

## Services Next Sunday— 17 December 2017

### 3rd Sunday of Advent

St Mary's 8am Holy Communion (BCP) Leading: Rev David Salter

St James' Chapel Over Norton 9.15am: Carol Service Leading: Judith Marshall

St Mary's 10.45am Holy Communion (with Creche, 'OneWay' Ignite & Ablaze)

Leading: Rev James Kennedy Preaching: Rev Ursula Simpson)

Reading: John 1. 6-8, 19-28 (Robin Hayden) Prayers: (David/Susan Bishop)

6pm Carols by Candlelight followed by mulled wine & mincepies



Sharing the life-changing love of Jesus  
serving our whole community

10th December 2017  
2nd Sunday of Advent  
Morning Worship

## Contacting St Mary's

### Clergy Team

Team Rector of Chipping Norton Benefice:

Rev Dr James Kennedy

✉ vicar@stmaryscnorton.com

Tel: 01608 642688

*N.B. James takes his rest day on a Friday*

Curate

Rev Martha Simpson

✉ curate@stmaryscnorton.com

Tel: 01608 645668

*N.B. Martha is not available on Fridays or Saturdays*

Team Vicar of Kingham & Churchill:

Rev David Salter

✉ david.salter@stmaryscnorton.com

Tel: 01608 658852

*N.B. David takes his rest day on a Friday*

Team Ministers:

Rev Ursula Simpson

✉ ursula.simpson@stmaryscnorton.com

Tel: 01608 674541 (Mon-Wed)

Rev Jackie Jones

✉ jackie.jones@stmaryscnorton.com

Tel: 01608 658616

### Church Wardens

Linda Carpenter

Graham Povey

✉ churchwarden@stmaryscnorton.com

### Youth, Children & Families

Jonny Lowe (Youth Worker)

✉ youth@stmaryscnorton.com

Tel: 01608 645668

*N.B. Jonny takes his rest day on a Saturday*

Becca Sterry (Children and Families Worker)

✉ becca.sterry@stmaryscnorton.com

Tel: 01608 645668

*N.B. Becca works part-time.*

Catherine Spring (School and Community Support Worker)

✉ Catherine.spring@stmaryscnorton.com

Tel: 01608 645668

*N.B. Catherine works part-time.*

### Office

Church Administrator

Emma Bayley

✉ office@stmaryscnorton.com

Tel. 01608 646202

Administrative Manager (and Finance)

Emily O'Shea

✉ finance@stmaryscnorton.com

Tel. 01608 645668

Church Office,  
St Mary's Parish Rooms, Church Street,  
Chipping Norton OX7 5NT  
(Office hours 09.00-11.30 weekday mornings)  
Registered charity no.: 1132070

### Financial Giving

If you would like to give to support the mission and ministry of St Mary's, may we encourage you to join our planned giving scheme. If you are a UK taxpayer you may be able to add Gift Aid which increases your giving by 25%. Please pick up a leaflet to explore ways to give or you can give online at <https://my.give.net/donations>

### St Mary's is a caring fellowship.

Being a member of a **Small Group** is the best way to make sure you are both cared for, and able to care for others. For more information about joining a group please email [smallgroups@stmaryscnorton.com](mailto:smallgroups@stmaryscnorton.com). Otherwise, if you or anyone you know is sad or unwell, in hospital or in need of any other support, please let the Church Office know. We have a team of pastoral visitors who would love to help.

## Light in the darkness: preparing the way

"I will send a messenger ahead of you who will  
prepare your way" Mark 1:2

## Welcome to today's service!

The theme that Habakkuk has set for us over the last few weeks flows seamlessly into Advent, with his emphasis on waiting, watching, trusting in God's faithfulness and living in light of it. This week we find ourselves slapped on both cheeks by Mark, who - with no messing around - begins his Gospel with a bold declaration of who Jesus is and of what he requires of us. When he first came to live among us, Jesus' arrival was not 'out of the blue', but had been awaited and anticipated. Despite that, though, Mark opens his Gospel so abruptly with his account of John the Baptist's ministry because God's people needed to be awoken out of their dream-like state and called to turn away from their erroneous ways and back to him in order to be ready to receive their Messiah. How much more do we need that same shock treatment at times? Let's allow God to rattle our cage this Advent and set us back on track so that we will be both ready ourselves, and preparing the world around us for when Jesus comes again in glory.

James Kennedy (Vicar)



During our 10.45 service, to serve our families, we run a supervised crèche, Ignite (for 3-5 year olds) OneWay (for children aged 6-11), and Ablaze (for youth aged 11-16). Everyone is welcome!

## This Sunday— 10 December 2017

### 2nd Sunday of Advent

**St Mary's 8am Holy Communion (BCP)** Leading: Rev Ursula Simpson  
Reading: 2Peter 3:8-15a & Mark1:1-8 Andy Thomson

**St James' Chapel Over Norton (No service on 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays)**

**St Mary's 10.45am Morning Worship (with Creche, Ignite, 'Oneway' & Ablaze)**

Leading: Rev Martha Simpson Preaching: Rev James Kennedy

Reading: Mark 1:1-8 Prayers: Emma Fourie

**12.30pm Parish Lunch with Christmas theme + talk by James on his trip to China**

### Praying round the Deanery. This week: St Andrew's, Great Rollright

Please pray for John Acreman and Wendy Cunningham and the Churchwarden, Sarah Durham

## \*\*\*\*\*NOTICES\*\*\*\*\*

### Christmas Services

We welcome many visitors from the community to our Christmas Services. Please consider if you can help with stewarding/welcome at any of the evening services. Sunday 17th December, Sunday 24th December or on Christmas Day morning. Please let either Jane Butler or Linda Carpenter know if you can help or email: [churchwarden@stmaryscnorton.com](mailto:churchwarden@stmaryscnorton.com) Thank you!

### Calling all Christingle makers!!

If you are free at 10.30am on Saturday 23rd December then please come along to the Parish centre, where we shall be making our 200 Christingles for the Christingle service at 4.00pm on Christmas Eve. If you have not been part of this team before, you are in for a fun time - so come long - ALL TRAINING GIVEN ! - contact Jo Graves 643976

### CAP Thank you

Mark and I would like to express heartfelt thanks to everyone who donated gifts for the CAP Hamper appeal. 24 boxes were filled to the brim and we pray that your generosity will be a blessing on each home this Christmas. Thank you also to everyone who helped with the wrapping and packing Athene, Debt Centre Manager

## CHURCH DIARY

### THIS WEEK - 11—16 December 2017

- Sun 10 Dec Carol Service choir practice** (4.00-6.00pm in the church)
- Mon 11 Dec Come for Tea** (2.30-4pm in Parish Rooms)  
**St Mary's Pilates** (6.00-7.00pm in Parish Rooms)
- Wed 13 Dec St Mary's Minis** (10.00-11.30am in Parish Rooms)  
**CN School's Carol Service** (7.00pm in the church)  
9.30am—4.30pm Rehearsing in the church.
- Thurs 14 Dec Midweek Communion + coffee** (10am in Parish Rooms)  
**Funeral: David Williams** (2.15pm at St Mary's)  
**St Mary's School's Carol Service** (6.00pm in the church)
- Fri 15 Dec Remix Youth Club** (3.15—4.45pm at Glyme Hall)  
**Youth Christmas Party** (7-9pm in Parish Rooms)  
**LHNT Candles of Remembrance Service** (7pm on Town Hall Step, followed by mulled wine & mince pies in Town Hall)

## CALENDAR OF FURTHER EVENTS

- Sun 17 Dec Carols by Candlelight** (6pm in St Mary's Church)
- Mon 18 Dec Christmas Communion at Southerndown Care Home** (2pm)  
**Over Norton's Carols on the Green** (6.30pm in Over Norton)
- Wed 20 Dec Christmas Service at Henry Cornish House** (2.30pm in Lounge)
- Thurs 21 Dec Midweek Communion followed by lunch** (11am Parish Rooms)
- Sat 23 Dec Christingle Making** (10.30am in Parish Rooms)
- Christmas Eve NB No 8am & 10.45am services**  
**Christingle Nativity Service** (4pm in St Mary's Church)  
**Midnight Service** (11.30pm in St Mary's Church)
- Christmas Day BCP Communion** (8am in St Mary's Church)  
**Family Celebration** (10.45am in St Mary's Church)

*For further information, please contact the Church Office*