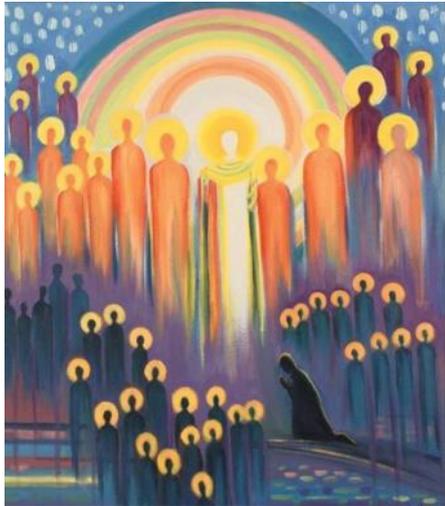




Monthly News—November /December 2019

Free



This year we will be remembering at our All Saints Sunday Eucharist, 3 November, those members of our Parish whose funeral service have taken place in church or at a crematorium and are buried in our churchyard during the past year. We will be lighting candles for them in our service and offering thanks and praise to God for their lives among us.



“The real importance of Advent is in its reminder that, as there was a beginning of creation, so there will be an end and as there is a beginning to our lives, so we each will die. But what do we mean by ‘the end’ . For the Bible ‘the end’ doesn’t mean a final full stop, like the running of the credit titles before the empty screen at the end of a film. It means the *purpose*, the end for which you and I and the whole universe were made, our proper and satisfying completion. The end for you and me is not extinction. Our purpose, or destiny, our proper end is to come to know God himself, to respond with trust to his love in Jesus Christ, to respond with proper care, compassion and understanding to one another and so find at last our completion, our fulfilment and our wholeness, as those who are made in God’s likeness. Advent hope is much more than a political and social hope for freedom and prosperity. It is the hope of the Kingdom of God – the Kingdom which is to be fulfilled in God’s good time and in

Welcome

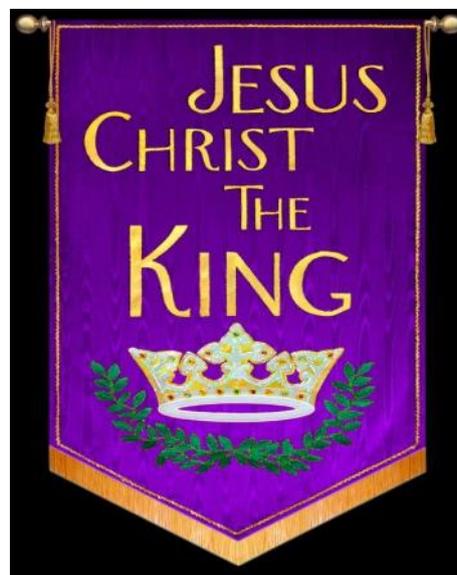
Greetings and welcome to this edition of Monthly News for November and December.

In the original Roman calendar, November was the ninth month of the year. Its name stems from the Latin word "novem" which means nine. However, it became the eleventh month when the Romans added in January and February to the start of the year. Throughout much of history, November has been thought of as a somber month because it signalled the start of Winter. People would spend the month storing up their harvest and preparing their food and homes in order to survive the winter. November for St.Mary’s in 2019 is a time of rejoicing for the Saints in our lives and celebrating those who have gone before us and now dwell with the angels and archangels around the heavenly throne.

Similar thoughts and praise will be re-echoed at our Act of Remembrance, 10 November 10-30am, to the fallen of World Wars and the laying of Wreaths and 2 minute silence.

As we celebrate the lives of all people now departed and with the heavenly throng, we turn our thoughts and prayers to praise “Christ the King”, 24 November 10-30am, before we enter the season of Advent and the expectation of Christ’s coming in December.

Stewart— Church Warden



ways we cannot yet imagine. But a Kingdom too, which, since the first Christmas, is already among us, a Kingdom of which every Eucharist is a tiny foretaste, and the Kingdom which, once our eyes are opened, keeps on breaking in in the most surprising ways and the most unexpected places”.



Advent

Lighting the Advent Candles

Advent comes from the Latin word 'adventus' meaning 'Coming.' Advent begins the church year starting four Sundays before Christmas. The season of Advent has been set aside as a time of preparation since the 6th century. Advent is a time for preparing for Christ's second coming, even as we remember and celebrate his first coming at Christmas. This is why the colour of the season of Lent is used, purple or blue, the colours also of Lent, of forgiveness and repentance. Traditions vary from church to church, but usually one week, either week three or four in Advent, is set aside as more celebratory than others. Rose is the colour of this week, a simile of 'Joy' rather than purple, which is why a rose candle is used. At St. Mary's we celebrate on the third Sunday of Advent.

The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary,

is celebrated in the church calendar - both in the Western and the Eastern Churches - on **8 December**. This festival dates from the 7th century and marks the dawn of the New Covenant showing that mortal flesh can bring Christ into the world. In medieval period, reflecting on this festival, St Anselm of Canterbury wrote this: *"God created all things and Mary gave birth to God. God himself, who made all things, made himself from Mary. In this way he re-made all that he had made. God is, then, Father of all created things and Mary is mother of all that has been recreated. God is Father of the institution of all things and Mary is mother of the restitution of all things"*.

At St Mary's we celebrate the



Blessed Virgin Mary in a Eucharist in her honour on the last Saturday of each month at 12 noon, following a Holy Hour of Prayer from 1100. Next date **Saturday 30 November 2019**

Pre School Praise

PreSchool Praise is back in action this month and opens its doors after a 2 week break on Thursday 7 November 10-

00am for ages 0-4yrs and their carers.

This is an ideal opportunity for



carers to meet while indulging in cakes and a cup of tea or freshly brewed coffee and to share with the young ones in songs and light touch worship and prayers and refreshments. For further details look up the website:

<https://stmarysprestwich.org/church-groups/pre-school-praise/>

twitter @stmaryprestwich and Prestwich Mum's for news and updates.

'Breathing Space'

Our "Year of Stillness" introduced a time to get away from the distractions of modern life for 45 minutes each month.

The second Wednesday of each month is put aside for this purpose and differing themes are relayed through music, pictures and scripture to help us to relax and be closer to God. Please come and listen to God's call especially in the busyness leading up to the Christmas festivities.

Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair, which is a major fund raiser for St.Mary's, is back on Saturday 29 November 10-00am till 1-00pm. This

Breathing Space

"A time for you
with God"

2nd Wednesday of each
month

is a good chance to buy unique gifts and stocking fillers all in one place and avoid the hassle of City Centre shopping and the crowds attending the Christmas Market.



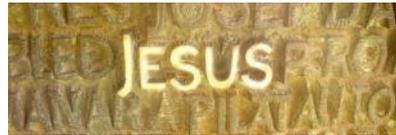
CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 30 November
10am till 1pm
St Mary's P.E. School
Rectory Lane
Visit
Father Christmas
Bottle Stall
Craft Stall
Book Stall
Refreshments

A Prayer for Christmas Day
 Today, O God of light,
 your loving kindness dawns,
 your tender compassion
 shines upon us, for in your
 Saviour,
 born of human flesh,
 you reveal your gracious
 gift of our birth to life
 eternal. Fill us with wonder
 on this holy day:
 let us treasure in our hearts
 what we have been told,
 that our lives may proclaim
 your great and gentle
 mercy. We ask this through
 Jesus Christ, your Word
 made flesh. Amen

WAITING ON GOD
A
 Study group during the sea-
 son of Advent
 Held on 3 evenings
 Speak to Rev. Carole

Sunday Gospel Readings



- 3 November All Saints & All Souls**
 Luke 6: 20-31
- 10 November Remembrance**
 1 Corinthians 15: 50-end
- 17 November**
 Luke 21: 5-19
- 24 November Christ the King**
 Luke 23: 33-43
- 1 December Advent Sunday**
 Matthew 24: 36-44
- 8 December**
 Matthew 3: 1-12
- 15 December**
 Matthew 11: 2-11
- 22 December**
 Matthew 1: 18-end
- 24 December Christmas eve**
 Luke 2: 1-14
- 25 December Christmas day**
 John 1: 1-14
- 29 December**
 Matthew 2: 13-end

Seasonal word scramble

- ORBBNI
- GFTI GAT
- TMARIHSSC
- IMCUS
- OGSSN
- GANEL
- INETLS
- TERE
- ETMANSONR
- PERSNETS
- ILFAMY
- OEHRTTE
- MALE
- ARCETBELE
- NVIGGI



FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS

22 DECEMBER 6-00PM

BY CANDLELIGHT

- ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY
 THE LORD AT FIRST DID ADAM
 MAKE
- SEE, AMID THE WINTER SNOW
 OF THE FATHER'S LOVE
 BEGOTTEN
 IN DULCI JUBILO
- IT CAME UPON A MIDNIGHT
 CLEAR
- O LITTLE TOWN OF
 BETHLEHEM
- THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
 WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED
 ALLELUIA! A NEW WORLD IS
 COME
- O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL
 GLORIA!
- HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS
 SING

CELEBRATION DRINKS AND
 REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE AFTER THE
 SERVICE

** music programme may change*



We are pleased to announce that the Restoration and Renewals project has finally started, evidenced in the steel clad scaffold in various locations around the building.

We have encountered some delays to the programme, awaiting legal permissions, but we hope to catch up if the weather is kind to us.

Regular worship at St Mary's



Sunday

8.00am Eucharist
10.30am Sung Eucharist

Tuesday

7.30am Morning Prayer
8-15am Eucharist

Wednesday

7.30am Morning Prayer
8-15am Eucharist

Thursday

7.30am Morning Prayer
*9.10am Eucharist in St Mary's School
*10.00am Pre-School Praise

Friday

7.30am Morning Prayer
8-15am Eucharist

**during term time*

What's on



3 Nov All Saint & All Souls
5 Nov Yr 4 School Project
7 Nov PreSchool Praise
10 Nov Remembrance
12 Nov PCC meeting
13 Nov Breathing Space
14 Nov PreSchool Praise
24 Nov Christ the King
30 Nov Christmas Fair
30 Nov Holy Hour

1 Dec Advent
9 Dec Christingle
17 Dec School Nativity
22 Dec Nine Lessons & Carols
24 Dec Crib Service
24 Dec Midnight Mass
25 Dec Christmas Day 8am & 10-30am



Thank you to all who generously gave gifts for Porch Boxes through St.Mary's School and our Harvest Thanksgiving service to support this worthwhile local charity.

St Mary's parish prayer
Loving Father,
we pray your blessing on
our parish. Help us to
have hearts open to your
Holy Spirit.
Give us the courage to
follow the way of Christ.
Strengthen us to be faith-
ful in prayer and loving
service.
Help us to play our part in
building up your Kingdom
here and now. Amen.



Website:

www.stmarysprestwich.org

Twitter: @stmarysprestwich

Post:

St Mary the Virgin, Church Lane, Prestwich, M25 1AN

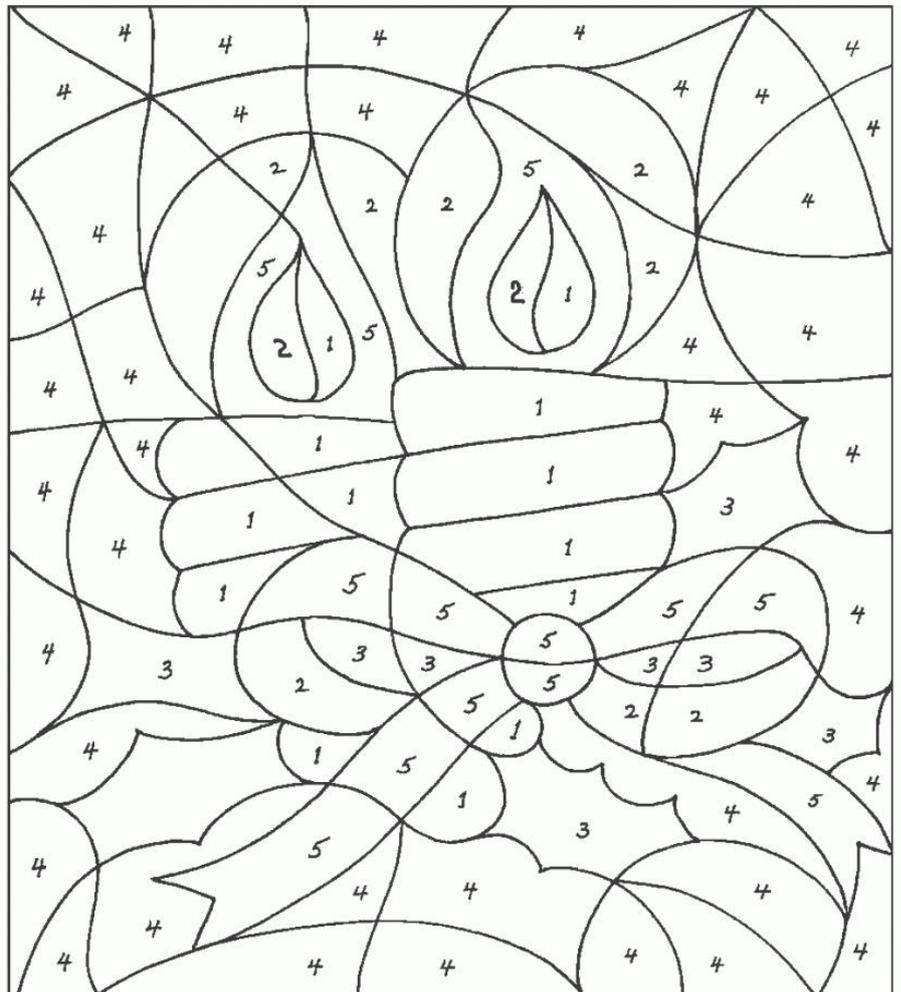
Assistant Curates:

Rev. Carole Barnet
tel. 0161 766 2774
Rev. Adele McKie
tel. 07946 383024

Church Wardens:

Stewart Barnet
tel. 07950 354445
Susie Mapledoram
tel. 07710 557833

Word scrabble answers: Ribbon, Gift tag, Christmas, music, songs, angel, tinsel, tree, ornaments, presents, family, together, meal, celebrate, giving.



1=Orange 2=Yellow 3=Green 4=Blue 5=Red