

St Matthias & St George Parish Church.
A member of "Christ the King" team ministry
Week commencing Sunday December 19th 2021, fourth Sunday of Advent.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace. Micah v 4 – 5a

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Covid safety measures: Due to the current Covid 'Omicron' mutation, we strongly encourage the use of face coverings in church, and also maintain social distancing as precautions. These precautions will also be applied at funerals & baptisms. The congregation will be able to sing with face coverings in place.

Today's service at Astwood Bank is Holy Communion at 10.30 am.

*4pm Carol Service at St Peter's Crabbs Cross
6.30 pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols,
Feckenham Church.*

Forthcoming Services at Ss Matthias & George Astwood Bank are:
10 am, Tuesday 21st December, Traditional Language Eucharist
6pm Friday 24th Christmas Eve, Crib Blessing and Carol Service
11pm Midnight Mass
10 am 25th Christmas Day, Holy Communion
10.30 am 26th Boxing Day, Eucharist with Carols.

Please note - additional online services.

- Accompany Fr Glenn as he streams Sunday Evening Prayer at 6.30 pm on our Facebook page.
- *Mthr Victoria offers Compline on **Thursdays, at 8pm this week with carols. Please note change of time.***
Just press ctrl+ and click on the following link
<https://www.facebook.com/victoria.barlow.750>

We pray for those who are sick: Rosie, Alex, Jean, Margaret Emms, Marion, Alexei, Dora, Margaret Savage, Carol, Carla, Carole, Tim, Jon & Naomi, Gill Colin, Steven, Margaret Andrew, Brian, Christopher,

Foodbanks: Small hampers of 'nice Christmas things' i.e. chocolate bars/coins, small Xmas puds, crackers, dates, figs etc. are still being prepared for distribution to Homestart families. Please put any such gifts in the food box at the rear of the church. See item in next column.

The monthly pattern of services at SS Matthias & George is as follows.

1st Sunday 4pm, Common Holy Communion
2nd Sunday 4pm, Common Holy Communion
3rd Sunday 10.30am, Common Holy Communion
*4th Sunday 4pm, **Informal Holy Communion***

Stamps: Pam Emery is collecting stamps for *The Alex, League of Friends*. Please put any you may have in the box at the back of the church or in an envelope through Pam's letterbox.

Chutney! Ann Robinson has been recently slaving over a hot stove making chutneys and jams for Christmas *mmm!* If you would like to buy any of these, then please see Ann after morning service or ring her on 01527 893214. All proceeds will go to church funds.

Toys and Christmas hamper items. Karen Jones from Homestart was thrilled to pick up all the toys and Christmas hamper food items collected across the benefice, following the Toy Service last Sunday at The Bridge Church. She and her staff wish to thank all those who have contributed to making Christmas a happier occasion, than would otherwise have been, for the families who use Homestart. If you still wish to contribute toys or Christmassy foodstuffs then please put them in the box at the rear of church and I will ensure that they reach her by Tuesday.

Reflections on Advent "The celebration of Advent is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, and who look forward to something greater to come." ~ **Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

*"God of hope, I look to you with an open heart and yearning spirit. During this Advent season, I will keep alert and awake, listening for your word and keeping to your precepts. My hope is in you." ~ **Matthew Kelly***

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion Collect for today.

Please give notices for inclusion in next week's Spotlight to Richard Porteous by next Thursday on 01527 542620 or at richardporteous@yahoo.co.uk

We wish everyone a peaceful and blessed Christmas

