



# St. Lawrence Church & St. Mary's Church

## Newsletter 15<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Website [www.gnosallparish.org.uk](http://www.gnosallparish.org.uk). & Facebook [www.facebook.com/GnosallParish](https://www.facebook.com/GnosallParish)

### Welcome to Church on the Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	7:45am	Holy Communion	Rev Kathryn
	10:30am	Christingle Service	
	6:30pm	Evensong	Lay led
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	12 noon	Funeral of June Edmunds	
	3:00pm	Funeral of Bill Walker	
	6:30pm	Gnosall School Carol Concert	
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am	Morning Prayer	
	9:30am	Gnosall School Reception Nativity	
	6:15 - 7:15pm	Office Hour at Vicarage	
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	8:00pm	Carol Singing around the Pubs	
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	9:15am	Morning Prayer	
	9:45am	Open the Book Christmas Story	
	12 noon	Good Companions Christmas Lunch	
	2:15pm	Play & Praise	
	8:00pm	Carol Singing around the Pubs	
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	7:45am	Holy Communion	Rev Kathryn
	10:30	Holy Communion	Rev Cathy
	6:30pm	Carol Service	
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	11:30pm	Midnight Communion	Rev Kathryn
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> December	7:45am	Holy Communion	Rev Kathryn
	<b>Christmas Day</b> 10:30am	Holy Communion	Rev Kathryn



### THE COLLECT

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### GOSPEL READING

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you O Lord

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ.**



## Year's Mind

Norman Frederick Windows  
 George (Peter) Hughes  
 Ronald James Bames  
 Laura Mary Winfield  
 Emily Mary Cork  
 John Lloyd Powell

## CHURCH SERVICES AT MORETON

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December Service of Nine Lessons & Carols in Church at 3pm  
 Christmas Day Holy Communion at 9am with Rev Kathryn  
 Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December United Benefice Service at Gnosall at 10.30am  
 (No service at Moreton)  
 Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January Afternoon Worship with Rev Kathryn at 3.30pm

## ACROSS THE BENEFICE

For enquires concerning baptisms and weddings please contact  
 Rev Kathryn at Tuesday's Office Hour from 6:15pm to 7:15pm.  
 01785 822820 rev.kathrynh@gmail.com

**Rector** Rev Kathryn Hammond - 822820  
 rev.kathrynh@gmail.com  
**Associate Priest** Rev Cathy Dakin - 07971101259  
 cathydakin@waitrose.com  
**Churchwardens:** Bob Winfield - 822507  
 bobwinfield1897@gmail.com  
 Eric Henderson - 823881  
 eric.henderson2@btinternet.com



On behalf of The Children's Society can I thank everyone for the generous donations from the box holders who raised the amazing sum of £1,288 this year. The box collections really do change children's lives everyday by providing funding to maintain the Society's vital services, including helping thousands of children who are being exploited on the streets.  
 Can I also thank the box collectors whose help I greatly appreciated.  
 Yvonne Cannell (Coordinator)

## CAROL SERVICE CHOIR

Our Carol Service this year will be on Sunday December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6.30pm. It would be lovely to put a choir together for this service. If you would like to be part of the choir would you please sign the list at the back of church indicating which days would be best for getting together to practice.

## PRAYER CHAIN

Please remember that we have a prayer co-ordinator who every fortnight sends around names of people to be included in our prayers. If you would like to receive this list then please contact Hayley  
[h\\_a\\_p@hotmail.com](mailto:h_a_p@hotmail.com)

## ADVENT MEDITATIONS

To help us to take some time for reflection on our spiritual journey through Advent there are some books available at the back of church with readings which I hope will be helpful.  
 Please do take one of the books and use them during the days of Advent.



## CHRISTIAN FOOD BANK

Please do remember that we collect tinned food here at the back of church that is collected every two weeks and taken to the Food Bank at Stafford. Your donations are appreciated. **Please bring any tinned food to the box at the back of church – making sure the tins are well within their sell by date.** Thank you.

If you know of anyone in the community who would appreciate a visit, please let Rev Kathryn know. Many thanks.

## VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS MARKET

On behalf of the Trustees of the Friends of St Lawrence, can I thank the many people who volunteered their services before, during and after the event. The help was much appreciated and the Market would not have been so successful without the hard work of the volunteers. Can I also thank everyone who donated items for sale or as prizes. These generous donations all help to raise funds to put towards the Friends projects.

Thank you very much for all the lovely Christmas Cards and Christmas Wishes and for all your support to me during the past year!  
 Rev Kathryn

## A QUIET PLACE DURING ADVENT



During the weeks of Advent we have created a space in the Lady Chapel for anyone who wishes to come and spend some quiet time. Please feel free to come and read the prayers, colour in the pictures or just be still .....and do add your own ideas.

**CHURCH DECORATING AND CLEANING** for Christmas will be on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December from 9am. Everyone welcome to help, just bring secateurs/scissors.  
 Donations for the flowers may be given to Helen or Kathryn

