

St Matthias & St George Parish Church.
A member of “Christ the King” team ministry.
Week Commencing 8th December 2019

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 15 v 5-6

Fr Glenn Reading - Team Vicar
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**Today's Services for Sunday,
8th December**

10.30 am sung Eucharist (Common Worship)
Sunday Stars Nativity rehearsal
Hymns: 59 Awake, awake, fling off the night
401 On Jordan's bank
358 O come, O come Emmanuel
172 God is working His purpose out

Services for W/C 8th December

Monday 9th 12 noon Mid-day prayers
Tuesday 10th 10.00 am said Eucharist
Sunday 15th 9.00 am said Eucharist (CW)
10.30 am Sunday Stars Nativity rehearsal
6.30 pm sung Evensong (BCP)

We pray for those who are sick:- Philippa, Rosie, Alex, Jean, Joyce, Margaret, Marion, Alexei, Dora, Margaret, Stewart, Margaret, Nesta, Hazel, Heather, Ben, Carol, Talisein, Carla and their families.

We pray for the soul of Reverend Ivor Merry recently departed after a long illness and hold his wife Dora and his family in our prayers. Ivor was a Non -Stipendiary Priest at St Luke's (now the Bridge) before coming to SS Matthias & George. His funeral will be at 11.45 am on Monday 16th December at Redditch Crematorium.

Foodbanks: There is a box at the rear of the church in which food and toiletry gifts can be placed which will go to **Nightstop**, **New Start** and **Home Start**. Items particularly needed are:

Instant mash	Honey
Tinned meat –ham,	Peanut butter
corn beef,	Chocolate spread
Tinned hot meat –	Jam
casserole, meatballs	Sponge puddings
Tinned carrots,	Custard
potatoes	Rice puddings
Pasta sauce	Tinned fruit
Curry sauce	Squash

Spotlight Notices: Please give notices for inclusion in Spotlight to **Richard Porteous** by next Thursday on 01527 542620 or at richardporteous@yahoo.co.uk.
Log onto our website for more information
www.astwoodbankchurch.org.uk

Diary dates: - ‘Experience Christmas’
Please pick up a leaflet about Experience Christmas at the Bridge on Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th December. Booking essential!

- Thursday 19th 6.30 – 8pm, Carols Around the Village starting at the Oddfellows in Foregate Street and ending at church for mulled wine and mince pies. Mmmm!.

- Sunday 22nd Carol Service at 6.00 pm at the **Bridge**, Headless Cross. All are welcome

-Tuesday 24th 6pm Christingle and Nativity;
11.30 pm - Midnight Mass both here in church

Foliage Wanted: Rhonda and the floral team will be decorating the church for Christmas and require lots of foliage. If you can help, please bring foliage to the church during W/B 15th December or contact Rhonda on 893560 to make alternative arrangements.

Irene, Pauline, Janine and Natalie would like to thank all those who helped at, or attended, the recent Christmas Fayre, which raised £559.

Forthcoming CTiR Events: Kingfisher Centre Carols – noon, Saturday 14th Redditch Community Gospel Choir; Saturday 21st 11am, with a joint CTiR choir.

Radiate Redditch will open its Christmas Hub from 24th December to 1st January inclusive (closed 28th December). The **Daytime Drop-in** will be open from 11.00am to 4.00pm offering hot drinks and snacks during the day, a hot meal at lunchtime, hopefully some entertainment and most importantly a warm, friendly atmosphere.

This year, for the first time, there will no overnight accommodation; however, the organisation CCP will operate a Severe Weather Emergency Provision at Redditch Baptist Church on nights when the temperature is predicted to fall below freezing.

Please pray that enough volunteers will come forward to help; that those guests who need company, support and friendship during the Christmas season will find their way to The Hub; that good relationships will be built and that all who come to the Hub will encounter the love of God in action; for all rough sleepers on the streets of our town, that they will engage with those offering help and support.

