

NEWS LETTER

of St. Mary Bromley

20th December 2023

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.'
Luke 2.15



I hope your Christmas is full of familiar items like a cracker. We pick these up with the expectation of making a loud noise and finding a hat. There will be also a joke, we hope it will be better this year. There will be a novelty with some sort of surprise. There will be both the expected and something to be revealed.

May your celebration be both of comfort and new revelations. Perhaps that is what the shepherds found on the first Christmas night.

Wishing you a very Happy Christmas.

Christmas Flowers – 23rd December, 9.30am



The St Mary's flower team will be decorating the church for Christmas on Saturday 23rd December from 9.30 am. Any offers of additional help would be welcome for this important festival. If you are interested in being involved, please speak to Anne Yolland. Coffee available.


Glad Tidings of great joy!

Together with promised grants, pledges and tax recovered from Gift Aid.... we have now received enough to pay for restoration of the murals. The firm undertaking the work hopes to commence in 'the summer'. Many thanks to all who have so generously contributed

Fundraising for St Marys Church

There are still a few things on offer to sell in the porch on Sunday morning. Any donation very welcome. Seasons Greetings to you all.

Questions for Alan

 Please think if there are things that you have relied upon for Alan to know. If you need such information please contact him before the 21st of January and make sure it does not go with him!

Next Newsletter



Following Christmas there will be holiday for the Newsletter team too. The next edition will be on the 4th January.

Grace Café

There will be no Grace Café on the 27th December.

Follow the Star



This is a series of reflections from the Church of England about Christmas. There are a number of booklets containing reflections in the church. You are welcome to take a copy.

A Charity Night at the Theatre



JusB youth charity have tickets available for the charity preview of Steel Magnolias at Bromley Little Theatre. A classic and heart-warming comedy masterpiece based on a popular play and film in 1980's America. Date: Thursday 11th January 2024 at 7.45 pm. Tickets: £10. We currently have a good choice of seats on offer! To reserve seats for this event, please email anne@jusb.co.uk or speak to Anne Yolland. All ticket sales will support the work of JusB.

A Night at the Musicals – 13th January, doors open 7.15pm



Songs from the West End and Broadway performed caberet style by Artform. Held in the Warwick Hall. Tickets £13.50 www.ticketsource.co.uk/artform in advance or on the door. Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

Refreshments Rota



Many thanks to all who willingly and regularly serve refreshments on a Sunday morning after the service. If you would like to volunteer to help, please have a word with Anne Yolland.

Prayer

A Prayer for the week

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

Requests for Prayer

Weekly

Daisy Batt
Friend of Alison Tyler
Marianne Bunting and her
daughter-in-law Marie
Julian, Geoffrey and Philip Dodds
Denis' sons
Peter & Sylvia Passmore
Lynda Zissell's parents

Monthly Week 3

Julian and Kerrie Henwood
Gary Hughes
Gemma Johnson
relative of Anthia Page
Geoff Lloyd

Worship, Prayer and Fellowship

Our service on Sundays are Live Streamed although not if children play a prominent part. See <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysbromley/>

10.30am Family Communion on 24th December

Readings	2 Samuel 7.1-11,16, Romans 16.25-27, Luke 1.26-38
Hymns	552 When our God came to earth 467 Tell out my soul 66 Bread is blessed and broken 148 From heaven you came

Christmas Eve- 4.00 p.m. Crib Service



Hymns	403 Once in Royal David's city sheet Little Donkey 554 While Shepherds watched their flocks by night 34 Angels from the realms of glory
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Christmas Eve - Holy Communion – 11.30p.m (Carols from 11.00 pm)

Readings	Isaiah 52.7-10, Hebrews 1.1-4, John 1.1-14
Hymns	176 16 God rest ye merry gentlemen 444 6 Silent night 248 24 In the bleak midwinter 357 7 O come all ye faithful Carols for Christmastide sheet in italics

Christmas Day – Holy Communion – 9.30a.m



A quiet spoken service
with the traditional words of the Book of Common Prayer.

Christmas Day – Family Service – 11.00a.m



An informal gathering to celebrate
that Jesus is with us now and forever

The Order of Service: <https://www.stmarys-bromley.org.uk/lockdown/st-marys-worship>

Please can contributions for the Newsletter now be given to Atlanta Topham by noon on Wednesdays
Atlanta's email is admin@stmarys-bromley.org.uk