

Welcome to our Services



Holy Communion, St. Mary's, 9.30am
Readings: Micah 5: 2-5a Luke 1: 39-45

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



All 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

4th Sunday of Advent

Collect

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Finding silence to hear the Angels sing

The Right Reverend Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani—Bishop of Chelmsford

At my house, the roar of traffic on the A12 is a constant companion. We all live in a very noisy world, whether it's the noise of traffic, telephones, or (this time of year) the endless Christmas background music in shops. And if it's not external noise, it's our own internal soundtrack of anxiety about COVID, or work, or climate change, or our children, and so on. We might ask just where is the promised peace of the new-born Christ Child, the baby who was foretold as the coming "Prince of Peace"? It came upon the midnight clear, is a favourite carol for many, and it contains that wonderful image of the world falling silent in the middle of the night on that first Christmas Eve to hear the angels sing to the shepherds on the hillside outside Bethlehem; telling of the birth of Jesus, the long-promised Messiah. The carol goes on to remind us that the noise and clamour of our world is threatening to overpower and drown out the love song of the angels –perhaps even more true today than when the words were written in 1849. If only we could find some silence to hear the angels sing again –and there are so many in our world who need, desperately, to hear that song of peace, love and joy. The first verse of It came upon the midnight clear offers a wonderful image of the hope we cling to—that one day, that longed-for peace will come and we will all join in the angels' song. In the busyness and noise of this Christmas season, my hope and prayer for us all is that we can find at least a few moments of peace and quiet to pause and reflect on the true heart of Christmas –and perhaps even hear the angels sing once more at the birth of the Saviour.

Parish Retreat

Friday 18th to Sunday 20th March 2022. It is at the Anglican Shrine, Walsingham. Close to Wells-Next-the-Sea miniature railway, Shirehall Museum and Fakenham, so lots to do in the area, or you could enjoy the quiet, beautiful surroundings of the shrine or Walsingham village!

Those who have signed up, we will be (asap) paying the deposit to secure your place. The deposit is £30 per person. If you haven't signed up but would like to come please let Jess know urgently.

This weekend is during our time of slowing down over Lent, encouraged by Bishop Guli, so it would be great to go on a retreat together to recharge.

Let's support St Luke's, Moulsham as they hold their CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL!

Saturday 18th 10am-4.30pm
Sunday 19th 1pm-4pm

FREE Entry
Refreshments Available



Saturday 2-4pm Children's Christmas Workshop

(fun activities and Santa's Grotto £2 per child)

Christmas Mini Market Sunday 1-4pm

(Stock up on festive gifts and treats from a range of craft stalls)

Sunday 4pm—Community Carols

**CHELMSFORD FOODBANK
CHRISTMAS SHOPPING LIST**

Thank you for your continued support.

UHT milk
Tinned ham
Minced pies
Fruit squash
Chocolate log
Tinned salmon
Tinned custard
Christmas cake
UHT fruit juice
Boxes of biscuits
Christmas pudding
Chocolate selection boxes

Items can be delivered to our
warehouse in
Beehive Lane, thank you

St Mary's will be holding an open morning on Wednesday 22nd December 10am-12 noon. Tea and coffee available!
Come and see our church beautifully decorated for Christmas! Bob :)

The Funeral of Eileen Fowler is taking place on New Years Eve (31st December), at St Michael's Church, Galleywood.

Annual Reports for 2021

In 2022 we will be honouring Lent by withdrawing from meetings as much as possible, in order for Lynette to get the report drafted, she needs your help a little earlier than usual. Many thanks. Stephanie.

Mon. 20th	Coffee Morning	10am - 12 noon	CHS
Mon. 20th	Bridge Club	1pm- 4.30pm	Parish Centre
Wed. 22nd	Morning Prayer	9.15am	CHS
Fri.24th	Nativity Service	3.00pm	CHS
Fri. 24th	Midnight Communion	11.00pm	St. Mary's
Sat. 25th	Family Service	10.00am	CHS
Sun. 26th	No Services		

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rector: Rev'd Stephanie Gillingham
[01245 477 818](tel:01245477818)

stephaniegillingham@hotmail.co.uk
Day off Thursdays.

Youth Worker: Jess Wiseman
Jess.wiseman@hotmail.co.uk
[07938 504117](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)

The Parish Office:

Forest Drive, CM1 2TS
The office is currently opened limited hours but the email and phone will be 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
Friday (the diary): Sylvia

Let us remember today, the 19th, those living in Nabbott Road and Parkinson Drive, also, Dave Oxford and Barbara Oxlade, 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 for specific prayer requests.

Please also remember in your prayers our tithe charities, this week:

The Edapal Family

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

And <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?



If you have missed any services, you can catch up here:
St Mary's: www.facebook.com/pg/stmaryswidford/videos/
CHS: www.facebook.com/pg/widfordparishchelmsford/videos/

You do not need to be a member of Facebook to access

