

**St Matthias & St George Parish Church.**  
**A member of "Christ the King" team ministry**  
**Christmas 2021**

*While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.*  
Luke 2 v 6-7

**Fr Glenn Reading – Team Vicar**  
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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.

**Services this Christmastide**  
**6 pm 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve, Blessing of the Crib**  
**11 pm Midnight Mass**  
**10 am 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day, Eucharist with carols**  
**10.30 am 26<sup>th</sup> St Stephen's Day, Eucharist with carols**

*There will be no weekday services this coming week as Fr Glenn and Mthr Victoria will be having a well earned rest with their families.*

**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 **9pm**. 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, Christopher,

We pray for the souls of **Margaret Andrew** and **Brian Richards** recently departed, and hold their children and grandchildren in our prayers at this difficult time.

**Foodbanks:** *There is a box at the rear of the church in which food and toiletry gifts can be placed which will go to Redditch Homestart.*

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](mailto:richardporteous@yahoo.co.uk)

**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.

**Grateful thanks from Homestart.** 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 at The Bridge Church. She and her staff wish to thank all those who have contributed to making Christmas a much happier occasion, than would otherwise have been, for the families who use Homestart.

**Christmas Poems and poem extracts.**

*"No love that in a family dwells,  
No carolling in frosty air,  
Nor all the steeple-shaking bells  
Can with this single Truth compare –  
That God was man in Palestine  
And lives today in Bread and Wine"*

**Last verse of Christmas by John Betjeman**

Jesus is the reason for the season,  
So think of him in all that you do.  
The good you do others this season,  
Should be carried out all year too.

**Wilda English**

*"God grant you the light in Christmas, which is faith;  
the warmth of Christmas, which is love;  
the radiance of Christmas, which is purity;  
the righteousness of Christmas, which is justice;  
the belief in Christmas, which is truth;  
the all of Christmas, which is Christ."*

**Kelly Roper**

**We wish everyone a peaceful and blessed  
Christmas and New Year**

