

Sunday 26th December

1st Sunday of Christmas

**8am: Holy Communion at
St. John's**

10.15am: Croissants and Carols
Revd Gemma Fraser

Sunday 2nd January

Epiphany

9am: Holy Communion
Revd Suzanne McAllister

Live streamed on Facebook, also on the
Worship At Home page of our website

10.15am: Morning Worship
Richard Field

Sides: Pat Brugier
Sound/Mevo: David Millward
Organist: Nick Pratt/Music Group
Duty Warden: David Millward

Saturday Coffee

8th Jan 11am-12noon



with Richard and Nick

Church will be closed afterwards

Sunday 9th January

Baptism of Christ

9am: Holy Communion
Revd Suzanne McAllister

10.15am: Morning Worship
Revd Suzanne McAllister

Sides: Hilary Few
Sound: Helen Field
Mevo: Richard Field
Organist: Nick Pratt
Duty Warden: Helen Field

Coffee
Elena and Maxine

Contacts

Priest in charge Revd Gemma Fraser (not Fridays)
07540 152561 moulshamrev@gmail.com

Curate Revd Suzanne McAllister 07780 442317
rev_suzanne_mcallister@outlook.com

Churchwarden David Millward 07749 359971

Assistant Churchwarden Nick Pratt 07882 235351

Newsletter Content If you have any items for the Newsletter (including requests for prayer) contact Janette Tadman - janettetadman@gmail.com or 01245 469124

Friday 24th December

Christmas Eve

11.30pm: Midnight Mass
Revd Gemma Fraser

Sides: Elena Pratt, Sue Davies

Sound: David Millward

Mevo: Lucy Bubb

Organist: Nick Pratt

Duty Warden: David Millward

Readings:
Isaiah 52:7-10
Hebrews 1:1-12
John 1:1-14

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also on the
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of our website

Saturday 25th December

Christmas Day

**10.15am: All Age Holy
Communion**
Revd Suzanne McAllister

Sides: Elena Pratt, Pat Brugier

Sound/Mevo: David Millward

Organist: Nick Pratt

Duty Warden: David Millward

Readings:
Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalms 96
Luke 2:1-20

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also on the
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There will be no morning prayer services from 27th Dec - 3rd Jan

Financial Giving Please do support St Luke's using one of the options below:

- Regular giving by standing order - for more information contact Dave Chambers at simplydavec@aol.com
- One-off online donations accessed via the St Luke's website homepage
- Contactless card reader available at the back of church

Christmas Message 20201 from The Right Reverend Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, the Bishop of Chelmsford
Finding silence to hear the Angels sing

At my house, the roar of traffic on the A12 is a constant companion. We all live in a very noisy world, whether it's the noise of traffic, telephones, or (this time of year) the endless Christmas background music in shops. And if it's not external noise, it's our own internal soundtrack of anxiety about COVID, or work, or climate change, or our children, and so on. We might ask just where is the promised peace of the new-born Christ Child, the baby who was foretold as the coming "Prince of Peace"?

It came upon the midnight clear, is a favourite carol for many, and it contains that wonderful image of the world falling silent in the middle of the night on that first Christmas Eve to hear the angels sing to the shepherds on the hillside outside Bethlehem; telling of the birth of Jesus, the long-promised Messiah. The carol goes on to remind us that the noise and clamour of our world is threatening to overpower and drown out the love song of the angels – perhaps even more true today than when the words were written in 1849. If only we could find some silence to hear the angels sing again – and there are so many in our world who need, desperately, to hear that song of peace, love and joy. The first verse of It came upon the midnight clear offers a wonderful image of the hope we cling to - that one day, that longed-for peace will come and we will all join in the angels' song.

In the busyness and noise of this Christmas season, my hope and prayer for us all is that we can find at least a few moments of peace and quiet to pause and reflect on the true heart of Christmas – and perhaps even hear the angels sing once more at the birth of the Saviour.

At The Heart of Christmas

Thank you so much to all who played their part in making our second Christmas Tree Festival such a success, whether in preparation, helping or coming along to support - it was a fantastic team effort! We had over 210 adults and children visit across the weekend and we think we have raised in the region of £500. It was also great that so many engaged with our theme "At The Heart of Christmas", including the winner of the favourite Children's/ Young People's Christmas Tree, "Sharing" by 2nd Moulsham Guides, with the sweets forming the tree being donated to Chelmsford Food Bank.

At the heart of Christmas is God's promise to be with us always, offering us hope, comfort and joy.

At the heart of Christmas



Please Pray for

Brian, Joan, Bob, Anna, Doug, Greta, Sally and Peter, John and Mary, Nicky and Alina, and Amelia.

Over the Christmas period we remember:

Dennis Brown (27.12.1990)

Alex Bliss (30.12.1996)

Glenda Collins (30.12.2011)



Key Messages from PCC meeting 15th December

- The PCC, and St Luke's Church Family, would like to thank Mary for the wonderful Christmas Tree that she has kindly donated to St Luke's. It looks amazing, thank you!
- The PCC would also like to thank the congregation for their help and actions through these difficult times. The rise in giving recently has really been helpful, so thank you!
- The PCC would also like to wish all of the congregation and their Families a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Christmas Giving

It was lovely to welcome Sue Smith to our Morning Worship service the other week. Sue is from Hand in Hand, the charity that we are supporting this Christmas. Their mission is to educate, mentor, train and empower orphaned and vulnerable East African young people, particularly in Kenya and Uganda.

We are going to help to provide a kitchen for the JJ Excel Training School in Uganda - replacing the current wooden structure with a brick structure and an efficient energy saving stove. If you would like more information, have a look at their website, www.handinhand.org.uk, or pick up one of their newsletters in church.

There are envelopes for cash and cheque giving at the back of the church. Cheques should be made payable to "Hand in Hand".

You can also give online, either through their website or by bank transfer (sort code 60 09 45, account number 86047019). Please make sure that you quote "JJ St Luke's" so that we know how much we have raised.