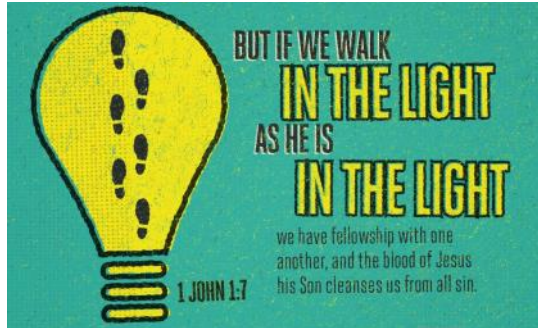


Sunday 17th December 2023

Welcome to our Services



Holy Communion, St. Mary's, 9.30am

Readings. Isaiah 61. 1-4, 8-end and John 1. 6-8, 19-28

**Carols by Candlelight, Church of the Holy Spirit,
6.30pm**



Sunday Services will continue to be streamed on facebook

CHS: <https://www.facebook.com/widfordparishchelmsford/>

St Mary's: <https://www.facebook.com/stmaryswidford/>

WIDFORD PARISH MISSION STATEMENT PRAYER

Loving Heavenly Father, please help us to grow to be more like Jesus.
We want to get to know Christ together by loving one another, serving others and being at the heart of our community. Lord Jesus please encourage us on our way. Amen

Collect. Third Sunday of Advent

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The funeral of Joyce Dines will take place on 19th December at 11.30am St. Mary's. All are welcome. Please pray for the family.

For those who knew Keith and Linda Taylor, Keith sadly died last Sunday in Broomfield Hospital. He was surrounded by familiar faces from Widford days, Ros C's daughter was one of his nurses. Please pray for Linda and family as they prepare for his funeral.

Last opening date for the Hope Café is Monday 18th December and then closed until the Monday 8th January 2024. Merry Christmas to you all.

Training for use of the Defibrillator will be organized for those who wish to take part.

Watch out for dates from January onwards.

This can be life or death, you could save a life.



This is a call out for mince pies for the Carol Service at CHS please, 17th December . Many thanks.

Jean and Chris Wright send seasonal greeting to all their friends in Widford.

Epiphany shared lunch at CHS on Sunday 7th January, 2023 from 12:30pm. There will be a selection of hot meals and an Epiphany cake to share!

We shall be having another Quiz Night on Friday 12th January. Please put this date in your diaries and start inviting family and friends. Exact details later but it will probably be 6.45pm for 7.00pm start with tickets at £7.50, which includes a Ploughman's. Tickets available from office before the event. Make up tables of 6-8 or turn up on the night and join another table. Proceeds go towards the new Church Trailer. ALSO we hope to hold an Auction during the break, so if you can offer a talent of something you are happy to do or donate something, please tell Alan J.

A Little Christmas Ditty

Christmas is coming
Widford's in a twist
Making many preparations
and some of them must be missed

The Christmas windows are in place
The decorations done.
"Messy Church does Christmas"
Should be a lot of fun.

The candles are all waiting
The crib is ready too.
Invitations have gone out
To the Church Club Christmas do.

Christingle is over now
But a carol service is due
So why not come and join us
And may God bless you

Shirley Deering



Mon 18th	Hope Café/Soft Play<5>	9.00-12.00	Parish Centre
Mon 18th	Bridge Club	1.00-4.30pm	Parish Centre
Wed 20th	Morning Prayer	9.15am	Prayer Room
Wed 20th	Music Practice	7.30-9.00pm	CHS
Sun 24th	All Age Crib Service	4.30pm	CHS
Sun 24th	Midnight Communion	11.00pm	St. Mary's

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rector: Rev'd Stephanie
Gillingham [01245 477 818](tel:01245477818)
revsgillingham@outlook.com

Day off Thursdays.

Youth Worker: Jess Wiseman
Jess.wiseman@hotmail.co.uk
[07938504117](tel:07938504117)

Churchwardens:-

Mrs Barbara Jones (CHS)
Mr Keith Schofield (CHS)
Mr Bob Wiseman (St Mary's)

Caretaker:-

Miss. Tammy Squirrel
[07930 940056](tel:07930940056)

St Mary's Church

London Road, Widford CM2 8TE

The Parish Office and CHS:-

Forest Drive, CM1 2TS
The office is open Mon-Fri
9:30am—12:30pm, but the email
and phone is checked regularly.
t: [01245 355 989](tel:01245355989)
e: widfordchurchtalk@gmail.com
w: www.widfordparish.com

Monday: Bob
Tuesday (Churchtalk): Barbara O
Wednesday: Jess
Thursday: Shirley + Val
Friday: Sylvia

Let us remember today, the 17th,
those living in, Mary Munion Quarter
and Miami House, also John M and
Colin and Tracy M, from our Parish
prayer directory.

For inclusion here please let,
Stephanie or one of the wardens
know, alternatively send a message
to widfordchurchtalk@gmail.com
headed "Prayer request".

There is also a **Prayer Chain via
Text** message on [07368136770](tel:07368136770)
for specific prayer requests.
Please also remember in your
prayers our tithe charities, this week:

**Grassroots (alleviating poverty
and sponsoring children in
Kyrgyzstan)**

At [https://www.facebook.com/
widfordparishchelmsford/](https://www.facebook.com/widfordparishchelmsford/)

And [https://www.facebook.com/
stmaryswidford/](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryswidford/)

Have you checked
out the church's
website at
www.widfordparish.com which is
updated every week. There is more
information about what goes on in/at
church, and links to partner
organisations. Why not check it out??

