

# MESSENGER

SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022



Let the bells ring out for Christ is born today!!

Please send me your news, thoughts, messages, helpful suggestions, requests etc. by Wednesday lunchtime. Either by phone on 01295 711516 or email [clairewilks@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:clairewilks@hotmail.co.uk)

## Services

### Christmas Eve - 24<sup>th</sup> December

**Crib Service** at Middleton Cheney at 3.00pm

**Crib Service** at Chacombe at 5.00pm

**Carol Service** at Thorpe Mandeville at 6pm

**Midnight Mass** at 11.30pm at Chacombe, Marston St Lawrence and Sulgrave

## Christmas Day

**Christmas Communion at 9.30am**

Middleton Cheney and Greatworth

**Christmas Communion at 11.00am**

Thorpe Mandeville and Thenford

**Happy New Year!**

## Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023

10.30am Morning Praise Middleton Cheney

10.45am Holy Communion Greatworth

## Wednesdays at All Saints

The church will be open on

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> as usual

from 10am until 4pm

10 – 10.30am Short Communion service

10.30am – 12.30pm **Jolly Teapot!**

A chance to chat over coffee/tea, cakes and biscuits

*Thereafter church will be open and there will be a warm space in the side chapel.*

*Refreshments will be available.*

## Foodbank

Rev. Nick, Mary Phipps and Rose Steele have delivered a number of food parcels in the past week and the need continues to be high. Please pop a few extra items in your basket this week and drop them off at All Saints if you are able.

**Thank you** – from the 'foodbank team' and all those who will have a much happier Christmas thanks to your kindness.



Rector: Nick Leggett 07925 419068

Email: [leggett1uwe@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:leggett1uwe@yahoo.co.uk)

Website: [www.allsaints-mc.church](http://www.allsaints-mc.church)

## For those who worship at home - Christmas Day

For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end. **Isaiah 9: verse 6**

### The Star Carol

Sing this night for a boy is born in Bethlehem  
Christ our Lord in a lowly manger lies  
Bring your gifts come and worship at his cradle  
Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary

See his star shining bright  
In the sky this Christmas night  
Follow me joyfully  
Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary

Angels bright come from heaven's highest glory  
Bear the news with its message of good cheer  
Sing, rejoice for a King is come to save us  
Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary

See his star shining bright .....

Let us pay our homage at the manger  
Sing his praise on this joyful Christmas Night  
Christ is come, bringing promise of salvation  
Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary

See his star shining bright .....

### Reflection:

**'How the Grinch Stole Christmas'. How many of you have read the book or seen the film?**

The Grinch is a 'Scrooge' figure who tries to steal Christmas from people's homes (and you may recall that many complained about our Christmases being 'stolen' during Covid restrictions...)

A well-known quote from the book is this:

*And the Grinch, with his Grinch-feet ice cold in the snow, stood puzzling and puzzling, how could it be so?*

*It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags.*

*And he puzzled and puzzled 'till his puzzler was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before.*

*What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more."*

**Christmas, of course, does mean so very much more** – it means that God himself came into the world to show His overwhelming love for each one of us. Christmas – the coming together (Mass) to celebrate Christ's day of birth can never be taken away. It can, however, be forgotten amidst all the decorations, shopping, packages and preparation.

I hope that each of you will meet with others this Christmastide and perhaps there will be giving and receiving of gifts, but I also hope that each of us will take some time to remember, and receive, the greatest gift of all, **Jesus Christ, Gods love gift to us.**

### Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. **Amen**