

# Chesterfield Parish Church Saint Mary & All Saints

## What Should we Do?

If I had £100 for every time I have been told of initiatives that would bring the parishes I have served 'back to life', I would retire a very rich man indeed. Yet generally the evidence of faith within British society remains discouraging.

Responses range from: 'Our church isn't losing people'; to: 'Well, the figures don't tell the whole story'.



There are obviously just as many 'religious' people with their heads in the sand today as there were people with their heads in the sand of the Jordan valley when John the Baptist appeared.

When he preached, they asked him what they should do, and his answer was basically to face up to the realities of life and to get their own lives straight.

It is our lives—and the life of our church communities—that we must get straight. What should we do? Start with daily prayer; learn to know Christ through the Gospels; put our relationships right.

*There are ten days left in Advent when we might try to do that in preparation for the Christmas festivities.*

**Please respect those who wish to prepare for Mass in quiet prayer; also those who wish to listen to the closing Organ Voluntary.**

## ADVENT III (15th December 2024)

08.30 Holy Communion (1662)

10.30 Choral Mass

18.30 Choral Evensong

### THIS WEEK'S SERVICES

#### MONDAY-SATURDAY

**MORNING PRAYER** 09.00

**EVENING PRAYER** 16.00 (Thursday 17.00)

**MONDAY** Mass 12.15

**TUESDAY** Mass 09.30

**WEDNESDAY** Holy Communion (1662) 09.30

**THURSDAY** Mass 17.30

**FRIDAY** Mass 12.15

**SATURDAY** Mass 09.30

**NEXT SUNDAY** See back page

*The church is open for private prayer and visiting Monday-Saturday 09.00 - 16.00*

### EVENTS

A programme of events scheduled between Advent and Christmas is now available at the back of church.

*Full details of events may be found at [crookedspire.org](http://crookedspire.org), on the notices displayed in church, or from the organisers.*

\*\*\*\*\*

### STOP PRESS!

In addition to the advertised events, here's a series of Festive Lunchtime Recitals:

Tuesday 17th - Chesterfield College Choir  
Wednesday 18th - Organist Peter Shepherd  
Thursday 19th - Baritone William Burn

12.15pm - 1.00pm. Free entry with retiring collection for the Church Music Fund

**ADVENT III**  
**CHORAL MASS**

Processional Hymn: 9

Setting: *Missa Brevis* (Adrian Batten)

**Collect Prayer**

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. **Amen**

**A reading from the Book of the Prophet Zephania**

**Zephania 3.14-end**

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Gradual Hymn: 5

**Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Luke**

**Glory to you, O Lord**

**Luke 3.7-18**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Homily, Creed, Intercessions & Peace

Offertory Hymn: 475

Communion Motet: This is the record of John  
(Orlando Gibbons)

Post-Communion Hymn: 6

Voluntary: Fantasia for Double Organ  
(Orlando Gibbons)

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CHORAL EVENSONG**

Advent Prose (REH636)

Responses: Smith

Psalm(s): 50.1-6 & 62

First Lesson: Isaiah 35

Office Hymn: 15

Canticles: Stanford in B flat

Second Lesson: Luke 1.57-end

Anthem: People look East (arr. Maxim)

Hymn: 20

Voluntary: The First Nowell & The Virgin Unspotted  
(Jasper Bonfoy Rooper)

## Prayer Intentions This Week:

### Today 15th December - Advent III

- For carol services, to be channels of God's spirit
- ◇ The Anglican Church of Tanzania
- ✦ *Joan Shaw*

### Monday 16th December - Eglantyne Jebb

- The Dronfield Team Ministry
- ◇ Kongor - The Episcopal Church of South Sudan
- ✦ *William Mitchell*

### Tuesday 17th December

- Parishes of St Paul, Hasland and St James,  
Temple Normanton
- ◇ Kontagora - The Church of Nigeria
- ✦ *Dorothy Lord; Jack Johnson; Eric Ford;*  
*Liz Bagshaw; Peter Bates; Malcolm Phipps*

### Wednesday 18th December

- Parish of All Saints, Wingerworth
- ◇ Kootenay - The Anglican Church of Canada
- ✦ *Sandra McKeown*

### Thursday 19th December

- Parish of Saints Augustine, Chesterfield
- ◇ Eastern Kowloon - Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

### Friday 20th December

- Parishes of parishes of St Barnabas,  
New Whittington & St Bartholomew, Old Whittington
- ◇ Western Kowloon - Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui
- ✦ *Heather Lacey*

### Saturday 21st December

- Charities for the elderly, for medical charities and  
for Derbyshire's care homes and hospices
- ◇ Krishna-Godavari - Church of South India (United)
- ✦ *Keith Fawthrop*
  
- Diocesan Cycle of Prayer
- ◇ Anglican Worldwide Cycle of Prayer
- ✦ Year's Mind

**Vicar:** Canon Patrick Coleman  
The Vicarage, 11 Bryn Lea, Chesterfield,  
Derbyshire, S41 0EP  
vicar@crookedspire.org

**Clergy Team:** Revd Mark Crowther-Alwyn; Revd  
Iain Faulkner; Venerable Karen Hamblin; Revd  
John Pinder-Packard; Revd Steven Tricklebank

**Parish Office:** 01246 206506  
(a duty priest is available 24/7)

**Parish Reader:** John Gascoyne

**Churchwardens:** John Hague  
Colin McKenna

**Organist & Choirmaster:**  
Peter Shepherd choir@crookedspire.org

## Our prayers have been asked for:

Andrea Sutcliffe; John Robinson; Jean Madin; Colin  
Hutson; Jean Morris; Wendy Layton; Ambrose Mason;  
Paul Bates; Tony Ragan; Sue Hastings; Jane Bushe;  
Fiona Solberg; Barbara Carter; David Pedrick; Joseph  
Watson; Roxanne; Imelda Davies; Ralph Turner; John  
Nickols; Terry; Becky; Les & Lynn Metcalfe; Jackie  
Turner; Laurence Atkinson; David McGhie; Shirley  
Francis; Olivia, Sebastian & baby Ophelia; Cathy; June  
Robinson; Joe Martin

✦ *Christine Lane, RIP; Joyce Lane, RIP;*  
*Nigel Ball, RIP; David Dolman, RIP;*  
*Rev'd Linda Dean, RIP*

## Christmas Flower Arrangement Pedestals

Christmas pedestals are available for sponsorship of  
£40. Contact Dorothy Turner on 07974 829350.

## Church 'Post Box'

The annual A-Z post box system for your cards to  
other members of the congregation is now in place.

## Events

A programme of events scheduled for December is  
available at the back of church.

## Christmas Eve Crib Service, 24th December

Children aged 6-11 are very welcome to join in  
singing some carols at the Crib service at 3pm.  
Practice & refreshments from 1pm.

## Gift Shop

The final shopping day of 2024 will be Christmas Eve,  
Tuesday 24th December, 10am - 4pm. The Shop will  
then close until 10am on Monday 6th January 2025.

## Spital Arts at St Leonard's

Chesterfield Co-operative Choral Society, Friday 20th  
December, 7.30pm, at St Leonard's, Spital. Tickets  
£15 from the organisers.

## Next Sunday - 22nd December - Advent IV

- 08.30 Holy Communion (1662)  
09.30 Morning Prayer (St Leonard's, Spital)  
10.30 Choral Mass  
Readings: Micah 5.2-5a  
Luke 1.39-55  
18.30 Choral Evensong  
Readings: Psalm(s) 123 & 131  
Isaiah 10.33-11.10  
Matthew 1.18-end

[www.crookedspire.org](http://www.crookedspire.org)



chesterfieldcrookedspire



crookedspire1234