



THE PARISH OF ST MARY & ST PAUL



## THE SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT

### REGULAR SERVICES

St Mary's: Sundays at 8am and 9.30am, Wednesdays at 10.30am  
St Paul's: Sundays at 11.15am, Thursdays at 9.30am

### NOTICES

**Thanks to Revd Matt** for covering the 8am service today at St Mary's.

**Thanks to those** who supported the Churches Together Pray Hemel event & Penny's crafting morning for Cancer Research, yesterday!

**Community Fridge** - Christmas Support Initiative. See the insert from previous notices, view our website or speak to a Churchwarden for more details of how you can help with this important appeal.

**Christmas Services** Flyer is now out, please take some to give away.

**Secret Supper Club**, St Mary's, Friday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec. Book tickets via [hotsecretssupperclub@gmail.com](mailto:hotsecretssupperclub@gmail.com)

**Save the date!** St Paul's Patronal Festival is on January 25<sup>th</sup> when, as well as celebrating St Paul and St Paul's church, we will say 'farewell and thank you' to Norma Howie and Sheila Neep.

The Churchwardens are organizing a suitable presentation which you can support via an envelope or bank transfer marked '*office farewell*'.

**Two festive drop-ins** at the Rectory for you to choose from: 16<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2-4pm Festive Tea & Cake, **or** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec, 6-8pm, Festive Gin Night, more details to follow.

**Thanks** to Jeff for producing the Bulletin for many years and sorry about this temporary replacement!

**To receive faster church news updates, sign up with us for our WhatsApp group.**

### DIARY

*Today* in the Old Town: Market from 11-3.

*Monday*: 1.30pm-2.30pm Yew Tree School at St Mary's

*Wednesday*: 5.30-6.30pm 1<sup>st</sup> Hemel Beavers Group in St Mary's

*Thursday*: 10am and 1pm Jupiter Primary School at St Paul's, 1.30-3pm George St Carol rehearsal at St Mary's, 7.30pm: Bell Ringing practice, St Mary's

*Friday*: St Mary's closed to public all day for Supper Club set-up and Smart Meter Installation.

*Saturday morning*: Supper Club clear-up, St Mary's. Mayor's Charity Event – **cancelled!**

*Next Sunday* in St Mary's: Christmas Market 11-3, 4.30pm Christingle Service, 6.30pm Carol Service

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**Team Clergy:**

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**Team Office:**

Norma Howie Tel: 07901 359117 [admin@stmaryandstpaulhemel.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmaryandstpaulhemel.org.uk)

**Newsletter:** material to the Team Rector by close of play on Wednesday.

**Payments:** Cheques should be made payable to "St Mary and St Paul PCC".

# READINGS -ADVENT SUNDAY

## COLLECT

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen**

## FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

(11: 1-10)

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him; the spirit of wisdom and understanding; the spirit of counsel and might; the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Prepare the way of the Lord make his paths straight and all flesh shall see the salvation of God **Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

(3:1-12)

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."'

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. The people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.'

Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ**

## POST COMMUNION

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us remaining in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**