarily difficult and disruptive, and this will continue as we move into 2021. So, let's continue to keep the eyes of our hearts open to those who need our practical help as well as our prayers.

Blessings to all,

Jes



PRAYER CORNER

PLEASE PRAY....

That the various vaccines against Covid19 might soon be freely available for all.

For our government that they might take wise decisions as they seek to support the millions who are adversely affected by economic and other consequences of the pandemic

For Foodbanks and other similar agencies. That they will be adequately resourced to continue to support those who are in need

For our Christmas activities and services. That we may faithfully reflect the joy and significance of Christmas.

Foodbank at Christmas: As the Christmas season approaches, our gifts of food are even more important. We deliver to Godmanchester Food Bank every week; there are collection boxes at the vicarage, in Nisa and in Budgens.

Church Opening arrangements

You are all are very welcome to join us for the services that are running in church during December and January.

Days and times may change, and numbers are limited, so please do check before visiting. Please comply with the safety measures in place and always wear a mask / face-covering in church.

Private Prayer. Monday & Thursday 10am to 4pm.

Wednesday Communion. 9.30am Wednesday.

Sunday Service 11am each Sunday. Please book in advance by email to david.pickavance1@outlook.com or by adding your name to the list on the porch noticeboard.

Virtual worship, prayer and support continues

During the pandemic, we have found many ways that we can be together (virtually) and give support and encouragement to one another. These activities will be continuing for some time, alongside those services that we are able to hold in church.

Phone, message and email your individual friends, neighbours and family members.

Explore our Website www.stmarysbuckden.org.uk

“Like” our Facebook page: St Mary’s Buckden

Follow us on Twitter @A1ChurchBuckden

Subscribe to our YouTube channel: St Mary’s Buckden

Join our email distribution list: If you would like to receive regular emails from us with pewsheets, newsletters, service sheets and sermons, please email your request to consent@stmarysbuckden.org.uk and we will add you to the distribution list.

Sundays – service sheet, sermon and pewsheet are distributed by email; a video of the service is uploaded to Facebook and YouTube each week. Previous sermons are available on the website

Saturdays – join our Virtual Saturday Coffee Session via Zoom at 11am each Saturday. Meeting ID:798-1012-3003 Password: 6WMstJ

If you cannot access any of our online resources, please do let us know.

Closing Date for the February Newsletter is Sunday 24th January.
Items by hand to Phil Mowat or by email to secretary@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

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

Rev Jes Salt 819377 priestincharge@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Churchwardens

David Pickavance 07902 867603 david.pickavance@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Vas Mowat 07535 922829 vas.mowat@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Website www.stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Facebook: **St Mary’s Buckden** Twitter: @A1ChurchBuckden

Bookings enquiries@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Pastoral Care: Marilyn Rolin 07719 087215 pastoralcare@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Safeguarding: Sammy Riley 07720 244255 safeguarding@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Friends in Deed: Angie 07810 006598

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Tuesday 15th December at 8pm Zoom Christmas Carols

Buckden & District Churches Together
Join in & sing from home via Zoom
ID 204 930 2812 / Password 310856

Tuesday 22nd December Online Village Carol Service

Buckden & District Churches Together
“a light shining in the darkness”
Join us from the comfort of your own home via YouTube: St Mary’s Buckden.
Have your mulled wine / hot chocolate & mince pies ready for after the service.

CHRISTMAS EVE

3.30pm Zoom Christingle Service

Buckden & District Churches Together
Join us online and make your own Christingle as part of the service via YouTube: St Mary’s Buckden.

11.30pm Midnight Communion service in St Mary’s

CHRISTMAS DAY

10.15am Christmas Communion service in St Mary’s

Christmas Eve Christingle Service

You’ll need:

- An Orange – the world
- A small candle – light of the world
- Red ribbon – Jesus’ death
- 4 Cocktail sticks – corners of world
- Dried fruit / Sweets – God’s gifts
- A piece of foil 4cmx4cm



1. Carefully push a pencil into the top of the orange to make a small hole.
2. Put about 3 sweets or dried fruit onto each of the cocktail sticks.
3. Push the cocktail sticks into the orange in four different directions and pointing slightly upwards.
4. Wrap the foil around the base of candle and firmly wedge it into the hole in the orange. The foil is there to catch any drips of candle wax.
5. Tie the ribbon round the orange