

# Parish Church of Barbourne St. Stephen

Visit our website [www.st-stephens-church-worcester.org.uk](http://www.st-stephens-church-worcester.org.uk) for information about services and forthcoming events

Welcome to our church, especially if you are a visitor or a newcomer

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

**Advent 4**

Opening Hymn: **522** O Come O Come Emmanuel

Readings: Isaiah 7.10-16 Linda Dunmore

Romans 1.1-7 Ruth Scotson

Gradual Hymn: 686 The angel Gabriel

Gospel: Matthew 1.18- 25

Sermon

Intercessions: Phillipa Boulter

To the bidding: Lord, In your Mercy

Please respond: **Hear our Prayer**

Offertory Hymn: **659** Sing we of the blessed mother

Communion Hymns: **73** Be still my soul

**305** In the bleak midwinter

**133** Come thou long-expected Jesus

Final Hymn: **684** Tell out my soul



## Next Sunday – Christmas 1

**8.00am – No Service**

**10.00am – Family Service**

Readings: Jeremiah 31.15-17

Nigel Wake

Corinthians 1.26-29

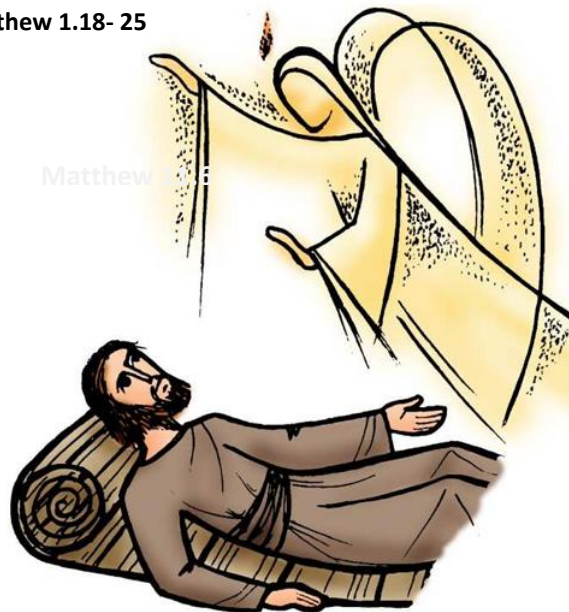
Kevin Maltby

Gospel: Matthew 2.13-18

Intercessions: Judith Gerrard



**Matthew 1.18- 25**



When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord commanded

## AFTER SERVICE REFRESHMENTS – 10.00AM

Tea, coffee, squash and biscuits are served in church following the 10.00am service. Why not stay for a drink, biscuit and a chat. It's a chance to get to know everyone. **A warm and friendly welcome to all.**

## Open Church

**Thursdays** 10.30am - 12.30pm

**Saturdays** 10.30am - 12.30pm



## CRAFT & CHATTER (Every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the Month)

10.30-12.30. We run alongside Open Church. If you knit, crochet, sew, or craft, do come along. **Open to all**

**SUNDAY STARS** Informal Worship for Little Ones and their Grownups. Meets on the **fourth** Sunday of the month 9.00-9.30 in the Bishop Allenby Hall (next to church)



**A Better Way to Give Regularly to Church** The Parish Giving Scheme is administered by a charity. There are booklets at the back of Church. You can speak to Richard Hemmings or go: [www.parishgivingscheme.org.uk](http://www.parishgivingscheme.org.uk)

## Church Services this coming week.

Thursday 10.00am Holy Communion

### Zoom only services

We will be taking a break from Midweek Zoom over the Christmas Holidays. We will resume on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January

**Prayers for Those in Continued Need:** Barbara Hellicar, Alex and David New and Adrina and Alan Price.

## GOOD COMPANIONS Meet in church at 2.30pm

**20<sup>th</sup> January** - AGM with Rev Lindsey (Story or Quiz)



## Praying Together in Word & Silence

Regular prayer meetings are held on the **1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month. 9.30am-10.10am** in the Hartley Brown room (entrance back door).



**LITTLE STARS** ★ For babies to pre-schoolers and their parents/carers meets in church every Thursday ★ afternoon in **term time** from 1.30pm to 3.00pm. ★ Further details from Michelle Walsh (details below) ★

If you have any items for the notice sheet please e-mail them to: [mwalsh.ststephens@outlook.com](mailto:mwalsh.ststephens@outlook.com)  
Please send by **Thursday - 10.00am** if you wish it to be included in the following Sunday's notice sheet.

For church hall bookings contact Michelle Walsh at [mwalsh.ststephens@outlook.com](mailto:mwalsh.ststephens@outlook.com)

# THIS WEEK'S NOTICES

## **Entrance into Church – Update.**

Works are now completed and we are aiming to resume entry into church from the SOUTH PORCH starting **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December.**

**Reminder** Zoom Morning and Evening Prayer will take a break over the holiday period and will recommence on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

## **Worcester Festival Choral Society**

Currently have places available for TENOR and BASS singers from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January, 7.30pm, when we will start rehearsals for Mendelssohn's mighty masterwork 'Elijah'.

If you think you might be interested in joining, please email our Membership Secretary

<https://www.wfcs.online/pg/contact/5>

Or to download a PDF application:

[https://www.wfcs.online/upldir/files/68a4bc1f4362a\\_WFCS%20Chorus%20Member%20applicatio%20form%202025-6.pdf](https://www.wfcs.online/upldir/files/68a4bc1f4362a_WFCS%20Chorus%20Member%20applicatio%20form%202025-6.pdf)

**Date for your Diary** The Service of Welcome and Installation for Bishop Hugh will take place on Saturday **17<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm in the Cathedral.** All are welcome.

**Zoom for Christmas Day –** For those who would like to join Zoom for the 10am service on Christmas day we will run a simple Zoom service. Please see the weekly email for link and details.

## **Thank you to Church Cleaners**

A huge thank you to the team of volunteers who came and gave the church a deep clean on Tuesday afternoon to get us ready for Christmas.

## **Our Christmas Shopping List.**

CHRISTMAS CAKE, MINCE PIES, STUFFING, TUBS OF CHOCOLATE, PICKLED ONIONS, BRANSTON PICKLE, CRANBERRY SAUCE, BOXES OF CHOCOLATE, CREAM CRACKERS, CHRISTMAS PUDDING (NO ALCOHOL)

**For the full shopping list(s) please visit;**

[www.worcester.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.worcester.foodbank.org.uk)

There is a Foodbank collection box at the back of church for any donated items.

**Thank you for your continued support.**



**Christmas Carollers!** Come and sing your way round the community with us!

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** – St Stephens Care Home 2.00-2.45

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December** – Fernhill House Care Home -2.00-2.45

**Thank you from Adrina Price** Thank you for all the Christmas Cards sent to Adrina and Alan. She has had some difficulty writing and hasn't been able to send cards this year but thanks you all for remembering her and Alan. They will be raising a glass to us all on St Stephen's Day!

On **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January** we will host Bishop Godfrey from the Diocese of Morogoro and will hear him preach. We'll also be hosting a bring and share lunch in the Bishop Allenby Hall after the service for Bishop Godfrey to be able to get to know us, and we him. More details to follow.

## **Christmas Campaign QR Code**

You may have noticed there are QR Codes situated on the end of each pew with details of our Christmas Campaign. It is hoped that this will generate donations from some of our occasional visitors towards the next phase of Compassionate Church - the installation of some new accessible toilets in the Tower Room.

The Giving Envelopes are still available at the back of church for those who give to church regularly in this way.

Please speak to Lindsey if you're interested.

## **MAGGS Anniversary Christmas Appeal**

Please see website for their wish list. A copy of this will also be in church for you to view.

Donations can be left up until Christmas eve:

<https://www.maggsdaycentre.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Donation-Wishlist.png>

