KING CHARLES THE MARTYR CHURCH
Know Christ More • Make Christ Known

Church of King Charles the Martyr
NOTICES
Sunday 29 November
Advent 1

NOTE: All services are broadcast live on Facebook*

*Please see a Welcomer or Church Warden for advice on where to sit to avoid the camera

0930 Sung Eucharist

Officiant:	Revd Emma
Churchwarden:	Mavis S
Musicians:	Simon and Choir
Readers:	Helen S
Intercessor:	Revd Emma
Chalice:	John S
Welcomers:	Jean B



Music: 366 God of mercy, God of grace, 14 The advent of our God, 16 Wake, O wake! With tidings thrilling, 15 The Lord will come and not be slow
Anthem: Advent Prose

1100 Café Church

Leader:	David T
Churchwarden:	Phil T
Readers:	Peter S
Intercessor:	Gary D
Welcomers:	Ann D

Two more challenging questions that you have asked which David and Emma will attempt to answer. Do come and join us and invite your friends as well.



Revd Emma and David Thomson

1700 Advent Procession at St Mary's Church

We are all invited to join in the Advent Procession at St Mary's Church. This is an atmospheric service of seasonal hymns, readings and music – from darkness to light. A great way to start Advent worshiping with members of other churches in our town.

Readings for Sunday 29 November

Collect
Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Isaiah 64.1-9 – *page 750*
Psalm 80.1-8, 18-20 [or 80.1-8]
1 Corinthians 1.3-9 – *page 1144*
Mark 13.24-end – *page 1019*

Post Communion
Almighty God,
who on the day of Pentecost
sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles
with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame,
filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel:
by the power of the same Spirit
strengthen us to witness to your truth
and to draw everyone to the fire of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Musings from the Vicarage



What fun I had last weekend making Christmas cakes and Christmas puddings for our Fayre on Saturday, continuing the age-old tradition of making Christmas puddings on Stir-Up Sunday. Did you know that the puddings traditionally had 13 ingredients which were said to represent Jesus and his 12 disciples, and that you are meant to stir them in clockwise direction to represent the Wisemen travelling from the East to the West, and that as each member of the family stirs the pudding, they make a wish or say a prayer. On Sunday, as we stirred the mixture, we prayed that all who eat the puddings would be blessed throughout the coming year!

The reason the last Sunday of the Church year is called Stir-up Sunday is because of the opening words of the collect in the Book of Common Prayer, which we now use as our post-Communion prayer on that Sunday:
Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



For generations, those words have been a reminder that it is time to go home and make the Christmas puddings, but I wonder how often, in the midst of all that stirring, we stop to think about what we are actually asking God to do. It is a particularly appropriate prayer to be praying at the end of the Church's year because sometimes we need God to shake us up a little, to disturb our complacency and to renew our faith as by nature we are creatures of comfort and habit, and that can be as true of our lives of faith as it is of any other aspect of our lives.



But did you notice, we are not asking God to stir up our feelings or our enthusiasm, but rather something much deeper within us – our willingness to respond to him, our desire to follow Christ and to put our faith into action. And the result of that stirring? That we might bring forth the fruit of good works. This was something we thought about on Tuesday morning, both in our Communion service and in the final session of our Bible studies exploring the Five Marks of Mission, as we considered what it means to respond to human need by loving service.

Once again, I found myself returning to the image of the vine and the branches that we explored at our recent parish away morning. The fruit that grows on the branches is only possible because the branches remain connected to the vine. So too, our acts of loving service are the natural fruit of a life rooted in Christ. We don't do good works to earn

God's love, but because, as David reminded us on Sunday morning, we have already received it. And, as our reading on Sunday reminded us, those good works don't have to be great or extraordinary things, just the ordinary acts of love through which we make the extraordinary love of God visible in our world.



On Sunday, we begin a new Church year, with the season of Advent - a time of waiting, watching and preparing our hearts to welcome Christ. There will undoubtedly be plenty to keep us busy over the coming weeks. Our diaries will fill up, our lists of things to do will grow, and our preparations for Christmas will gather pace. But perhaps, amid all those preparations, we might make this familiar collect our daily Advent prayer, asking God to stir us up, to shake us out of our complacency, to renew our faith and to give us a fresh enthusiasm for following Christ. And, above all, let us ask him to stir us up so that we might be ready to welcome Christ.

Perhaps stirring up our Christmas puddings is the easy bit! Happy stirring!

Revd Emma

Potters Bar Food Bank

As Christmas approaches it is important that we keep donations to the foodbank going. They are currently in need of milk, biscuits, tinned fruits and Christmas treats. Please bring your donations and put them in the boxes in the Link Corridor. Access to the foodbank is by referral, please speak to local clergy in confidence

Safeguarding Awareness: This week is Safeguarding Adults' week and one of their key themes for the week is that "Safeguarding starts with listening." What is interesting is that many of the pledges that were made by us as a congregation on Safeguarding Sunday were to listen more. At the bible study on Tuesday, we were discussing listening and one of the attendees challenged us with the question: do we listen to understand or listen to respond?

Eco Tip Advent 1: When you buy Christmas wrapping paper, try to avoid any with glitter, foil or plastic as these can't be recycled. Look for untreated paper without heavy dyes, often labelled 'recyclable'. Use paper or non-plastic tape rather than plastic tape.

Prayer – Week beginning 29 November

We invite you to pray on a Wednesday morning, no matter where you are, for our community, our town and the wellbeing of all.

Please pray for: all who will come through our doors on Saturday that as they come to the Christmas Fayre they will experience a warm welcome and want to come back and find out more about what Christmas is all about.
Those who live in: Laurel Fields, Mimms Hall Road, Mutton Lane
The recently departed: Louise Simmons, Marion Bowden and any others known to us personally.
Anniversary of death: Gladys Munday, Margaret Old, David Simpson, and all those whose anniversary occurs at this time
This week's Embrace the Middle East prayer: Lily has worked in the development sector providing humanitarian aid for many years. She considers her work to be the greatest expression of her Christian faith and though the needs and challenging conditions change, her commitment to helping others impartially and with respect remains steadfast. Identifying the economic and security situations in Syria as the current greatest challenges, Lily told us: "People have been living under such stress and pressures for so long and this affects their wellbeing." This is why the group sessions that Lily and the team provide for local communities are so vital – they offer a safe space for people to share the struggles they are facing, find like-minded people who understand their situation, and implement strategies to move forward knowing they are not alone.

If you or a loved one are not on the prayer list and would like to be added, after getting their permission, please let Revd Emma or the Office know.

Dates for your diary and for prayer

Each week our worship follows this pattern

Monday morning	*0900 Morning Prayer*
Tuesday morning	*1000 Eucharist*
Wednesday morning	*Please take a few minutes to pray for our community*
Thursday morning	*0900 Morning Prayer*

Thursday 26 November	Christmas Fayre hall set up from 2000
Friday 27 November	Christmas Fayre set up 9000 onwards
Saturday 28 November	1100 - 1500 Christmas Fayre
Sunday 29 November	1100 Café Church 1700 Advent Procession at St Mary's
Tuesday 1 December	2015 showing of The Story of Everything
Friday 4 December	Wreath Making – last few places remaining
Saturday 5 December	0830 Breakfast Prayers at United Reformed Church
Sunday 6 December	1700 Christmas Songs of Praise with Festive afternoon tea
Wednesday 9 December	13:30 Cranborne Year 1 Carol service
Thursday 10 December	1830 Uniformed Organisations Christingle
Sunday 13 December	1700 Nine Lessons and Carols followed by mulled wine and mince pies
Tuesday 15 December	1400 Temple Court Christmas Carol Sing-a-long

See our list of Save the Dates for other upcoming events and services



Christmas Leaflet Drop. Thank you to everyone who has already delivered our leaflets, giving details of all our Christmas services. There are still plenty more that need delivering. Please sign the sheet at the back of church for the streets you are able to deliver. This is a great way to share the love of Jesus with everyone in our parish and as always, many hands make light work. Why not make it into a prayer walk and as you go and deliver, pray, because, as Eleanor Sanderson says in her Advent book, then our initiative honours God, making where we walk in prayer holy ground.

Advanced Notice. Cafe Church on 27 December will be Cafe Church with a difference, as all the Church Family are invited to David and Penny's house for lunch. Watch out for more details but book the date now.

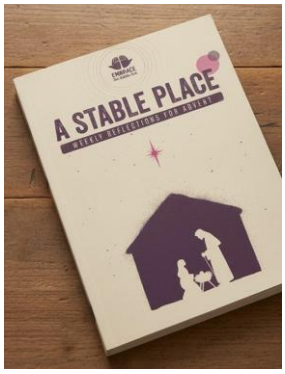
NOTICES

Readers for Carol Service. Thank you for those who have already volunteered to read at our Carol Service on Sunday 13 December. I need two more volunteers so if you are thinking about doing it, please let me know. Anyone is welcome, whether you have read in church before or are a first timer! Thank you.

Advent Calendars. We have two boxes of advent calendars available at £5.00 each. If you would like to purchase one, please take one from the back of church and pay on the sum-up machine or by giving cash to either the office, Revd Emma or Steve J. These make a great way to celebrate the real meaning of Christmas. Each one comes with a story book and fairtrade chocolate behind each window!



Advent Bible Study. We are fast approaching the season of Advent and this year for our Advent Study we will be using materials produced by Embrace the Middle East, 'A Stable Place'. These groups will be held at 11:00 and 19:30 on the next four Tuesdays – 1, 8, 15 and 22 December. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you would like to buy the book that we are using it is available here: Advent Range | A Stable Place Advent Reflections



Embrace the Middle East Advent Journey: If you are unable to join the Advent groups but would like to use this time to find out more about Embrace the Middle East and their work, why not sign up for their Journey through Advent reflections, filmed in the West Bank, and inspired by this year's Advent devotional, A Stable Place. You can sign up here: https://embraceme.org/sign-up-advent-reflections/#form-reflections

Travelling Nativity. A few weeks ago, in my musings I mentioned the Mexican tradition of a Posada where figures of Mary, Joseph and a donkey travel round the parish during Advent, arriving in Church on Christmas Eve, reminding us that we need to make room for Jesus in our lives, homes and community. Each day in Advent a family or individual signs up to have them visit, and then each day the family who has had the visitor arranges to take them to the next house. There is a short liturgy to say together as you pass them on. If you would like to take part, please sign up for a day on the list at the back of church and encourage others to do the same.



Showing of The Story of Everything.
On Tuesday 1 December at 20:15 we will be showing this film in the Main Hall and there will be popcorn! The Story of Everything is '*a cinematic exploration of the cosmos that reveals the hidden hand behind our universe. From the precise laws that govern the stars to the intricate patterns found in every living cell, the film traces evidence of intentional design throughout nature*' - just what we have been looking at in Cafe Church!



Annual commemoration of the martyrdom of King Charles 1. As you know a group from KCM will be travelling to Edinburgh to attend the service there. However, everyone has the opportunity to join the service in London on Saturday 30th January (the actual day of the martyrdom) where the Archdeacon of London, the Venerable Luke Miller will be preaching – you may remember him from my installation. If you would be interested in coming, please let Bill or Lynn know. It would be great to have a good cohort from KCM at the service. For those of you who are members of the union, subscription fees which are due 1st January are £15.00 for an individual, and £20.00 for a couple.



Christingle Preparation. On Wednesday 9 December at 1030, if you are free, come and join Revd Emma at the back of church for coffee and mince pies, whilst prepping Christingle bags for the Uniform Organisations service later in the week. Many hands make light work.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2026

Saturday 28 November
1100-1500

Thank you to everyone who is working so hard to make this happen and be a great success.

The final countdown has begun...

3 At 2000 on Thursday evening, come and help set up tables

2 Anytime on Friday, come to help to set up the stalls or to bring further items to sell

1 Early on Saturday morning, come to add the final touches to the stalls and bring cakes for the cake stall

Blast off

At 1100 on Saturday, bring friends and family and enjoy the Christmas Fayre together, helping to raise lots of money for our church and bringing joy to our community.



Let's all help to make this Fayre a great success.

Some of the items on sale will be the results of our Stir Up Sunday workshops last weekend. A great time was had by all making Christmas Cakes and Christmas Puddings. Some of the cakes have been iced and others will be available for anyone to decorate themselves as an activity in the Lapland Cafe.







Coming up in church and on Facebook
Sunday 6 December – Advent 2

Readings: Isaiah 40.1-11, Psalm 85.1-2, 8-end, 2 Peter 3.8-15a, Mark 1.1-8

0930 Sung Eucharist

Officiant: Revd Emma
Churchwarden: Debbie R
Musicians: Simon and Choir
Readers: Nicola T
Intercessor: Jean B
Chalice: Helen S
Welcomers: Lynn J



Music: 11 O come, O come Emmanuel! 5 Hark! A herald voice is calling, 12 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry, 10 Long ago, prophets knew
Anthem: Adam lay ybounden – Warlock

1100 Morning Worship with Communion

Officiant: Revd Emma
Churchwarden: Robin B
Musicians: Simon and Singers
Readers: Lauren T
Intercessor: Emma K
Chalice:
Welcomers: David H
Powerpoint: Nicola T

Music: 136 Great is the darkness, 328 Lord, have mercy, 507 The word made flesh, 164 Here is love vast as the ocean, 189 How lovely on the mountains, 148 Hear, O Lord, our cry

1600 Christmas Carol Sing-a-along

Followed by seasonal refreshments
All are welcome
If you have a favourite carol you would like to sing, please sign the list at the back of church.

Supporting the work and mission of this church

The Church of King Charles the Martyr provides a spiritual focus and outstanding facilities for the local community. It is **OUR** church and like all charities is dependent on the generosity of its members, the local community, and others to make it prosper.
The church and halls cost us over **£3000 a week** to run and this isn't possible without your generosity.

If you would like to support the work of the Church of King Charles the Martyr, you can do this either as a one off or by joining our regular giving scheme please speak to our Treasurer to set up ***regular giving*** *to help us plan*

- by joining the Parish Giving Scheme Potters Bar King Charles - Parish Giving Scheme
- with the **cashless giving machine in church or online** on our webpage.
- **Remember us in your Will.** Legacies are a tax efficient way of giving to the church. Please do think about us when making or revising your Will.

We have a **KCM Family WhatsApp** group for information about the church and a **KCM Social WhatsApp** group to share the more light-hearted social chat – if you would like to join these groups please contact Revd Emma to be added.

Contact details:

The Vicar	**Revd Emma-Jane Wilkinson**	**Rest Day: Friday**
	01707 661266 / 07549516589	vicar@
	All email addresses are xxx@kcm-church.org.uk	
Lay Minister / Reader	David Thomson	reader@
Church Warden	Vacant	churchwarden1@
Church Warden	Bill Simpson	churchwarden2@
Safeguarding Officer	Helen Schmitz	safeguarding@
Admin Assistant	Imogen St Pierre	office@
Halls Administrator	Nikki Edwards	halls@
PCC Secretary	Nicola Thrussell	pccsecretary@
Treasurer	Steve Jones	treasurer@
Building Committee Chair	Phil Townsend	buildings@
Music	Simon Worley	music@
Social Events		events@

Advent Events at KCM

Saturday 28th November – Christmas Fayre
11:00am - 3:00pm
Sunday 29th November – Advent Procession at
St Mary's, The Walk 5:00pm
Sunday 6th December – Christmas Songs of Praise 5:00pm
Sunday 13th December – Lessons and Carols 5:00pm
Tuesday 15th December – Carol Singing at Temple Court 2:00pm
Wednesday 16th December – Charlies Angels Christmas
1:30pm – 3:00pm
Thursday 17th December – Café Christmas Lunch
(ticketed event)
Sunday 20th December – Messy Family Carol Service
3:00pm – 5:00pm
Monday 21st December Blue Christmas Service 6:00pm

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND