




# St Mary Magdalene's Monthly Update

## December 2018

Day and Date	Time / Event	Theme / Readings	Prayers are asked for...
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December <b>Advent Sunday</b>	11.00am Festival Family Service ----- 4pm <b>Advent Carol Service (Newnham)</b>	Luke 21:25-36 ----- tbc	The Free Church, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell; residents of Howbery Farm, Jethro Tull Gardens; for all those who are involved with the editing, printing & delivery of the Crowmarsh News; for our Maintenance Team
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	10am – Noon <b>Community Café (Village Hall)</b>		Our village and community as we come together and build relationships
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 2	11.00am Parish Communion	Malachi 3:1-4 Philippians 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6	St Agatha's & St James', Brightwell-cum-Sotwell; residents of Lane End Meadow Lane; Staff and Patients in Hospitals, all Carers; our Events Team
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 3	11.00am Parish Communion ----- 6pm <b>Christmas Carol Service</b>	Zephaniah 3:14-20 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18 ----- Various	The Free Church, Cholsey; residents of Murren Croft, Newnham Green; People who live alone and all who are lonely; our Organists
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	12.30pm <b>Lunchtime Carols</b>	Luke 1:26-33 & 2:1-14; Matthew 2:1-11; John 1:1-14	All who work in our village and for the larger employers: HR Wallingford, CEH, CABI and all on Howbery Park.
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December Advent 4	11.00am Family Communion	Micah 5:2-5a Luke 1:39-45	St Mary's Church, Cholsey; residents of Old Reading Road, Park View; for all Church Leaders of whatever denomination; the British Red Cross; our Sacristan, Verger and Servers
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Christmas Eve</b>	3.00pm <b>Crib Service</b> ----- 11.30pm <b>Midnight Communion</b>	Isaiah 9:2,6-7; Luke 2:1-6 & 2:7-16; John 1:1-14 ----- Isaiah 9:2-7 Luke 2:1-20	Our own church of St Mary Magdalene gathered here in Crowmarsh; residents of Portway, Retreat Gardens; the Air Ambulance Service, C.A.B.I.; our Chalice Bearers
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Christmas Day</b>	11.00am <b>Festival Communion</b>	Hebrews 1:1-4 John 1:1-14	Peace on Earth Goodwill to all humanity
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Christmas 1</b>	11.00am Parish Communion	1 Samuel 2:8-20,26 Luke 2:41-52	St John's R.C. Church, Wallingford; residents of Robert Sparrow Gardens, Stephens Field; Local Police services, all Families; our Flower Arrangers

Other services: Morning Prayer Fridays 9am / Evening Prayer Sundays 4pm

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 Wallingford CofE Team

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## Church News:



We welcome everyone who visits our church this month, especially those who join us to celebrate Christmas, whether together in worship at one of our services listed overleaf, or for quiet and peace where you can share your own thoughts and prayers with God.

We are part of the Church of England's "Follow the Star" Christmas campaign, and wherever you find yourself in the country over the festive period, you can find worship using the website "**A Church Near You**", including all our services and events throughout the year.

**Personal News: Pat Rockell** Advent Sunday will be the Pat's last service with us before she moves to Tisbury, Wiltshire to be closer to her daughter. We will all miss Pat, her presence in our congregation and her contribution to the PCC and Team Council over many years. We wish her well for the move and much happiness in her new home.

**Vacancy: PCC Secretary** Pat's departure means that we are urgently seeking a new Secretary for our Parish Church Council. This is not an onerous job - we have 5 PCC meetings each year, including the Annual Parish Church Meeting and taking minutes is the main responsibility. The Wallingford Team Council also needs a new minutes secretary. Please speak to Kevin or Margaret to find out more.

### **Our Finances and Giving**

The vast majority of our income comes through our church members giving through the Parish Giving Scheme. This is the most efficient way as it puts the Gift Aid element into our bank account in the same month as the direct debit is taken. Those using this scheme are encouraged to place a "PGS token" in the offertory to represent their giving.

As well as the cost of maintaining our Grade I listed building, our largest outgoing for 2019 will be the Parish Share, set at £25,000. Such an amount can only be raised through the sacrificial giving of our church members and parishioners. The national average giving is £500 per person per year – roughly **£10 per week** - with each contributing in proportion to their means.

If you have not yet signed the simple form to pledge regular giving through the Parish Giving Scheme but would like to sustain the work and ministry of this church, even with a small amount, then please speak to the Team Vicar or Barry Ford, our Stewardship Co-ordinator. If you are unable to make a regular commitment for any reason, but pay tax, then please use one of the yellow Gift Aid envelopes, completed with your details. Whichever way you give, **THANK YOU!**

### Key Contacts:

<b>Team Vicar:</b>	Revd Kevin Beer	Tel 599873
	The Vicarage, 34 Thamesmead, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8EY	
	<a href="mailto:teamvicar@wallingfordcofe.org.uk">teamvicar@wallingfordcofe.org.uk</a>	(day off Monday)
<b>Team Rector:</b>	Revd David Rice	Tel 202188
	<a href="mailto:david.rice5@ntlworld.com">david.rice5@ntlworld.com</a>	(day off Saturday)
<b>Associate Priest:</b>	Revd Janice Chilton	Tel 836661
<b>Churchwardens:</b>		
	Mrs Margaret Foster Tel 836076 & Mrs Eva Thompson Tel 201675	
<b>Safeguarding Officer:</b>		
	Mrs Felicity Hermsen <a href="mailto:flickhermsen@hotmail.com">flickhermsen@hotmail.com</a>	Tel: 07765 007972
<b>Organist:</b>	Mr Derek Nightingale <a href="mailto:d_nightingale@talktalk.net">d_nightingale@talktalk.net</a>	Tel 835712

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