

**Upcoming dates for your diary** *(details below)*

Bellringing Practice  
Family Time Together  
Coffee & Cake concert

Fridays at 7.30pm  
Sun 11<sup>th</sup> Jan at 3pm  
Sat 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 11am  
& Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 11am  
Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Jan 2pm

Ladies Group

---

---

**Christmas services**

**Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Dec** 10am  
6pm

'Getting ready for Christmas' *(an All-Age Morning Service)*

Traditional Carols by candlelight

*Mince pies and mulled wine afterwards*

**Christmas Eve** 3pm  
11.15pm

Crib service for all the family

Midnight Communion

**Christmas Day** 10am

Communion Service for all the family

**Sun 28<sup>th</sup> Dec** 10am

Christmas Family Communion Service

*No 'Live Wires' (Sunday School)*

**Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Jan** 10am

Epiphany Family Praise

*All Age Service to celebrate the arrival of three Kings*

---

---

**Coffee & Cake concert:** At 11am Sat 20<sup>th</sup> December you can join us for our Festive C&C concert: **Langton Brass @ Christmas**, which should help us all to get well into a seasonal frame of mind.

---

---

**Christmas Flowers:** would you like to **make a donation in memory of a loved one?** You can do this and at the same time support the display of Christmas Flowers that is created by our gifted & creative team of flower arrangers - who also quietly adorn our church building with inspiring displays throughout the year. The names of your loved ones can be included in prayers and on an altar card.

Please **speak to Genista** in church, phone her on **01227 732008**, or email her at [genista.spencer@gmail.com](mailto:genista.spencer@gmail.com).

---

---

**Mince pies & Mulled wine**

Our Carol service at 6pm on 21<sup>st</sup> December will be followed by refreshments with mince pies and mulled wine – **donations of mince pies** will be very gratefully received and can be brought to the morning service or before the carol service in the evening.

---

---

Our **Sunday Service on 28<sup>th</sup> December** will be led by Rev Nina Coulthard - thank you Nina for leading our worship, it is lovely to welcome you back here to St Mary's Church.

---

---

**Bellringing for Beginners:** Looking for a New Year's resolution? Look no further: come and learn to ring bells at St Mary's church, starting from Friday 9th January at 7.30pm. Anyone aged 10 or older and can climb the 40 steps to the ringing chamber is welcome. For more information contact [bellringing@stmaryschartham.org](mailto:bellringing@stmaryschartham.org)

---

**Youth Emmaus Group for 10-12 year olds:** We are planning to meet fortnightly on Wednesdays 5.00 - 6.15pm from 14th January at the Rectory CT4 7JW. We will be exploring 'What Christians believe' and 'How Christians grow'. If you are thinking about being baptised or confirmed next year, or have already been confirmed and would like to find out more about the Christian life, then come and help us to start a new youth group together at St Mary's. Please contact Rev Andrew ([vicar@stmaryschartham.org](mailto:vicar@stmaryschartham.org)) or Bronny Slowe if you are interested or would like to know more about this.

---

### **Church clock**

You may have noticed that our trusty church clock has been out of action recently. We have had visits from the clock repairers who have found that some parts are worn out and replacements are having to be made. We hope that these will be installed early in the new year.

---

**Online giving:** If you don't already do so, you can donate to the work of St Mary's Church through our online Parish Giving page using this QR code..... Thank you for helping St Mary's to continue to serve the community of Chartham.



For more information about our church and its work please visit [www.stmaryschartham.org](http://www.stmaryschartham.org)

---

### **Collects and readings**

#### **21<sup>st</sup> Dec Morning service:**

##### **'Getting ready for Christmas'**

Almighty God,  
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,  
so we wait for his coming in glory;  
bring us through the birth pangs of  
this present age  
to see, with her, our great salvation  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Psalm 80:1-8 & Matthew 1:18-25**

#### **28<sup>th</sup> Dec 10am Holy Communion**

Almighty God,  
who wonderfully created us  
in your own image  
and yet more wonderfully restored us  
through your Son Jesus Christ:  
grant that,  
as he came to share in our humanity,  
so we may share the life of his divinity;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Isaiah 63:7-9 & Matthew 2:13-end**

---