



ST MARY'S

◆ CUDDINGTON ◆

Notices for 22nd of December 2024

A warm welcome to everyone

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Please come into the hall for refreshments after the 09:30 service.

Collect:

Eternal God,
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,
so we wait for his coming in glory;
bring us through the birth pangs of this present age
to see, with her, our great salvation
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Advent 4 - Mary

Jesus said, 'Anyone who does
what my Father in heaven wants
is my brother or sister or mother'.

I am the servant of the Lord.

Let it be to me according to his word.

The fourth candle is lit:

Jesus is the light of the world.

A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness,
changed for gladness
on that Day

Mary's gift, beyond all telling,
was to give Christ room.
She gave God a human dwelling
in a mother's womb.
Who could guess the final story?
Cross and glory;
empty tomb!

Hymns:

- 89** O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness
609 To God be the glory
557 Praise to the holiest in the height
318 O thou who at thy eucharist didst pray
81 Lord for the years

Readings:

Micah 5.2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labour has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.
If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil,
we will raise against them seven shepherds
and eight installed as rulers.

Luke 1. 39-45 (46-55)

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

Post-communion prayer:

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Vacancy News – Peter & Dan (Your churchwardens)

St Mary Cuddington is blessed to be supported through the Christmas period by our ministry team of John, Maggie and Jason whilst we advertise for a new vicar. Advertising closes 29th Jan, with shortlisting on 4th Feb for formal interview on 4th March. We will be supported by visiting clergy including Bishop Paul on Christmas Day, Revd Sue Ayling at 8am BCP on 5th Jan, and Revd Des Williamson at 09:30 on 26th Jan.

Gift Day : Thank you so much to everyone who has responded and we are now very close to covering the costs of our essential roof repairs. Enquiries David Eames / Peter / Colin **Thankyou** !

Christingle Prep Help Needed! If anyone would be able to please help Jacqui and Colin with the Christingle prep it would be very much appreciated, on **Monday 23rd December at 10am in the hall.**

Dates for your diary

THIS WEEKEND: Saturday 21st December is the next meeting of the **Women's Group**. We will be having our annual Christmas Coffee Morning with mince pies, Christmas readings and perhaps a game or two! Please come along– we meet at 10am and finish by 12 noon.

Christmas Eve @4pm, Christingle Crib Service

Christingle and Blessing of the Crib. This service is particularly suitable for children. We tell the story of Christmas, sing favourite carols and learn the meaning of the Christingle

Christmas Eve at 11.30 pm Midnight Service of Holy Communion

Christmas Day at 10 am

Bishop Paul will lead Family Communion Service with many favourite carols. Children are invited to bring their favourite present.

1st January 2025 The Walking Group. We will meet at Church at 11.00am and car share to the riverside car park at the end of Ham Street, alternatively meet there. Bring your own lunch or use the facilities at Pembroke Lodge in Richmond Park.

Enquiries: Martin White mqwhite99@gmail.com