



# St Mary's & St Luke's Weekly Information Sheet

## Sunday 18 December 2022-Fourth Sunday of Advent



This sheet is also available online at [www.stmaryswistaston.blog](http://www.stmaryswistaston.blog)

*Worship & Prayer in church & online for Sunday and the coming week  
Holy communion will be distributed at Communion Rail with 'Priest intinction'*

### In Church Worship

**We welcome Canon David to both our churches today**

**18<sup>th</sup> December 2022 – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**9am at St Luke`s – Carol Service**

**10.40am at St Mary`s – A Service of Holy Communion**

**7pm at St Mary`s – Nine Lessons and Carols**

*Isaiah 7.10-16 & Matthew 1.18-25*

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**Wednesday at 10am - Holy Communion at St Mary`s  
followed by refreshments**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve**

**5pm – Crib Service & Nativity at St Mary`s**

**11.30pm – Midnight Communion at St Mary`s**

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**Next Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2022 – Christmas Day**

**9am at St Luke`s – A Service of Holy Communion**

**10.40am at St Mary`s – A Service of Holy Communion**

*Isaiah 9.2-7 & Luke 2.1-14*

*All readings are taken from New International Version – UK edition*

### Online Worship

**The 10:40am service is streamed from St Mary`s each Sunday**

**[YouTube.com/StMarysWistaston1](https://www.youtube.com/StMarysWistaston1) & Facebook: [bit.ly/facebookstmarys](https://bit.ly/facebookstmarys)**

**You can also join in by phone: just before 10:40am Call: 0203 051 2874**

**Meeting ID: 838 7878 9259 Participant ID (if asked): # Passcode: 567119**

**Morning Prayer on Zoom is taking a break until January.**

**For Daily Prayer please go to the CofE Website for their excellent daily prayers: [bit.ly/2sHqxHh](https://bit.ly/2sHqxHh)**

## First Reading: Isaiah 7.10-16

### A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, 'Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.'

But Ahaz said, 'I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.'

Then Isaiah said, 'Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: the virgin<sup>[b]</sup> will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, for before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste.

This the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.'

All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the prophet: 'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel' (which means 'God with us').

Matthew 1. 21-23

## **Gospel Reading: Matthew 1.18-25**

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

**Glory to you O Lord.**

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: his mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.'

All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the prophet: 'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel' (which means 'God with us').

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ.**

### **The Collect**

God our redeemer,  
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of your Son:  
grant that, as she looked for his coming  
as our saviour,  
so we may be ready to greet him  
when he comes again as our judge;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Heavenly Father,  
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother  
of the promised saviour:  
fill us your servants  
with your grace,  
that in all things  
we may embrace your holy will  
and with her  
rejoice in your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## News & Information



[stmaryswistaston.blog](http://stmaryswistaston.blog) & [stmaryswistaston.org.uk](http://stmaryswistaston.org.uk)

✨ ✨ There are Christmas fliers at both churches  
take what you can and pass them on ✨ ✨

**Thanks to all those who have prepared our churches for Christmas.** Also, thank you to Motherwell ([motherwellcheshirecio.com](http://motherwellcheshirecio.com)) for arranging the delivery of the free Christmas Tree at St Mary's from Crewe Town Council and to Richmond Village, Nantwich, for the big nativity characters outside St Mary's.

**Good news! The heating at St Mary's is up and running!** Can you help towards the cost of £7800? Consider whether you've been blessed (& heated) by the previous boiler over the past 50 years, if so, consider donating to offset the cost, large or small, online or on the plate. Mark it 'Heating'. You can give online here: [bit.ly/heatingfund](http://bit.ly/heatingfund)

**Both the Bible Study & Prayer Group meetings will now take a break** and will resume Tues Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10.15am for Bible Study & Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm for the Prayer group, meeting at 56 Bowness Road, thanks Jenny Varty 01270 567618.

**St Mary's Cleaning:** many thanks from all of us to those who currently clean the church each week (& St Luke's). We are looking to expand the rota and are looking for more volunteers – **please add your name to the rota in the porch.**

**Cafe Wells Methodist** - Every Friday from 10.30am to 1.30pm our Methodist friends have refreshments including soup and a roll (donations) available along with a warm welcome. Volunteers needed, please ask Sue S for details.

**\*\*LAST CHANCE: Free books in the Choir Vestry! \*\***

**Christmas Office Opening – The Office will close Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December and reopen Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January.** Please be aware if you leave any correspondence or messages, we may not be able to respond until our return. Polly and Teresa wish you all a very Happy Christmas and wish to thank you for all your help and support with the Hall over the last year, it has been truly appreciated! Special mention to Sue Squirrel and Diane who have been an amazing support to Polly and Teresa. Thanks again!

**Prayer for Ukraine Blog:** [bit.ly/weprayforukraine](http://bit.ly/weprayforukraine)



**Advent Study Group** continues this Monday 19th. 7:30pm-9pm at the Rectory. All welcome, even if you were not able to be there previous weeks, each week stands alone.