

Welcome to St Matthias & St George Parish Church.
A member of "Christ the King" team ministry.
Week Commencing Sunday 16th December 2018

And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4: v 7

Fr Glenn Reading - Team Vicar
Tel 01527 894436 or 07964 282278

Today's Service for Sunday 16th December 3rd Sunday of Advent,

9.00 am said Eucharist (Common Worship) with
10.30 am Nativity rehearsals in the hall

4.30 pm sung Evensong (BCP) *Please note the change from the usual time.*

Hymns: 287 Just as I am, without one plea
307 Lo, he comes with clouds descending
457 Stand up, stand up for Jesus
329 Make me a channel of your peace

Services for W/C 16th December

Monday 17th 12 noon Mid-day prayers

Tuesday 18th 10.00 am said Eucharist

Sunday 23rd December 10.30 am sung Eucharist (Common Worship), 10.30 am Nativity rehearsal.

6.30 pm Carol Service

Monday 24th 6.00 pm Nativity and Christingle

We pray for those who are sick:- Mick Bolt, Philippa Kreuser, Rosie, Alex, Edna Weale, Jean Lees, Joyce Thomas, Margaret Emms, Margaret Mills, Marion Williams, Tally, Alexei, Sarah Harwood, Rosemary Hudson, Rev Ivor and Dora Merry, Margaret Savage, Ann Heath, Liz, Janie and Stewart Kirby, Nesta Pearman, Kerry.

*There are **Christian Aid** leaflets at the back of Church to take home and read. One is about choosing a charity gift for that difficult person. An interesting read. Also there is a Christian Aid magazine with moving articles about the Rohingya people and the country of Kenya. Please take them, read them and pass them on to others.*

Further to last week's rousing Alcester Male Voice Choir concert, Irene would like to thank all those who attended and helped in any way. An impressive sum of over £600 was raised for church funds.

Stamps! In case anyone is unaware Christmas is coming. Please put any stamps collected from Christmas cards in the box at the back of the church or in an envelope through Pam Emery's letterbox.

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

Foliage Wanted: Rhonda and her team of floral decorators will be decorating the church from 2pm onwards on Sunday 23rd December and require lots of foliage. If you can help, please bring foliage to the church on the day or contact Rhonda on 893560 to make alternative arrangements.

Churches Together in Redditch: The December call to prayer is different as we are invited to pray for all churches and congregation in the CTiR group. There are at least 21 congregations in the Redditch area that are formal members of CTiR, and several other fellowships. We are asked to pray *for the congregations and ministers in each of these churches:* that we also will be refreshed, renewed, encouraged, enthused, even surprised as we celebrate the coming of Christ's birth. We pray that through our activities and services, new people will be reached and receive the good news of His coming.

Nightstop foodbank: *In the run up to Christmas, which will be very bleak for several families, please remember that there is a box at the rear of the church in which you can place food and toiletry gifts.*

Christmas Hub Night Shelter: *This year it will take place from Monday 24th December to Tuesday 1st January 2019 inclusive at the Ecumenical Centre. It will provide 10 nights of food, shelter and warmth for any rough sleepers. We pray for sufficient material and financial provision to run the Night Shelter - and also the Daytime Hub in the Ecumenical Centre which will be open from 11am - 4pm providing drinks/snacks to the lonely and vulnerable. We pray for sufficient numbers of appropriate volunteers to staff the hub and shelter and that those most in need will find their way to this refuge for those in material or social need.*



'Singing by Heart', the Salvation Army initiative which brings those affected by dementia and their carers together to enjoy an hour of singing popular songs and well-known hymns, will be meeting between 2-3 pm on Thursday 20th December at their centre in Ipsley Street, B98 7AR

Carols Around The Village: Come and sing carols around the village and then enjoy mince pies and mulled wine afterwards. Meet at the Community Meeting Room on the corner of Retreat/Foregate Streets at 6.30pm on Thursday 20th December.

