St Mary's

& St Luke's
Wistaston & Willaston

# Weekly Information Sheet Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 First Sunday of Christmas

Holy Communion is available at the Communion Rail as follows: to receive a wafer dipped in wine, hold out two hands, or you can receive a wafer only, or a wafer and the Chalice, by holding out one hand. Hands by your side for a blessing.

Gluten Free wafers are available at Communion.

# **In Church Worship**

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 – First Sunday of Christmas 10.40am at St Mary's with St Luke's – Holy Communion *Galatians 4.4-7 & Luke 2.15-21* 

10am at St Mary`s - Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 – Holy Communion Followed by Refreshments

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – The Epiphany 9am at St Luke's – Morning Prayer 10.40am at St Mary's with St Luke's – All Age Holy Communion Ephesians 3.1-12 & Matthew 2.1-12 4pm at St Mary's – A Family Christingle Service



For info: There is a Loop System installed in both of our churches.

At St Mary's we have an accessible toilet available in the Choir Vestry (the door opposite where you came in) with baby changing facilities.

At St Luke's there is an accessible toilet available via the church porch.



To help us to cut down on paper use and printing why not download Service
Orders using the QR code or at <a href="bit.ly/serviceorders">bit.ly/serviceorders</a>
This Weekly Sheet can be viewed online at <a href="stmaryswistaston.blog">stmaryswistaston.blog</a>

# **Online Worship**

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

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 bit.ly/930mp,

9:30am only Thursday this week.

# First Reading: Galatians 4.4-7

# A reading from the Epistle to the Galatians

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father.' So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### The Collect

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

# Gospel Reading: Luke 2.15-21

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

Glory to you O Lord.

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.'

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

### **Post Communion**

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth
the life of an earthly home:
help your Church to live as one family,
united in love and obedience,
and bring us all at last to our home in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **News & Information**

Please join us for our Family Christingle Service at 4pm on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January at St Mary's, bring an orange with you and we'll supply everything else!

Thanks to everyone who helped to prepare our churches, in many different ways, for Christmas this year. It is much appreciated.

There are no refreshments following the service today. As this goes to print, we need volunteers for 7 January 2024 - let a Warden know if you can do it. Please use Easyfundraising to raise money for St Mary's for free. Its quick, and free to sign up: click here for more info <a href="mailto:bit.ly/stmaryseasyfundraising">bit.ly/stmaryseasyfundraising</a> It costs you nothing, but raises money for our churches.

Office hours: The Office will be open Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and then Friday 5<sup>th</sup> for this week only. Please note if you leave any messages or correspondence during this time, we will aim to respond as soon as we return. Polly and Teresa would like to thank everyone for their support over this last year and wish you all a happy and healthy 2024!



Just bring an orange with you and we'll supply everything else

All Welcome!

There will be a collection for the Children's Society

St Mary's Wistaston

A Family Christingle Service in aid of the Children's Society

Sunday
7 January 2024
at 4pm

### **Contact Information**

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All readings are taken from New International Version – UK edition