

For your prayers:

- Those who are ill or suffering: Freda Savin; Marion Baxter and Joe Carey
- The family and friends of Alan Hambidge, Barbara Woodley, Bill Hull and Charles Nicolson as they grieve for the loss of their loved ones.
- Mr Wells, Kingsclere Primary School Headteacher as he leaves the school, Mrs Spencer-Healey as she takes on the role of Acting Headteacher for the coming term and Mrs Melrose, the new headteacher who will join the school at Easter.
- The Benefice Vision Day on 9th February

This Week:

Mon 17	ABC (*K)	9.30am
Tue 18	School Service (*AH)	9.30am
	Funeral (*K)	2.30pm
Wed 19	Toast for Tots (*KM)	9.30am
	Holy Communion (*RHC)	11.30am
	Remembering at Christmas (*K)	7.30pm
Fri 21	School Service (*K)	10.30am
Sun 23	Holy Communion (*K)	8am
	Morning Worship (*K)	9.15am
	Family Carol Service (*H)	11am
	Carol Singing in the Crown (*K)	6pm

K= St Mary's Kingsclere; H = St Peter's Headley

AH = St Paul's, Ashford Hill; Km = Kingsmill Rm;

RHC = Rose Hodson Court; KPS = Kingsclere School

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The Parishes of Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley

Sunday 16th December 2018

Advent 3

A warm welcome to all worshipping with us today. Please take this sheet home for your prayers and information.

Today's Services

8am Holy Communion (Kingsclere)

9.15am All-Age Messy Worship (Kingsclere)

11am Holy Communion (Kingsclere)

6pm Candlelit Carols (Ashford Hill)

Collect of the Day

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Reading - Luke 1:57-66

⁵⁷ When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son. ⁵⁸ Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy, and they shared her joy.

⁵⁹ On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him after his father Zechariah, ⁶⁰ but his mother spoke up and said, 'No! He is to be called John.'

⁶¹ They said to her, 'There is no one among your relatives who has that name.'

⁶² Then they made signs to his father, to find out what he would like to name the child. ⁶³ He asked for a writing tablet, and to everyone's astonishment he wrote, 'His name is John.' ⁶⁴ Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue set free, and he began to speak, praising God. ⁶⁵ All the neighbours were filled with awe, and throughout the hill country of Judea people were talking about all these things. ⁶⁶ Everyone who heard this wondered about it, asking, 'What then is this child going to be?' For the Lord's hand was with him.

Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your

Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

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Post Communion (3rd of Advent) © Westcott House, Cambridge

Notices

A big THANK YOU to all those who hosted meals,, tea parties and get-togethers during November as well as those who donated money for our partner church in Kyankowe,.. We were able to raise £740 which will be taken by a group visiting Uganda in February.

A thank you too to those who donated money at our Christingle service last Sunday. We raised just over £60 which will be sent to the Children's Society.

Our fantastic cleaner, Val, is hanging up her dusters after many years service and so we are on the look-out for someone to clean St Mary's church. If you are able to help, either as a one-off to ensure the church is kept clean over Christmas, or on a more regular basis (approx. 2 hours per week) please speak to Ben or one of the wardens.

The flower team are preparing to decorate the church for Christmas, and would welcome donations towards the cost of the flowers. Perhaps you would like to donate in memory of a loved one? The team can dedicate a specific arrangement or put the donation towards the overall floral displays. They will acknowledge all donations and record those who are being remembered. Please give donations to Pam Kitch 01635 299743.

Are you away over the Christmas period? Lesh Stapley's sisters are visiting the UK and are looking for somewhere to stay. They would be happy to help with house or dog-sitting while they are here. If you are able to offer somewhere for them to stay please contact Lesh on 07867897116

We are in urgent need of some additional helpers for Junior Church in St Mary's. We have seen numbers rise in the last year or two and have split the children according to age but need more helpers, especially with the older group. No preparation or teaching is required, just people to be a named "helper" and to ensure we safeguard the children by having at least two adults with each group. Please speak to John Price if you are able to help, even just occasionally.

"Remembering at Christmas" is an opportunity to remember at Christmas those who have died. There will be refreshments served from 7pm, with the service beginning at 7.30pm. If you would like to have the name of your loved one read out at the service please let Emma Rivers know on 07790934972 or administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk

If you enjoy carol-singing there are two opportunities next Sunday, 23rd December. Firstly, our Family Carol Service at St Peter's, Headley at 11am and then in the Crown Pub between 6 and 8pm. Do come along and join in!

On 9th February there will be a Vision Day for the whole benefice. This will be an opportunity for people to pray about and discuss where we feel the focus for our churches will be over the coming years, and what we need to do in order to get there. Please do put the date in your diaries, more detail will be given nearer the time. Thanks to those that came along to the Prayer Day on Friday, there will be another on 18th January.

As 2019 gets rapidly closer, it's time to be thinking about your 200 Club entry for next year. £12 gets you 12 entries into the monthly draw, with the possibility of winning £50. The more people, the more money for St Mary's! This is an excellent way of raising money for church funds, with the possibility of something for yourself as well. All results published monthly in The Kingsclere Tower. If you would like to renew your membership or join us for the first time, £12 please to Maggy or Les Wallace. Cash or cheques, made payable to PCC of Kingsclere .01635 298794 or mjwwatershipdown@msn.com; or Jada, Union Lane, Kingsclere. RG20 4SS.

You will have seen the fantastic work being done on the re-plastering and redecoration of St Mary's Church. We have opened a project with The Good Exchange which enables us to collect donations towards the costs of the redecoration and also receive match-funding. If you wish to contribute towards the cost of redecoration, your support would be most welcome. Visit www.thegoodexchange.com/what-is-the-good-exchange/for-donors/#find-project

At the bottom of that page is a 'Donate Now' button which takes you to the various projects. Just look for St. Mary's Kingsclere.