



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

Sunday 25th December 2022 - Christmas Day



This sheet is also available online at 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'

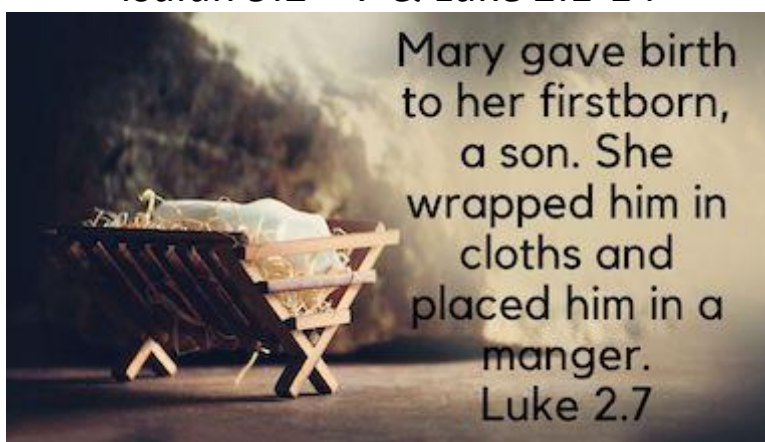
In Church Worship

Sunday 25th 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



No Holy Communion Service on Wednesday 28th December

Next Sunday 1st January 2023 – New Year's Day

The Naming of Jesus

10.40am Joint Service at Mary's along with St Luke's

A Service of Holy Communion

Galatians 4.4–7 & Luke 2.15–21

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

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

First Reading: Isaiah 9.2 - 7

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.

You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy;
they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest,
as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder.

For as in the day of Midian's defeat,
you have shattered the yoke that burdens them,
the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.

Every warrior's boot used in battle
and every garment rolled in blood will be destined
for burning, will be fuel for the fire.

For to 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 greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and for ever.

The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

This the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Collect

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Gospel Reading: Luke 2.1-14

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

Glory to you O Lord.

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while^[a] Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father,
whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

News & Information

stmaryswistaston.blog & stmaryswistaston.org.uk

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'. Many thanks for all the donations already received. You can give online here: bit.ly/heatingfund

Sunday Tea Rota – please if anyone can help on the 1st and 8th of January with refreshments after the Services and other dates through early next year, please can you add your name to the Rota in the Church Hall - thank you!

The LAG enjoyed their Carol Service followed by mince pies and a cuppa in the Church Hall. I would like to wish everyone a peaceful Christmas and best wishes for the New Year. I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM on January 26th. No need to bring refreshments just your lovely selves! Frances

Both the Bible Study & Prayer Group meetings will now take a break and will resume Tues Jan 3rd at 10.15am for Bible Study & Thursday 5th 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.

Christmas Office Opening – The Office will close Friday 23rd December and reopen Wednesday 4th January. Please be aware if you leave any correspondence or messages, we may not be able to respond until our return. Polly & 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. **From January – please note the office will be closed on Mondays, but will be open longer hours from 9.30-1.30pm** on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays (normal 9.30-12.30pm on Fridays).

Prayer for Ukraine Blog: bit.ly/weprayforukraine