

THE PARISH OF FAWKHAM AND HARTLEY

St. Mary's Church,
Fawkham

All Saints' Church,
Hartley



Fawkham and Hartley Church Centre

PART OF THE RURAL NORTH WEST KENT GROUP OF CHURCHES

Rector: The Revd. Jim Fletcher - 01474 703819

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PARISH NOTES 17th December 2017 Third Sunday of Advent

Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient
to the wisdom of the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*We welcome all who attend our services
today, especially those who are visitors or
newcomers.*

At the communion services, all who are confirmed or who are full members of other churches are welcome to receive Communion. All others, adults and children, are invited to come forward for a blessing; in this case, please carry a book with you so that it is clear to those administering that you do not intend to receive Communion.



**COME
&
SEE
DISCOVER
SHARE
BE**

**9.00am St. Peter's Church, Ridley
Group Holy Communion**

**10.30am Fawkham and Hartley Church Centre
Messy Nativity**

Do stay for Christmas lunch after!

**5.00pm St. Mary's Church, Fawkham
9 Lessons and Carols**

A service sheet is provided



Bible Readings

The set readings for this Third Sunday of Advent will only be at our 9.00am this morning. At our 10.30am we will hear the Nativity story from the Angels perspective. And at 5.00pm we will be hearing 9 Bible readings that are traditionally followed as part of our '9 Lessons and Carols' service. The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah and the birth of Jesus is told from Genesis, the prophetic books and the Gospels. For those following our morning lectionary, do have a look at the readings below in your own time.

**Isaiah 61, 1-4 and 8-11
1 Thessalonians 5, 16-24
John 1, 6-8 and 19-28**



Next Week's Diary

Monday 18th December

9.30am Morning Prayer at St. Mary's Church
8.00pm RNKW Group Advent Course at Longfield Church

Tuesday 19th December

9.30am Morning Prayer at St. Mary's Church
10.00am Visitors Group meeting at St. Mary's Church
7.30pm Carols and Christmassy Things at Church Centre

Wednesday 20th December

9.00am Fawkham school Christmas Service at St. Mary's
10.00am Reflective Service & Holy Communion at All
Saints' Church, Hartley
6.30 for 7pm Carol Singing in the Rising Sun, Fawkham

Thursday 21st December

9.00am Morning Prayer at All Saints' Church
10.00am Pop in Parlour at Church Centre

Weekday Readings

Mon	Isaiah 38.1-8, 21-22	Matthew 16.13-end
Tues	Isaiah 38.9-20	Matthew 17.1-13
Wed	Isaiah ch. 39	Matthew 17.14-21
Thurs	Zephaniah 1.1—2.3	Matthew 17.22-end
Fri	Zephaniah 3.1-13	Matthew 18.1-20
Sat	Zephaniah 3.14-end	Matthew 18.21-end

Wednesday 10.00am at All Saints' Church

Isaiah 7.10-14 Psalm 24.1-6 Luke 1.26-38

Sunday 24th December 2017
CHRISTMAS EVE

8.00am St. Peter & St. Paul Church, Ash
Morning Prayer (BCP)

9.00am St. Peter's Church, Ridley
Morning Worship

3 & 5pm All Saints' Church, Hartley
Crib Services

11.00pm St. Mary's Church, Fawkham
Midnight Holy Communion

Readings for Sunday 24th December

Isaiah 9.2-7 Titus 2.11-14 John 1: 1-14

FROM THE RECTOR

WELCOME to our services today and to all visitors, or if it is your first time to our Church. Please do take these Parish Notes home with you to read. Our website address is on the front of these notes—do have a browse for more information about our Parish/Group and forthcoming services and events. A big thank you to all who have planned and worked hard for our Messy Nativity and 9 Lessons services today.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS/SERVICES: if you have not had one of these yet they are at the back of Church outlining our Christmas services. Thanks to those who have helped deliver them round the Parish. There are still a few roads that need delivering to, so please see Marion in the office for details. **Please see the above for next Sunday's services and then on Christmas Day, our only service is 9.30am Holy Communion at All Saints' Church. On Sunday 31st, we will be having a Group Holy Communion, 10.30am at Longfield.**

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS We are asking for donations for the flowers to decorate our churches for Christmas. For All Saints' Church please contact Jean Bowes and for St. Mary's Church please contact Anne Senneck

CHRISTMAS POST BOXES are in our Churches this week for you to deliver Christmas cards to people within our congregations. Please put the surname as well as addresses on the front of the envelope. These will be distributed at Carols and Christmassy Things on the **19th December**. There is also the Charity Christmas card in the porch at the Church Centre. If you would prefer to sign this and give money to our Christmas Charities please give donations to Marion in the office. Our Christmas charities this year are "Centrepoin't" and 'Embrace the Middle East'.

CAROLS AND CHRISTMASSY THINGS is this Tuesday, 19th December, 7.30pm at The Church Centre. This is an informal evening of carol singing, refreshments, sketches and poetry. If anyone would like to perform a sketch or a reading etc please contact Perry Cole via Marion or Jim. Thank you!

CAROL SINGING IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE We have the exciting opportunity to join the Group carol singers in Trafalgar Square on Friday 22nd December. A coach leaves New Ash Green at 1pm, picking up also from Hartley and Longfield. If you would like to go please let Marion know on 704972 or e-mail: parishoffice@fawkhamandhartley.org.uk

MARY MCVITTIE RIP: Many of you will remember Mary from attending Church a few years ago. Sadly, she passed away this week. We will have details of her funeral service next week.

CHURCH CENTRE FUNDS We have been successful in being one of the beneficiaries of the Co-op Community Funding scheme, this lasts for 1 year. Please can I ask all those who have Co-op membership cards (Blue Card) to nominate the Church Centre as their nominated charity, this can be done on line (details in store) or ring 0800 0234708 (freephone). If you do not have a card one can be obtained in the store. The funds raised will be used to help with the new heating system and to re-furbish the hall floor. Many thanks for your support. Any queries please contact me or via the Parish Office. Malcolm Harris Chair Buildings Committee

POP-IN PARLOUR Chris Menzies would be glad to hear from anyone who can spare a couple of hours on a Thursday morning on a rota basis to help with Pop-In Parlour at the Church Centre. This is to help serve tea and coffee and chat with those who come along.

HOME FOR GOOD—ADOPTION INFORMATION EVENING
Tuesday 30th January 2018 at the Fawkham and Hartley Church Centre 7.30 – 9 pm. Home for Good have so many resources and courses to equip you and your communities as we increase the awareness of fostering and adoption. We also have a Facebook page and website if you'd like more information: [facebook.com/homeforgoodkent](https://www.facebook.com/homeforgoodkent)
homeforgood.org.uk/get-involved/churches

TEA TOWELS—almost all the tea towels have disappeared from the Church Centre—if you have taken some home for washing can you please return them as soon as possible.

WENDY STIDDARD Wendy sends Christmas wishes to all her friends in church. She will be thinking of them and praying for them over the holiday. Love Wendy

GRAVESHAM FOODBANK Please find attached our Christmas opening times. Note that we are open at GMCCC on Saturday 29th December. This is the only time that we are open between Christmas and New Year. If you are bringing donated food in to us it will be helpful if we have all Christmas goodies by Friday 15th December or Monday 18th at the latest. In January we will be able to take food between 10.30am and 12.30pm on Tuesday 2nd - Friday 5th at the Riverside Centre. Thank you for your support.

VERSE FOR THE WEEK

John himself was not the light,
but he came to testify to the light (John 1:8)
*(Advent 3 we remember John the Baptist
who prepared the way)*

Looking Forward

Tuesday 19th December Carols & Christmassy Things at Church Centre

Wednesday 20th December 10am Reflective Holy Communion Service at All Saints' Church, Hartley 6.30 for 7pm Carol Singing at the "Rising Sun", Fawkham

Friday 22nd December 4pm Group Carols Singing in Trafalgar Square

BURNS NIGHT is sold out. If you want to be added to the waiting list please let Marion know on 704972.

FRONT ROOM SINGERS Thank you to everyone who helped or attended the concert on Friday. £274 was raised for Church Funds.

OPEN HOUSE: To see in the New Year, the Fletcher's would like to invite you to an 'Open House' on Saturday 6th January at 'The Rectory' Do pop in anytime between 2.00—5.00pm and stay for as little or long as you want.

PRAYER BREAKFAST: Our next one will be on Thursday 18th January, 9.00am at The Parish Room in the Church Centre,. This marks the beginning of the week of prayer for Christian Unity. All welcome.

YARN AND YAP - Jubilee Hall, St. Mary Magdalene, Longfield - come and help. Monthly Cluster Woolly Meetings in aid of Blankets for the Homeless. 12.30pm – 2.30pm Friday 12th January. Light lunch and drinks/cakes provided. Just turn up.

"BOUNTIFUL" WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

Saturday 3rd February 2018

www.bountiful-conference.org

Featuring Gemma Hunt—Worship led by Lou Fellingham

Trinity School, Sevenoaks 10am—3pm tickets £10

See website for details

PASTORAL MATTERS Please inform us of anyone who is unwell or in need of help within the community to enable us to ensure that we can arrange visits and practical help if necessary. Please contact Shirley Wilson. If you would like someone added to our prayer list please let someone on the Ministry Team know, but please keep us updated with information of that person.

PARISH OFFICE - The Parish Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Mornings 9am—12 noon and Wednesday and Thursday afternoon until 3pm.
01474 704972 e-mail: parishoffice@fawkhamandhartley.org.uk

BOOKINGS FOR FAWKHAM AND HARTLEY CHURCH CENTRE

Please call **Phyllis Conroy** on **01474 702795** or e-mail on centre.bookings@fawkhamandhartley.org.uk