

PARISH CHURCH OF ST.JAMES, HILL.
WHAT'S ON, WHERE AND WHEN.
WEEK BEGINNING 3rd DECEMBER 2017.
www.stjameshill.org

OUR MISSION STATEMENT.

The family of St. James is part of God's presence in the community of Mere Green. We aim

- *to show God's love in worship and service;
- *to offer a place where people feel welcome and valued;
- *and to invite all people to share and journey with us in a deepening relationship with God.

COLLECT: Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Services today, The First Sunday of Advent.

8.00am Said Holy Communion.
10.00am Jazz Advent Family Service.
4.00pm Blue Christmas Service.
6.30pm Advent Carol Service at All Saints.

Readings for today:

at Communion: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9;
Mark 13:24-end

Through the Week.

Mon. 4th Dec. 5.30pm for 6.00pm Community Carol Service featuring The Arthur Terry Community Choir.

Tues. 5th 7.30pm Early Risers Communion.
2.30pm Readings and Carols – Mills Court

Wed. 6th 10.30am Midweek Holy Communion – Healing service.

Sat. 9th 12.30am Churches Together Carol Singing Outside M & S – Mere Green.

4.00-5.00pm Children's Christmas Dance Workshop. – Scout Hut.

6.00-7.00pm Christmas Supper – Centre

7.30pm Christmas Performance – Journey of the Magi – Centre.

IMPORTANT NOTICE. The Church has a loop system. Large print hymn and service books are available as well as other aids for visually impaired. Please ask sides people. A ground floor toilet is available in the Vestry. If you feel you are unable to go up to the altar for communion, please speak to a side's person on duty who will arrange either for someone to help you, or for you to receive communion in your pew. Baby changing facilities are available in the Taylor Gallery.

A CYCLE OF PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK.

Daily readings.

Monday	Isaiah 25:1-9; Matthew 12:1-21
Tuesday	Isaiah 26:1-13; Matthew 12:22-37
Wednesday	Isaiah 28:1-13; Matthew 12:38-end
Thursday	Isaiah 28:14-end; Matthew 13:1-23
Friday	Isaiah 29:1-14; Matthew 13:24-43
Saturday	Isaiah 29:15-end; Matthew 13:44-end

SUNDAY: Worldwide Church. Bishop David, Bishop Anne, and in the parish: Pudsey Drive; Queenswood Road; Retired People in the Parish.

MONDAY: Worldwide Church. In the parish: Randle Drive; Young People in the local schools.

TUESDAY: Worldwide Drive. In the parish: Rednall Drive; Ridgewood Drive; Teachers and Staff in local schools.

WEDNESDAY: Worldwide Church. In the parish: Roughley Drive; Youth Work in local churches.

THURSDAY: Worldwide Church. In the parish: Rowallan Road; Children's Work in local churches.

FRIDAY: Worldwide Church. In the parish: St. Blaise Road; St. James Road; Our Churchwardens.

SATURDAY: Worldwide Church. In the parish: St. John Close; Sara Close; Our Deputy Churchwardens.

NOTICES.

THE JOURNEY OF THE MAGI. This year we are delighted to be hosting "The Journey of the Magi" performed by The Spring Dance Company next Saturday 9th December. There will be Children's Workshops in the Scout Hut from 4.00pm – 5.00pm, a 2-course Supper in the Church Centre from 6.00pm-7.00pm, with an Adult Performance at 7.30pm in the Church Centre. Tickets are £5.00 for the Children's Workshops, £6.00 for the 2-course Supper and £10.00 for the Adult Concert. Tickets can be reserved from the Church Wardens and the Church Office. Due to restriction on numbers, tickets will have to be purchased in advance and there will be no tickets available on the doors. We do hope you will be able to join us.

CHRISTINGLE FACTORY - 9.30am Saturday 9th December in church. Many hands make light work, so the more help we can have the better. Experience not needed, just come along please. Tina.

MILLS COURT CAROL SERVICE Tuesday 5th December at 2.30pm. Singers available to come and lead the singing will be very much appreciated. Thank you. Betty Mills.

LYNDA WETTON. Lynda sadly passed away on Tuesday 28th November aged 74. Her funeral will be at Church on Monday 11th December – details of timing to be confirmed. Our thoughts and prayers are with Roy and the family at this time.

COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE. You are invited to the service tomorrow Monday 4th December from 5.30pm for refreshments, for a 6.00pm start. The Arthur Terry Choir will be leading the singing and they are preparing three choral pieces for the service too. If anyone is able to help me meet and greet and serve refreshments I would be most grateful. I will be away for a few days, so if you are able to help please leave a message on my answer phone 0121 240 0321 or see me on Sunday 3rd December. Thank you.
Lynn Penny.

CHURCH DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS
this will take place at 9.30am on Saturday 23rd December and Pam needs more volunteers to come forward to help with this. Please contact Pam Platts on 308 0328 if you are able to help.

M.U.DIARY.

Mon.4th Dec. 2.15pm Mince Pies and Carols –
Langley Room.

Mon.11th Dec. 8.00pm Mince Pies and Carols
at Sue Cooper's home.

All members who had the MU Link questionnaire, can you put it in the 'A' pigeonhole in church, as soon as possible please. Thank you. Tina.

CHRISTMAS FAIR – thank you everyone who supported the Fair in any way. We raised £2,933.18 A great St. James team effort, once again. Thank you. If you still have your badge can you leave it in the 'A' pigeon hole for me please.

Thank You's. If I have not given you your Thank You letter please check your pigeonhole, if you helped at the Christmas Fair. Thanks Tina,

CHRISTMAS POST & CARD WALL – this is now in place at the back of church with the last post on Wednesday 13th December, for collection after Sunday 17th December. PLEASE make sure you put the FULL NAME of the person the card is for (we have a lot of Margaret's). The card wall gives you the opportunity to send one card to everyone at St. James and then make a donation to our chosen charity, thus reducing the number of cards you have to write and then recycle after Christmas. If you have a suggestion for this year's charity please tell me. Thank you. Tina.

WHITE STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES for next year are now available and ready for collection from the back of church. Please let me know if you have any queries. Margaret Nicholls.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE AT REFRESH.

Refresh mind, body and spirit, a new project which started in May this year aiming to promote health and well-being for all, is having a Christmas Open House on Wednesday 6th December from 10.30am – 1.30pm at Quinney Hall, Canwell. There will be a variety of stalls, hot drinks and Christmas cookies, a raffle and hand and foot massages and mini facials for a small donation. Come and experience the Christmas spirit and find out about what we do each week on a Wednesday. For more information contact Mavis Cunningham on 07770419660 or refreshmindbodyspirit@gmail.com or visit Facebook page.

USED STAMPS. Margaret Hill is collecting stamps for an animal charity. Please leave them for her in the letter rack at the back of church. Thank you.

NOTICES FOR THE WEEKLY WHAT'S ON NEWSLETTER. If you wish to put a notice in the "What's On", there are three ways to achieve this, either write your message in the blue book at the back of Church; phone me on 308 3562 or email margandtony.hughes@gmail.com stating how many times you would like the notice to appear. Margaret.

Services next week 10th December 2017

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT.

8.00 Said Holy Communion.
10.00am Family Holy Communion.
4.00pm Christingle & Toy Service.
6.30pm Remembrance Reflections.

Readings for next Sunday:

at Communion: 2 Peter 3:8-15a;
Mark 1:1-8
