

St Mary Magdalene, Altofts and St Luke the Evangelist, Charlston

www.stmarysaltofts.org.uk

www.stlukessharlston.org.uk



Please pray for the sick especially:

Christine.

**Please pray for the long-term sick and
housebound: Winnie**

**Please pray for the departed especially:
William, Sheila, Clive, Eddie, Linda, Betty**

About today: So who is coming? This Sunday's readings help to answer that question. John the Baptist is asked about the coming of the Messiah - is it him? He affirms his role as a witness to speak for the light, by pointing to the one who stands among the crowd unknown to them who is coming after him. This idea is present in the First Reading, where Isaiah proclaims what the anointed one ('Messiah' in Hebrew) will do, and the joy that this will bring. It is interesting that the Psalm appointed for this Sunday is the Magnificat - Mary's song of praise at the announcement that the Messiah would be born of her - in which she sings of the works of the coming Messiah. Paul then reminds us that we are still waiting patiently: God has called you, and he will not fail you. This is why, on this 'Gaudete' Sunday, we as God's people rejoice in his care, made visible in his promises, fulfilled in Jesus.

Sunday 13 December 2020

Year B Advent 3

(Year i - Psalter Week 3)

"Everyone is welcome at God's table"

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Churchwardens at

Charlston

Vacant

This Week – Audio Church

Bells on Sunday	Sunday	0543	BBC Radio 4
Sunday Worship	Sunday	0810	BBC Radio 4
Choral Evensong	Sunday	1500	BBC Radio 3 (Repeated Wednesday 1530)
Prayer for the Day	Everyday	0543	BBC Radio 4
Daily Service	Weekday	0945	BBC Radio 4 LW

Telephone Church

Hear a daily recording of the psalm of the day, bible readings and prayers. Call anytime on 01226 668771.

Online Church

Services are uploaded onto the church You Tube Channel (Altofts and Sharlston Churches) along with a meditation on the Sunday gospel reading. For more detailed copies of the services please look at the Universalis website.

Sanctuary lamps burn at St Mary's to the glory of God and in memory of **Brian Gibbons** (Aumbry) **Donald Parker** (Our Lady) **Shirley Donnelly** (Requiem Altar) and at St Luke's to the glory of God and in memory of **Kenneth Whitford** (Aumbry)

Tier 3 - Keeping each other Safe.

As we return to Tier 3 please remember to follow the following guidance when in church: Please.....do use hand sanitizer on entering and leaving the building and wear face masks; fill in from the front of church; keep 2 metres apart and only sit with those in your household or bubble. Please remember to...refrain from unnecessarily moving about and touching things in church as much as practical, this includes handing other people items. Please leave church promptly. Sadly, "for now" it is not possible to offer refreshments after the services. It is easy to forget these "new ways" but it is vital that we do this in order to protect ourselves and each other and that our church is not just a sanctuary but a safe sanctuary.

Christmas Cards

Due to increased contact and potential risk of infection, the current advice given is that Christmas cards should not be exchanged in church or left at the back of church.

Advent Resources.

In addition to the Advent Booklet published this weekend and delivered this week, there is also an online Advent course with our friends at Ryhill, South Kirby, Grimethorpe, Brierley and Cudworth via zoom on Tuesdays at 1400hrs and Sundays at 1800hrs and then uploaded onto YouTube. If you would like the link for zoom please email Fr David or you can join on the phone, do ask Fr David for more details.

Bambinelli Sunday.

Today is Bambinelli Sunday, if you have brought your bambinelli with you please keep it with you until the end of the service when you will be asked to raise up your figure(s) as they are blessed.

Altofts Church Boiler.

The problem with the boiler getting too warm has been discovered, but that has meant that the boiler has been turned off, 'for now'. The heating engineer has been last week and is coming this week. Apologies for the temperature in church today, the service will be

abridged to account for this. Whilst it is hoped that the heating will be sorted for next week, it would be wise to wrap up well for next week just in case. An extra pair of socks can make the world of difference to our overall body temperature, if our feet are warm then we feel warmer ourselves.

Weekday Mass.

Please note NO changes to the of weekday masses this week.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Advent is the traditional time to make our confession, please do speak to Fr David privately if you would like to make your confession, or would like to find out more, or have a spiritual chat.

Christmas Services.

At the time of writing it is suggested that this year there will be a **Candlelit Bethlehem Midnight Mass at St Mary's at 2100hrs** where we will celebrate mass when it is midnight in Bethlehem. The **Mass of the Day on Christmas Day** will take place at **St Luke's at 0930hrs** and at **St Mary's at 1030hrs**, whilst in previous years a mass has not been offered on Christmas Day at Altofts through lack of attendance due to people travelling to see family, this year is very different so please do support these services and spread the word. **Masses will also be offered during the octave (week) of Christmas.** In the Octave, each day is like Christmas Day. For those who are shielding or wishing to attend a mass where fewer are gathered and there is even less risk of infection, attending a mass during the octave fulfils the obligation of making our Christmas communion. Masses will be offered at various times that week to account for individual circumstances and commitments for convenience. .

Crib Service and Christingle.

Sadly, it looks as if it will not be able to provide our Crib and Christingle services in the usual format this year. Fr David is looking at other options so watch this space.

Christmas and the Octave

Thursday 24 December	Christmas Eve	2100 Said Mass St Mary's
Friday 25 December	Christmas Day	0930 Said Mass St Luke's 1030 Said Mass St Mary's
Saturday 26 December	St Stephen	1800 Said Mass St Mary's
Sunday 27 December	St John the Apostle	0930 Said Mass St Luke's 1100 Said Mass St Mary's
Monday 28 December	The Holy Innocents	0930 Said Mass St Mary's
Tuesday 29 December	St Thomas Becket	1800 Said Mass St Mary's
Wednesday 30 December	6th Day in Octave	0930 Said Mass St Luke's
Thursday 31 December	7th Day in Octave	12000 Said Mass St Mary's
Friday 1 January	Mary Mother of God	1100 Said Mass St Mary's

If you are unable to make your Christmas Communion on Christmas Day why not come to one of the masses within the octave 25-31 December. The Church celebrates Christmas all week and would enable people to make their Christmas Communion.

This Week

Sunday 13 December (Advent 3)

0930	Parish Mass	St Luke's
1000	Said Mass You Tube (Altofts and Sharlston Churches)	
1100	Parish Mass	St Mary's

Monday 14 December St John of the Cross

1000	Funeral Interview	St Luke's
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Tuesday 15 December Advent 3

1000	Said Mass	St Mary's
1200	Funeral Liturgy	Barnsley Crematorium
1330	MDR with Archdeacon	Church Hse, Wakefield

Wednesday 16 December Advent 3

1200	Said Mass You Tube (Altofts and Sharlston Churches)	
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Thursday 17 December Advent 3

1900	Said Mass	St Mary's
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Friday 18 December Advent 3

1000	Said Mass	St Luke's
1100	Funeral Liturgy	All Saints, South Kirkby
1215	Committal Liturgy	Carr Lane Cemetery
1315	Funeral Liturgy	St Luke's
1400	Committal Liturgy	Sharlston Cemetery

Saturday 19 December Advent 3

Sunday 20 December (Advent 4)

0930	Parish Mass	St Luke's
1000	Said Mass You Tube (Altofts and Sharlston Churches)	
1100	Parish Mass	St Mary's