

St Martin's Weekly Bulletin



SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SERVICES IN CHURCH THIS WEEK

Sunday 8.00am	Said Eucharist
10.00am	Sung Eucharist
2.00pm	Baptism
Thursday 9.30am	Said Eucharist

OPENING HOURS

CHURCH: *Monday to Friday 10am - 3pm*

TEAM OFFICE: *Weekdays, except Wednesdays, 10am - 1pm*

ZOOM SERVICES THIS WEEK

(please contact the host to join the mailing list)

Morning Prayer Monday to Friday at 8.30am

Compline Monday to Friday at 8.30pm

Hosted by Mike Bunclark mbunclark@tiscali.co.uk

Prayers for Peace & Justice on Saturdays at 4pm

Hosted by Joan Hazzard joanhazz@gmail.com



**Parish of St Martin with St Peter
in the Worcester South East Team**

www.stmartinsworcester.org.uk

01905 358083

NOTICES

Advent Appeal for Acorns Children's Hospice

Please give generously to our Advent Appeal, by cash or card. There are leaflets and booklets about Acorns at the back of Church for you to take away.

Junior Church meets today. Children leave the service with a parent/carer, after the Collect prayer, for activities downstairs. Please note that this is the last Junior Church of the year, resuming on Sunday 5 January. Next Sunday morning will be a normal Sung Eucharist service, and not an Altogether Worship service.

Advent reflections during Compline - Tuesdays at 8.00pm on Zoom

If you would like to join these special reflections for Advent on Tuesdays, please contact Mike for the Zoom details: mbunclark@tiscali.co.uk

Mainly Music and Kids Club - last session before Christmas break

Mainly Music (Wed 9.30am) and Kids Club (Thu 4pm) meet this week for their Christmas parties and their last sessions of the term.

Funeral of Sheila Treacher - Wednesday 18 December, 2.00pm

The funeral will be followed by a cremation, then refreshments at the Diglis Hotel.

Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols, Sunday 22 December, 6.00pm

This year's carol service will continue to celebrate local musicians with arrangements of carols by Rosemary Field and Adrian Lucas. There will also be familiar carols by John Joubert, Andrew Carter and Boris Ord. The service will be followed by mince pies and mulled wine.

Thanks from Frances Hawker

Frances would like to say thank you very much for the flowers given to her for her 90th birthday, it was a lovely surprise for her.

Thanks from Joan Hazzard for all the thoughts, prayers and kindnesses for her recent operation, which were much appreciated.

Christmas stamps - please remember to save your Christmas stamps for USPG and Embrace. Please put them in the labelled box at the back of Church.

Medical assistance items needed for Ukrainians in Worcester

Medical assistance items are urgently needed by wounded Ukrainian defenders and civilians. If you, or someone you know, has hospital walking boots (for broken feet), crutches, walking frames, or wheelchairs, or anything else for medical assistance, in good working condition, please send a message to Liliana on 07867241597, or email lilumilen@ukr.net

Lasletts Almhouse Charity flats available on Union Street, Worcester

Two flats have become available, a ground floor and a first floor flat, each for a single resident over 60. There are a number of other criteria that need to met to qualify for a place. For more information please contact Rebecca in the Office.

Team Office arrangements over Christmas

The Team Office will close on Friday 20 December at 1pm, and reopen on Friday 3 January, although emails will be monitored from Monday 30 December.

10.00am SUNG EUCHARIST

The **Order of Service** is in a separate booklet, large print copies are available. This **Bulletin** contains the words of the hymns and readings, as well as notices and prayers for the week. You are welcome to take it home. If you would like a kneeler, please ask a member of the Welcome Team.

Celebrant & Preacher **Revd Mike Bunclark**
Organ **Robin Walker**

The Communion setting is by Bach (music copies available from the Welcome Team)

Hymn NEH 345 Christ is the King! O friends rejoice;
Brothers and sisters, with one voice
Make people know he is your choice:
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya.

The first Apostles round them drew
Thousands of faithful men and true,
Sharing a faith forever knew:
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya.

Then magnify the Lord, and raise
Anthems of joy and holy praise
For Christ's brave saints of ancient days:
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya.

O Christian women, Christian men,
All the world over, seek again
The Way disciples followed then:
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya.

Christ through all ages is the same;
Place the same hope in his great name,
With the same faith his word proclaim;
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya.

Let love's unconquerable might
God's people everywhere unite
In service to the Lord of light:
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya.

George K A Bell (1883-1958)

See pages 2-4 in the Order of Service

Collect O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare, and make ready your way,
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight. **Amen.**

First Reading Zephaniah 3.14-20

A reading from the Book of the prophet Zephaniah

- ¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!
- ¹⁵ The Lord has taken away the judgements against you,
he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.
- ¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.
- ¹⁷ The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing
- ¹⁸ as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.
- ¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors at that time.
And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
- ²⁰ At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned
and praised among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Please join with the Choir in singing the Psalm

Psalm 146.4-10

All sing the response after the Choir has sung it once, then after each section.

Simon Lesley

Response
I will praise the Lord as long as I live.



Response I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

- 4 Happy are those who have the God of Jacob | for their help,
whose hope is in the | Lord their God;
- 5 Who made heaven and earth,
the sea and all | that is in them;
who keeps his pro | mise for ever;

Response I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

- 6 Who gives justice to those that | suffer wrong
and bread to | those who hunger.
- 7 The Lord looses those | that are bound;
the Lord opens the eyes | of the blind;

Response I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

- 8 The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord | loves the righteous;
- 9 The Lord watches over the stranger in the land;
he upholds the or | phan and widow;
but the way of the wicked he turns | upside down.
- 10 The Lord shall reign for ever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all | generations.

Response I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

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Second Reading Philippians 4.4-7

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians

- 4 Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say, Rejoice.
- 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone.
The Lord is near.
- 6 Do not worry about anything,
but in everything by prayer and supplication
with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
- 7 And the peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn NEH 6

Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes,
The Saviour promised long!
Let every heart prepare a throne,
And every voice a song.

He comes the prisoners to release
In Satan's bondage held;
The gates of brass before him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of his grace
Enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heaven's eternal arches ring
With thy beloved name.

Philip Doddridge (1702-51)

Gospel Luke 3.7-18

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Please join the Choir in the sung Gospel Acclamation after the words

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you O Lord

- 7 John said to the crowds that came out to be baptised by him,
'You brood of vipers!
Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
- 8 Bear fruits worthy of repentance.
Do not begin to say to yourselves,
"We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you,
God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.
- 9 Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees;
every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit
is cut down and thrown into the fire.'
- 10 And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?'
- 11 In reply he said to them,
'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none;
and whoever has food must do likewise.'
- 12 Even tax-collectors came to be baptised, and they asked him,
'Teacher, what should we do?'
- 13 He said to them,
'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.'
- 14 Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?'
- He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats
or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'
- 15 As the people were filled with expectation,
and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John,
whether he might be the Messiah,
- 16 John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptise you with water;
but one who is more powerful than I is coming;
I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals.
He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
- 17 His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor
and to gather the wheat into his granary;
but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'
- 18 So, with many other exhortations,
he proclaimed the good news to the people.

/Continued...

Please join the Choir in the sung Gospel Acclamation after the words

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you O Christ

The Sermon follows, then see pages 5-7 in the Order of Service

Offertory Hymn NEH 415 (Tune: NEH 346 Richmond)

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My dear Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of his grace!

Jesus - the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean;
His blood availed for me.

He speaks; and, listening to his voice,
New life the dead receive,
The mournful broken hearts rejoice,
The humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
Your loosened tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Saviour come;
And leap, ye lame, for joy!

My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim
And spread through all the earth abroad
The honours of thy name.

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

See pages 7-12 in the Order of Service

Then sing the acclamations after the words:

Great is the mystery of faith



Anthem Rejoice in the Lord alway - Hall Johnson

Rejoice in the Lord alway, and again I say rejoice.
Let your moderation be known unto all men.
The Lord is at hand.

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing
by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving,
let your requests be made known unto God.
And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding,
shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true
whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just,
whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely,
whatsoever things are of good report, think on these things.
If there is any virtue, and if there be any praise,
think on these things.

And the God of peace will be with you.
Now unto God our Father be glory for ever and ever.
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

Text from Philippians 4.4-7

After Communion

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

See page 13 in the Order of Service

Final Hymn SP 15

People, look east to see at last
Hopes fulfilled from ages past:
Now in the promise of the morning,
See, a brighter day is dawning,
Rich with the visions long foretold,
Prophets' dreams from days of old.

God reaffirms the gracious call:
Words of welcome meant for all;
Comfort enough for all our sorrows;
Justice shaping new tomorrows.
Mercy bears fruit in lives restored,
Freed to praise and serve the Lord.

Now, with the coming of the light,
Darkest fears are put to flight;
See how the clouds of gloom are clearing,
Blown aside by hope's appearing.
Jesus, the Light of all our days,
Comes and sets our hearts ablaze.

Born of our race, a child so small –
Hail the promised Lord of all!
Nailed to a cross for our salvation,
He shall rule God's new creation.
Lift up your eyes and look again:
See, he comes in power to reign!

Martin Leckenbusch (b.1962)
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See page 13 in the Order of Service

Voluntary Prelude - F Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

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Next Week's Readings: Micah 5.2-5a; Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1.39-45

PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH

People in sickness or need

Michael Wood	Roderick Dovey	Sandra Giles	Sheila Sergeant
Mark Farthing	Veronica	Sophie Kelleher	Peter Fisher
Meg Melvin	David Dale	Chris Dale	Joan Hazzard
Marilyn Daly	Colin Groves	Valerie Castle	

For those in continued trouble

Jo Menagh	Adam	Donna Vickers
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The recently departed

Gwendoline Cartwright	Sheila Treacher
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Anniversary of death

Doug Chapman	Percy Simpson	Joan Faram	Joan Ogden
Harold Evans	Hughie Wood	Margaret Bignell	Betty Jenkins
Stanley Pratley			

DAILY READINGS AND PRAYERS

Mon 16 Numbers 24.2-17

Matthew 21.23-27

We pray for all the teachers, parents, carers and children who visit our Church for school Christmas services. We pray that the true meaning of Christmas would reach their own hearts and homes.

Tue 17 Genesis 49.2-10

Matthew 1.1-17

We pray for our team clergy, ministers and churchwardens as they lead and oversee our worship services over the Christmas period. Sustain them, encourage them, and bless their work amongst us.

Wed 18 Jeremiah 23.5-8

Matthew 1.18-24

We pray for our Mainly Music club and Kids Club as they celebrate Christmas in their groups this week. May they learn the Christmas story, and may Immanuel, God with us, be present in all their activities.

Thu 19 Judges 13.2-end

Luke 1.5-25

We pray for our hurting world as pain and violence continues in many places. We pray that the Prince of Peace would bring healing and hope.

Fri 20 Isaiah 7.10-14

Luke 1.26-38

We pray for our Director of Music, Choir, and Associate Organist, as they prepare to lead our sung worship over Christmas. Lord, we thank you for the beauty of music as it lifts our hearts to you in praise.

Sat 21 Zephaniah 3.14-18

Luke 1.39-45

May we approach this Christmas with new awe and wonder, as the message of Christmas unfolds. May we too come and worship the new born King, and recognise him as Saviour and Lord.

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK?

The full Church diary for this week, and next week, is displayed on the noticeboard in the Lower Vestry. Please speak to Rebecca if you have any queries, or to book your event or meeting into the diary, to avoid disappointment.

Saturday 14 December

10.00am	Open Church Lower Vestry
10.00am	Wedding setup Church
2.00pm	Wedding Church

Sunday 15 December

8.00am	Said Eucharist Lady Chapel
10.00am	Sung Eucharist Church
2.00pm	Baptism Church

Monday 16 December

Tuesday 17 December

10.00am	Stanley Road Primary School Visit Church
1.15pm	Red Hill Primary School rehearsal Church
6.00pm	Red Hill Primary School Carol Service Church

Wednesday 18 December

9.30am	Mainly Music Church
11.15am	Bible Study Lower Vestry
2.00pm	Funeral of Sheila Treacher Church

Thursday 19 December

9.30am	Said Eucharist Church
10.00am	Poplins Lower Vestry
1.30pm	Fort Royal School Service
2.30pm	Kids Club Setup Church
4.00pm	Kids Club Church
7.30pm	WSO Christmas Event Church

Friday 20 December

1.00pm	Funeral of Gwendoline Cartwright Church
6.00pm	Organ Practice Church
7.00pm	Choir Practice Lower Vestry

Saturday 21 December

Sunday 22 December

8.00am	Said Eucharist Lady Chapel
10.00am	Sung Eucharist Church
4.00pm	Choir rehearsal Church
6.00pm	Nine Lessons & Carols by Candlelight Church
