

Welcome to our Services

Therefore the Lord himself shall give
you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall
conceive, and bear a son, and shall
call his name Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14



Holy Communion, St. Mary's, 9.30am

Readings: Isaiah 7. 10-16 and Matthew 1. 18-end

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

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 for 21st December. 4th Sunday of Advent

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

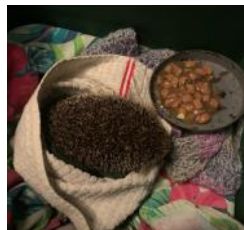
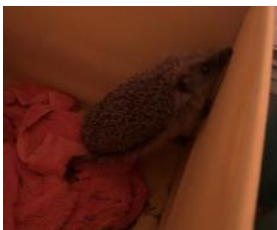
Collect for 24th December. Christmas Eve

Almighty God, as we prepare with joy to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child, embrace the earth with your glory and be for us a living hope in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Collect for 25th December. Christmas Day

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. Amen!

Eco tip: if you notice a hedgehog out and about, it might need your help! Due to the fluctuating temperatures, many hedgehogs are waking early from hibernation. At this time of year there are very few natural food sources for hedgehogs, unless *you* are providing a food and water source for them. This leads them to become underweight. If you find one who looks small, or definitely if out in daylight, use gloves to put it in a high sided, breathable box with a towel and some meat based dog or cat food (not fish flavours) and a shallow dish of water. Then you can contact a local wildlife rescue (Maldon/ Hedgehog Haven) or a registered rehabber. Here's two I rescued last week (one had 10 ticks and both were too small to survive the winter.)



Some pictures following our carol service at St Mary's last Sunday evening. Many thanks to everyone who brought mince pies! It was a fitting end to a really lovely service, so lovely to see so many people from our Widford community!



Would you like to be confirmed by Bishop Adam? We have a confirmation service coming up on 1st March 2026. Stephanie will be organising preparation classes, please speak to her or one of the wardens to join the group.

DUST IT OFF ORCHESTRA !! Starting 13th January at CHS, 10.30am-12.30pm. Meeting fortnightly (13th & 27th January/10th & 24th February and 24th March. String, woodwind and brass instruments. Any level, dust off your instruments!!

Chris' funeral will be taking place on Tuesday 6th January at 11.30am at Chelmsford Crematorium.



	Thingamajig Christmas lunch and party	10.30am-6pm	CHS/PC
Sun 21st	Holy Communion	9:30am	St Mary's
Sun 21st	Carols by Candlelight	6:30pm	CHS
Wed 24th	Midnight Communion	11pm	St Mary's
Thurs 25th	Christmas Morning service	10am	CHS
Sun 28th	Epiphany Holy Communion	10am	St Mary's

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION:

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

Day off Thursdays.

Churchwardens:-

Barbara Jones
Keith Schofield

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Barbara Jones

Safeguarding Assistant

Karen Cooney

Youth Worker

Stacey Ellis
[07521 297908](tel:07521297908)

Caretaker:-

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-Thurs
10.00am—12:00pm, Fri 1-3pm
t: [01245 355 989](tel:01245355989)

e: widfordchurchtalk@gmail.com

w: www.widfordparish.com

Mon: Bob

Tues (Churchtalk): Barbara O

Weds:

Thurs: Shirley+ Val

Friday: Barbara J



**Scan to Give
Thank you!**



Let us remember today, the 21st,
those living in, Millburn Cres.
Sherwood Drive and Hainault
Grove, also, from our prayer
directory, James & Gill and Lisa.

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:-

[**Tearfund**](#)

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??



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AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT