

The Parish Church of St Mary's  
Hilton with Marston-on-Dove

**December 2019**



**NOTICES AND  
SERVICES**



## Services in December

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	11.00am Holy Communion (BCP) <u>With the Good News Crew</u>
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	11.00am Holy Communion at Percy Wood Close
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am Holy Communion 11.00 am Family Service <u>with Nativity by the Good News Crew</u>
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	11.00am Morning Prayer <u>with Carols</u>
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	11.00am Family Communion <u>with Carols</u>
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	6.30pm Carols by Candlelight 11.30pm Holy Communion
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30am Christmas Day Service
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> December	11.00am Morning Prayer

Currently we are awaiting a new vicar as Reverend Andy Murphie has relocated to a parish in the Lake District. All services, baptisms and wedding bookings are proceeding as normal.

For up to date information on services please see

[www.stmaryshilton.org](http://www.stmaryshilton.org)

email: [admin@stmaryshilton.org](mailto:admin@stmaryshilton.org)

phone: 01283 808408

facebook: [@stmaryshiltonandmarston](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryshiltonandmarston)

**To receive a digital copy of this sheet directly to your inbox  
please let us know by email**

## CHURCH NOTICES

### Church Bells

If you are interested in learning how to ring the bells then please let Nigel or Helen know as we are looking to train up a small team to be able to ring the bells on Sunday mornings.

Flowers in Church You would be very welcome to put flowers in Church or give a donation for flowers to remember a special occasion or anniversary. If you would like to do this please speak to a Churchwarden.



Stamp collection There is a collecting box for used postage stamps in the Church porch for 'Oxfam'.

### Parochial Church Council

Next Meeting: Standing Committee/PCC – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in the Schoolroom

PCC Members: Mrs. E. Barber (Churchwarden); Mr. N. Brown (Churchwarden); Mr. J. Murphie (Hon. Secretary); Mrs. H. Brown (Hon. Treasurer); Mr. S. Johnson; Mr. B. Keane; Mrs W. Morris; Miss C. Owen; Mrs. L. Rees-Jones; Mrs. P. Roberts; Mr. P. Walton-Knight; Mr. G. Draper; Mr L. Bean



Raise FREE FUNDS for the Church via the  
[easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) website/app  
search for St Mary's Hilton with Marston-on-Dove

### Next meeting:

*Good News Crew*

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Preparing for Nativity/Christmas Crafts

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity



The Good News Crew is an opportunity for children, aged 3 and up, to encounter bible stories in a fun and relevant way through activities, stories, craft and prayer. They usually meet on the *first Sunday of each month* and start with the normal service at 11am.

Please see Helen or Louise for further details

# Ladies Christmas Meal

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December

The Hilton House Hotel, Hilton

Please see Liz if you would like to come along.



## Nativity 2019

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00am

You are warmly invited to this year's Nativity with The Good News Crew.

**Please wear your Nativity costumes or Christmas jumpers  
Audience participation will be required!**

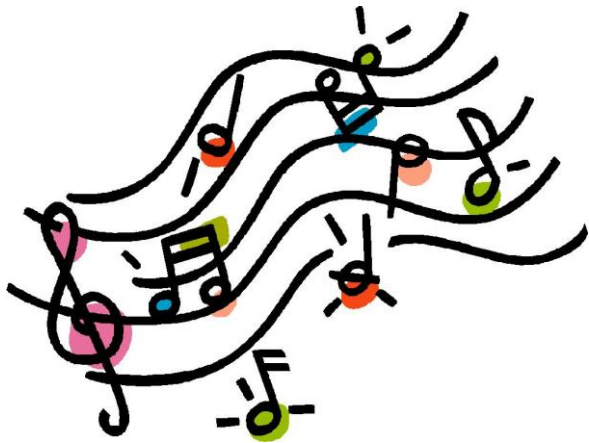
## Turkey Cobs and Carols

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00am

Morning Prayer with Carols.

Followed by Turkey Rolls and Trifle in the Schoolroom. Please sign up on the list at the back of Church.





## Carols by Candlelight

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December at  
6.30pm

Come join us for some singing, of  
well-known carols and songs.

## The Christmas Table



Christmas cakes, puddings, gifts,  
stocking fillers and  
much more,

**At the back of Church**

*All proceeds to church funds*



## Giant Christmas Card Tree Supporting *Kidz Aid Tanzania*

Once again there will be an opportunity to send Christmas greetings to all church members on our Giant Christmas Card Tree at the back of church.

All proceeds from the collecting tin will be donated to *Kidz Aid Tanzania*.

# Music Concert in Church on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 7:45pm

Ocho

Eight Singers, One Voice

## All I Want For Christmas

THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019

ST. MARY'S CHURCH  
MARSTON ON DOVE  
DE65 5GB

THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019

ST. MARGARET OF ANTIOCH CHURCH  
CHURCH ST, CRICK  
NN6 7TP

£10

INCLUDING REFRESHMENTS  
UNDER 16'S FREE

JOIN OCHO FOR AN EVENING OF A CAPPELLA SINGING INCLUDING TRADITIONAL CAROLS & MODERN FAVOURITES  
TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE [WWW.OCHOSINGERS.COM](http://WWW.OCHOSINGERS.COM), VIA OCHO MEMBERS & ON THE DOOR  
OCHO WILL BE MAKING A DONATION FROM THE PROCEEDS TO THE CHILDRENS' AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE

7:45PM

DOORS OPEN AT 7PM



In our DIY Bible Study this month, we look at Advent week two - Light. The thoughts and questions are adapted from the book '100 Stand-Alone Bible Studies' by Penelope Wilcock.

#### Bible passages

##### Isaiah 9:2

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

##### Luke 2:29-32

"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."

##### John 3:19-21

This is the verdict: light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth come into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

##### Matthew 6:22-23

"The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!"

##### Matthew 5:14-16

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

##### 1 Corinthians 3:10-13

But each one should build with care. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work.

#### Commentary

When Christianity was embraced by the Taoist Chinese in the seventh century, they call it "the light religion". Everywhere in the New Testament the metaphor of light is used to clarify aspects of our faith.

Jesus is identified as the light of the world. Even in our two short passages from Isaiah and Luke 2, three different facets of what that can mean are included. Isaiah foretells the coming of Jesus (see this taken up in Matthew 4:16) as a light to people condemned to live in a dark place. This light as salvation, comfort, rescue, and hope. In the Song of Simeon (sometimes called the *Nunc Dimittis*) in Luke 2, the light of Jesus is seen both as revelation – opening the eyes of the Gentiles to new truth – and as glory, the radiance or *shekinah* of God in the midst of his people.

Our text from John 3 identifies the necessity of light for discernment, for the exposure of truth and reality. Our text from Matthew 6 considers how what we focus on illuminates our thinking and experience – if we focus on goodness, our whole selves and light are enlightened. If we focus on evil, in place of illumination we have only shadows and confusion.

The passage from Matthew 5 looks at light as radiance – goodness which both lights up the world and shines a spotlight on the beauty of God. And our Corinthians passage reminds us to be mindful of how we live, remembering that the day will come when the light of God will reveal everything we chose and did for what it really is. Light is about integrity.

### Questions

- Can you think of examples of light that you have found especially beautiful?
- Can you think of lives or actions you have known whose faith and goodness made them seem to shine?
- At Christmas time, the pure white light of God comes to earth in the multicoloured lights of humanity. What colour light would you be, and why?

### Prayer

Jesus, light of the world, shine into our hearts and expose what is really there. Where there is sadness and gloom, may your light shine joyfully. Where there are shadows of pretence and hypocrisy, may the radiance of your truth chase them away. May your light so illumine our hearts and minds that our lives may shine forth like lanterns of hope, and beacons of the gospel of truth. This we ask in your holy name; Amen.