

Crib Service

Christmas Eve afternoon at 3.30pm
in **St Mary's**
all young families welcome

Midnight Mass of the Nativity

Christmas Eve at 11pm
in St Mary's
Stephen Fielding will preside
& Diane Whittaker will preach

On **Christmas Day** there will be Holy Communion at 8am. Coralie McCluskey will preside. There will be Family Communion at 9.30am. The Revd Canon Patience Purchas will preside and Catherine Jupp will preach. Next **Sunday 27th December** is the First Sunday of Christmas. Stephen Fielding will preside at Holy Communion at 8am. There will be Parish Communion at 9.30am. Diane Whittaker will preside and preach. There will be a quiet, reflective, said service at 6.30pm led by Coralie McCluskey.

Please note there will be **no Junior Church Groups** on Christmas Day or Sunday 27th December-(there will be a crèche only on Sunday 27th). There will be a **Family Service** at 11.15am on Sunday 3rd January led by Coralie McCluskey and Junior Church will resume the following Sunday 10th January.

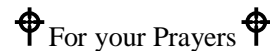
Date for your diaries : On Sunday 10th January at 6.30pm the **Liturgical Drama Group will present 'The Three Gifts'** a service for Epiphany. This will be followed by refreshments in New Church House..

Please collect your **box of blue envelopes** for 2010 from the pew at the crossing. If you would like to use this method for your giving, I have boxes available. Maisie Mogridge.

There is a board in the entrance from Church into NCH for you to pin your Christmas card if you would like to send **Christmas greetings to friends at St Mary's**.

The new cleaning rota for THE WHOLE OF 2010 is now in the pigeon holes. Would everyone who is on the cleaning rota please collect their copy as soon as possible. Please also make sure to read the instructions on the back of the rota. Thank you very much for your commitment, your help is invaluable.

Our Christmas Charities this year are the **Herts Young Homeless Group**, which works to support young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in Hertfordshire, and the **Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem**, which supports 33 institutions including hospitals, clinics, kindergartens and schools, vocational training programmes etc. We are requesting that the money donated will be used for work with children and young people. For more information please see the magazine



For your Prayers

The Residents of: School Lane; Wilga Road, Wilshere Road

The Sick: Muriel Taylor; Yim Lon Chong; Connie Udale; Sophie Washington; Dawn Tilley; Bryan Tipping; Peter Brooks; Lynda Corry; Penny Wakefield; Ann Gurney

This week please pray for:

Our Clergy, Coralie, Diane and Stephen
All those who will attend our Christmas services,
All who will spend Christmas alone;
Our Christmas Charities
All the churches of our Team Ministry during this period of a vacancy

Next week's readings: Midnight Mass: Isaiah 52: 7-10, Hebrews 1: 1-4, John 1: 1-14; **Christmas Day:** Isaiah 62: 6-end, Titus 3: 4-7; Luke 2: 8-20; **Sunday 27th Dec:** 1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26, Colossians 3: 1-17, Luke 2: 41-end

St Mary's Church Office:
open weekdays 10am-12noon Tel: 01438 840964
e-mail secretary@welwyn.org.uk
Parish Web site www.welwyn.org.uk

St Mary the Virgin,
Welwyn

Sunday 20th December
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

We warmly welcome all our visitors to this Service of **Family Communion** and hope you will stay behind afterwards for a cup of coffee. We also welcome the Trailblazers and Crossbearers who will be performing the Nativity during this service

For those with a hearing aid an induction loop is fitted in this church for your use. There are also large print versions of the service and the hymn books available. Please ask one of the sidespersons.

Opening Hymn:

'Make way, make way for Christ the King'

1) Make way, make way,
for Christ the King in splendour arrives;
fling wide the gates
and welcome him into your lives.

*Make way, make way,
for the King of kings;
make way, make way,
and let his kingdom in!*

2) He comes the broken hearts to heal,
the pris'ners to free;
the deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,
the blind shall see.

3) And those who mourn with heavy hearts,
who weep and sigh,
with laughter, joy and royal crown
he'll beautify.

4) We call you now to worship him
as Lord of all,
to have no gods before him,
their thrones must fall!

First Reading: Micah 5: 2-5a
(Read by Stephen Jupp)

Gradual Hymn: 297 'Lord Jesus Christ'

The Trailblazers and Crossbearers present their Nativity

Offertory Hymn: 'When our God came to earth'
(During this hymn a collection will be taken)

1. When our God came to earth,
not for him noble birth:
he affirmed human worth
from a humble manger,
just another stranger.

*Let the poor rejoice!
Let the mute give voice!
Love is shown, God is known,
Christ is born of Mary.*

2. Not for kings was the word
which the poor shepherds heard:
hope renewed, grace conferred,
and the hillside ringing
with the angels' singing.

3. Bethlehem, humble town
where the babe wears the crown,
turns the world upside down:
God so unexpected,
homeless and rejected.

4. Let us sing Mary's song,
bringing hope, righting wrong,
heard with fear by the strong,
poor and humble raising,
God of justice praising.

During Communion the Choir will sing:
'Born in the night' - Ainger

Communion Hymn: 'Go tell it on the mountains'

*Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere.
Go tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.*

1) While shepherds kept their watching
o'er wand'ring flocks by night,
behold, from out of heaven,
there shone a holy light.

2) And lo, when they had seen it,
they all bowed down and prayed;
they travelled on together
to where the babe was laid.

3) When I was a seeker,
I sought both night and day:
I asked the Lord to help me
and he showed me the way.

3) He made me a watchman
upon the city wall,
and , if I am a Christian,
I am the least of all.

Final Hymn:
'We are marching in the light of God'

We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching - Oh - oh!
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching - Oh - oh!
We are marching in the light of God.

We are living in the love of God,
We are living in the love of God.
We are living in the love of God,
We are living in the love of God.
We are living - Oh - oh!
We are living in the love of God.
We are living - Oh - oh!
We are living in the love of God.

We are moving in the pow'r of God,
We are moving in the pow'r of God.
We are moving in the pow'r of God,
We are moving in the pow'r of God.
We are moving - Oh - oh!
We are moving in the pow'r of God.
We are moving - Oh - oh!
We are moving in the pow'r of God.

Notices

The Twentieth Advent Window

'Good King Wenceslas'

designed and created by our Sparklers Group
will be unveiled at Hill's Violin Shop at 11am this morning
Do please come and support

Service of Lessons and Carols

by candlelight

this evening at 6.30pm in St Mary's

All welcome

Welwyn Community Café
every Tuesday from 9am-12noon
in St Mary's New Church House

This is a joint venture between the Parish Council and
St Mary's and aims to provide a weekly congenial
meeting place for everyone in the local area.
Tea/coffee/biscuits/cakes available

The Community Café will be open on
Tuesday 29th December