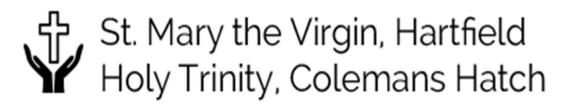
Newsletter 3rd December 2023



Advent Prayer

Prayer of approach, longing and confession for the Advent season.

God, with us,

As we enter this season of longing and waiting, bear with us a little longer; be patient with our impatience.

You have journeyed alongside us from the beginning of time, yet still we miss the signs of your presence.

When we are blinded by the brashness of this season: Open our eyes to the glimpses of your glory.

When we want simple answers: Open our minds to the hints of incarnation.

When we are deafened by our own shouting: Open our ears to the whispers of your grace.

May we share with you in longing for restoration and renewal and may we be watchful for the light that breaks through the darkness of our world. In Christ's name. Amen

God says 'Be patient, watch and wait, for the time is close at hand.' Know that you are loved, forgiven and healed. Amen.

Thanks be to God.



Welcome to Our Services on Sunday 3rd December

9.30am – Holy Communion quiet Service at St Mary's

11am - Matins at Holy Trinity

6.30pm – Advent Choral Evensong at Holy Trinity.

Today is the first Sunday of Advent. An opportunity for us to pause to read, pray, and reflect over the course of the Advent season.

To eagerly anticipate the celebration of Christ's birth as we watch and pray, wait and listen.

The first Sunday of Advent gives us the opportunity to centre our thoughts on **hope**.

It's an opportunity for us to remember the hope God offers to our lost and dying world, through the gift of His Son, Jesus.

On this first Sunday of Advent, as we prepare our hearts to celebrate Jesus' arrival as a gift to all humanity; let's stir up in our hearts and homes a sense of anticipation. Over this Advent, we pray that **hope** would rise up in our spirits in a tangible and life-giving way.

Rev Julie.

A Prayer for Christmas

Gracious, loving and merciful God, in this season of Christmas, as the light of your Word penetrates our hearts, as we are reminded of the gift of life and faith, as the glories of the heavenly hosts are echoed in our church, we open ourselves up to your Spirit and give you thanks. We are grateful, Lord Jesus, that your story has become our story, and we celebrate your birth. Continue, we pray, to instill in us a profound sense of your abiding presence, and help us to take to heart the wonder of your love, that we may walk in your ways and delight in your will. Help us, Lord God, to be the faithful, gracious, loving, giving and forgiving people you would have us be. Amen.



SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER

9.30am - Holy Communion Quiet Service for all ages 6.30pm - Advent Choral Evensong - Holy Trinity

WEDNESDAY 6TH DECEMBER

9.30am - St Mary's School Christingle Services at St Mary's Church

FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER

6pm-8pm - Live Nativity in Hartfield Village starting on the Croft.

SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER

9.30am - Christmas Praise Service for all ages with St Mary's School

SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER

9.30am - Holy Communion 6.30pm - Nine Lessons and Carols - Holy Trinity

SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER

4pm - Crib Service 11.15pm - Midnight Holy Communion

MONDAY 25TH DECEMBER

8am - Holy Communion BCP

9.30am - Christmas Celebration Service for all ages (no Communion)

SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER

9.30am - Morning Worship



SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER

11am - Matins 6.30pm - Advent Choral Evensong

SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER
11am - HolyCommunion with blessing of the crib

SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER

11am - Matins 6.30pm - Nine Lessons and Carols

SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER

11am - Matins 4pm - Crib Servic<mark>e - St Mary's</mark> 11.15pm - Midnight Holy Communion - <mark>St Mary's</mark>

MONDAY 25TH DECEMBER
11am - Christmas Celebration Service

SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER





All age service

December 10th 2023 at

St Mary's Church

EVERYONE WELCOME

9.30am



9.30AM

Nine Lessons and Carols



17th December at 6.30pm

in Holy Trinity Church Coleman's Hatch

Everyone Welcome
Mince pies and Mulled wine
will be served



Hartfield Live Nativity

Friday 8th December 2023 Starts 6pm on The Croft



Come along to Hartfield's very special and popular Live Nativity!

- Join the crowd following Mary and Joseph through the village knocking on doors trying to find room at the inn.
- Angels, shepherds, wise men, "donkey", camels and carols.
- Procession ends in the church in a beautiful and heart warming nativity scene with baby Jesus.
- Refreshments in the church.

If your child would like to join in as an angel or shepherd contact Alison Berry 07763 188538, ajberryartist@gmail.com

Everyone welcome – a lovely way to start Christmas!



St Mary's Church, Hartfield





Confirmation Service

Our confirmation service for our benefice will now take place on Sunday 7th January, 3pm at St Mary's Church.

Bishop Will Hazlewood will be confirming candidates from both churches.

Please pray for all who are preparing to renew their baptism vows and declare their faith together.

Rev Julie.





Websites

Please take a look at the Hartfield and Colemans hatch websites at:

hartfieldchurch.org and colemanshatchchurch.org

for up-to-date information on Events and Services.

There is a *calendar* or *what's on* page which is being updated regularly.

TRINITY— — Talks

Trinity Hall, behind Holy Trinity Church, Coleman's Hatch, TN7 4HN

Friday 22nd December 2023, 6.pm Theatrical Costumes by Kate Bryant

Friday19th January 2024 6pm The North West Passage by Caroline Daszewska

The talks begin at 6.00pm and last for about 45 minutes.

Refreshments will be available from 5.45 and also after the Talk, when our speaker will be happy to answer your questions.

Contact the following for more details and booking.

events@colemanshatchchurch.org

Caroline Daszewska- 07513 290482



TRINITY HALL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

Recommences on Friday 26th January 2024

Our experienced caller, Alex, leads us with kindness and patience and it's quite surprising how quickly we learn the steps!

The music is uplifting, exuberant, and always enjoyable.

We are keen to recruit new participants so if you would like to join, we meet on the 4th Friday each month starting at 7pm, with a break at 8pm for our supper which we bring with us.

The entrance fee is £5 per person which includes a glass of wine.

Children are free and most welcome.

CHURCH STREET COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAFES

THURSDAY, 7TH DECEMBER
2PM - 4PM





THURSDAY, 21ST DECEMBER

2PM - 4PM

WITH CHRISTMAS CAROLS

COME AND ENJOY DELICIOUS HOMEMADE CAKE, TEA AND COFFEE
EVERYONE WELCOME

for more information contact Joanne Griffin on 07941 856715 or email msjoannegriffin@gmail.com

Church Street Community Cafe

lst and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 2pm - 4pm.

Homemade cake, tea, and coffee. Everyone welcome.

Table with crafts and games for children.

<u>upcoming</u> dates

Please see our Christmas Cafe flyer for
December dates
Thursday 4th January
Thursday 18th January
Thursday 1st February
Thursday 15th February

For more information contact Joanne Griffin on 07941 856715 or msjoannegriffinegmail.com



You are welcome to our first café of December on Thursday 14th.

To put us in the mood for the season, the Hall will be suitably decked with Holly, Ivy, Christmas decorations and a beautifully trimmed tree.

Our final café of the year is on Thursday 21st, when we will be presenting a cheque from funds that have been raised throughout the year from your generous donations to the café.

Our chosen local charity this year is Hindleap Warren, A fully comprehensive centre,

working with children and young people, who have additional needs, giving them incredible experiences, spending time away from home in a very different living environment.

Seasonal cakes and pastries will be available at both cafes. On this occasion there will be a visiting choir, a few Carols and lots of good cheer for the season.

The Café team wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We are back after the Christmas break on January 11th and 25th

Children and Youth Corner

<u>Little Stars parent and toddler group</u>

At St Mary's Church Every Monday during term time. from 9.15am – 10.45am For ages 0-5

We play, sing some songs and have a craft to do. With snacks for the children and tea and coffee for the adults.

For more information or queries please contact the office at admsmht@gmail.com





Join us for games, food & fun from 5 - 6.15pm in the Village Hall

Thursday dates are:
14th December
11th January
25th January
8th February
22nd February
14th March
28th March

For more information please contact Matt Marriott at m.marriott@btconnect.com



Held in the Rectory from 9.30am, for breakfast and chats, before heading back to church for communion.

Come, relax and chat as we build relationship with Jesus and each other!!

> Sunday dates are: 19th November 17th December 7th January 21st January

For more information please contact Matt Marriott at m.marriott@btconnect.com



Sunday Discoverers

Discover us every 1st & 3rd Sunday morning at 9.30am, as we find out more about our Creator

This term's dates: 17th December, 7th January, 21th January, 4th February, 3rd March, 17th March

For more information please contact Rev Julie Sear at revjuliesear1@gmail.com or 01892770436



For young people aged 10+

Held in the Oast House in the Anchor car park from 5pm-6pm,
A monthly meeting for our connect crew.

Where Matt and Christina can share some food while we chat, read and question, while exploring the Christian faith together.

Thursday dates are: 18th January 15th February

For more information please contact Matt Marriott at m.marriott@btconnect.com



If you would like to donate to the East Grinstead food bank, there are boxes in both churches.

Please note items must be in date, not homemade and non-perishable.

Hair Conditioner

Hair Shampoo

Jam

Kitchen Roll

Milk, Semi Skimmed 1LTR Long-Life Screw Cap

Pringles

Biodegradable Baby Wipes

Coffee Small/Medium

All purpose cloths. 10 pack

For any other information please go to their website https://eastgrinstead.foodbank.org.uk



Rev Julie would like to thank everyone for the many ways they have served both churches and parishes this year!



This week we are praying for...

Please pray for....

For peace and justice in our world. For the leaders of the nations. For our government and all who bear responsibility on our nation, for wisdom to seek first justice and peace. Ukraine. Israel and Gaza.

For refugees, the international response to the refugee crisis – and for our own response.

For our schools – children, teachers and families.

For God's blessing on all who lead our children and youth work.

For those across the world suffering from the impacts of climate change.

For a greater sense of urgency from politicians and major companies in tackling the causes and consequences

We pray for our flowers arrangers. Jenny Hudson and Liza Jones and their teams.

Please pray for our choir Director, Angela Ogle and the choir as they rehearse for our Advent and Christmas services. We thank them for their dedication throughout the year. We also give thanks for our organists and pianist Barry Tilston, Laurie Khurt and Frances Rowberry.

Please pray for Donna Dewar our licensed reader for her prayerful dedication to Holy Trinity.

For both our café teams. Those who bake and serve and all who generously support us.

For both bellringer teams, our Sunday teams, Elaine our Administrator during this busy time.

For all who lead our children and youthwork.

We pray for all our Christmas services that they might reflect the wonder and glory of God. Please think about inviting your neighbours. Please pray for our PCC's, Treasurers and Church Wardens.

With every blessing, Rev Julie

www.hartfieldchurch.org or www.colemanshatchchurch.org

