

**St Matthias & St George Parish Church.**  
**A member of “Christ the King” team ministry.**  
**Week Commencing 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019 Advent Sunday**

*He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. Isaiah 2 v 4*

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

**Today’s Services for Sunday,  
 1<sup>st</sup> December**

9.00 am said Eucharist (BCP)  
**Nb. There will be no 10.30 am informal Family Service today.**

*Please note that today’s Toy Service has been cancelled. See opposite column.*

**Services for W/C 1st December**  
 Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> 12 noon Mid-day prayers  
 Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> 10.00 am said Eucharist  
 Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am sung Eucharist (Common Worship); Nativity rehearsal for Sunday Stars

**We pray for those who are sick:-** Philippa, Rosie, Alex, Jean, Joyce, Margaret, Marion, Alexei, Dora, Margaret, Ann, 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.**

**Foodbanks:** Research has shown that there is a 43% rise in the number of people using foodbanks against the same period last year! There is a box at the rear of the church in which food and toiletry gifts can be placed which will go to **Nightstop** which supports under 25's who are homeless. We also regularly support New Start and Home Start and their families. Items particularly needed are:

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

**Irene** would like to thank all those who helped at yesterday’s Christmas Fayre and to all those who attended. The amount raised will be given next Sunday.

**Regrettably, today’s 4.00 pm Toy Service has had to be cancelled.** *However, it does allow extra time to bring along toys and place them at the back of the church for distribution by Irene and Ian during W/B 8<sup>th</sup> December. Toys for all ages should not be wrapped but placed in a Christmas or plain bag; they’ll be wrapped later.*

**Diary dates: - Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 6.30 – 8pm, Carols Around the Village** starting at the Oddfellows in Foregate Street.

**-Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 6pm Christingle and Nativity; 11.30 pm - Midnight Mass**

**General Election hustings.** CTiR is organising hustings at 7pm on Tuesday 3rd December at Redditch Baptist Church, Easemore Road. All congregations in Redditch are welcome.

Pastor Andrew Diaper will chair the meeting which will be conducted along the lines of BBC’s ‘Question Time’. The Chair will select questions from individuals who have submitted them by 7.30 pm on the night; they in turn will be invited to stand and ask their question.

Doors will open at 7 pm for refreshments and question submission. The Chair will make his opening remarks at 7.45 pm then each candidate will make a 90 second statement. Questions in the first half will be on national issues; following a comfort break questions will then be on local issues. Candidates will each have 90 seconds for a closing statement, followed by closing remarks by Pastor Diaper. The meeting will close soon after 9.45 pm.

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

**Newsflash!!** Please pick up a leaflet re: on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

**‘Experience Christmas’,** at The Bridge Church Booking essential.

