

Please send any notices, news or events for the Pew Sheet by noon on Wednesday, thank you.

CONTACTS

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Up-to-date information can be found on our website:

www.richmondhudswellparish.org.uk

You can keep up to date on our FACEBOOK page:

www.facebook.com/stmarysrichmondhudswellparishchurch

The Parish of St Mary, Richmond with St Michael & All Angels, Hudswell

Sunday 12th December 3rd Sunday of Advent



All Are Welcome at St. Mary's Church

You are welcome to attend services in person, online or by dialling in. Please see the website for details of the precautions we are taking to keep St Mary's a Covid-safe environment for all, and of how to access services online. The church is open daily for private prayer, 9am–dusk.

Sunday 12th December (3rd Sunday of Advent)

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion

Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-20, Philippians 4: 4-7, Luke 3: 7-18

6.30pm *God Bless Us, Every One*, a seasonal compilation from 'Jacob Marley's Christmas Band' (featuring Fourum)

Tuesday 14th December

11.00am Mother's Union Holy Communion – all are welcome

Wednesday 15th December

9.15am Holy Communion

Thursday 16th December

10.30am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Chapel

Friday 17th December

7.00pm Joint Guild Carol Service

Sunday 19th December (4th Sunday of Advent)

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Worship for all.

Readings: Luke 1: 39-45

6.30pm **Service of Nine Lessons and Carols**

Christmas Eve 4pm & 5:30pm - Crib Services; 11:30pm - Midnight Mass

Christmas Day 8am - Holy Communion; 10am - Christmas Communion

PRAYER REQUESTS

Within your daily prayers please remember:

those in **special need of prayer**

Margaret Emmerson, Don Hornsby, Amber Squires, Cecilia, Debbie

those in need of **ongoing prayer**

Jean Coulthard, Olive Harrison, Peter Mayne, Graham Merlane,
Doreen Sayers, Valerie Strawbridge, Katrina Templeton, Josh Winch,
Hilary, Molly
and the patients and staff at the Friary Hospital

those we mourn as **we give thanks** for the life of:

Jean Green

Book of Remembrance If you would like the name of a loved one to be entered in this book, please contact the Parish Administrator, Colin Hicks. There is no fee for this.

On Sundays at 5pm all are warmly welcome to the Prayer Meeting which meets each 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sunday, on Zoom. Please contact Anna on 07753 884572 for more details.

December Charity of the Month: Darlington Women's Refuge which supports women and children who experience all forms of violence and abuse, including domestic violence, sexual violence, FGM, forced marriage, so-called 'honour'-based violence, human trafficking and modern slavery. They tailor their support to individual needs, running a range of services including refuges, community-based projects, culturally-specific services, children's services and support for women going through the criminal justice system. www.familyhelp.org.uk

Charity of the Month We really appreciate the commitment of the congregation to supporting our charities during the year and are hoping we can have some suggestions about which 'home' charities you would like to be considered for next year. There is now a sheet at the back of church for suggestions, so do please add any charities you particularly value and whose work is mainly in the UK. Thank you.

Christian Aid at Christmas As in previous years, people are invited to display one card at the back of church in lieu of sending individual cards to friends in the congregation. Any money saved can be donated to Christian Aid using our church's unique Giving page ref <https://rb.gy/61rlku> or by handing a cash donation to Martin Clarke, Sarah Scrafton, Judith Barber or a Churchwarden. Bluetack for your card and envelopes for cash donations are at the back of church.

St. Mary's Family Christmas Tree This year we would like for all of the church family to appear on our Christmas tree. Please see Jeanette after services if you did not appear on Martin and Anna's wedding photo/jigsaw. Or you can send a photo to jeanettesunderland@outlook.com 07812 109243 If you prefer for your photo not to appear on the tree please do let Jeanette know.

Women's Fellowship This will probably be the last meeting of the group. Wednesday 15th December, 2pm at the Town Hall. Please bring a small gift & a mince pie or two!

Christmas Coffee Morning Saturday 18th December at the Town Hall. Donations gratefully received for Tombola and Raffle can be brought to Church. Cakes, jams, jellies and chutneys on the day please. Our choir will be singing carols, please bring friends and family. Offers of help serving coffee and washing up will be much appreciated. Any queries please ring Susan Scrafton 07530 392935 / 01748 824106

Christmas Cakes. The Friends of St Marys will be donating 50 small Christmas cakes to the Food Bank again this year at a cost of around £300. If you would like to contribute please let a member of the Committee know.

Refreshments after Sunday 10.00am Service Obviously depending upon the Covid rules at the time, we are hoping to re-introduce refreshments following the service for those who would feel comfortable with staying on, starting on January 2nd. Help would be required with serving and washing up. If you are happy to volunteer please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church or contact Anne Clarke on 07982 658991.

Parish Share Update Last year, St Mary's was able to pay just 70% of its Parish Share – which funds our clergy, their accommodation, and support for less well-off churches in our Diocese. Another shortfall this year will lead to cuts across the Diocese next year.

Towards the end of November we were on course to improving on last year's position, reaching 69% of our Share request of £95,497. This was improved further to 77% through the PCC taking the exceptional step of reducing our reserves by £8,000 (see the 'Money Matters' article in this month's Parish Magazine for further details).

We still have £21,500 to find by the end of this month. Please could you help? In the past, many have very generously given some or all of their Government Winter Fuel Allowance of £100-£200. to charities, including St Mary's. Would you consider this? Or, if you do not receive a Fuel Allowance, would you consider making an equivalent one-off donation? Please see the 'Giving' page on the Website, or contact a member of the PCC. Thank you.