

Welcome to St Mary's. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us. If you are here for the first time please make yourself known to one of the clergy or sidespeople. Do take this sheet home with you.

St Mary's Christmas Fair: Saturday 23rd November 10am – 3pm at Kitson Hall

I know, we have been asking for your donations and help for the last few weeks for the Christmas Fair. Its next Saturday (23rd) so please come along and enjoy some delicious food, peruse the beautiful Bric a Brac stall, explore the various stalls offering gifts, and maybe offer an hour or 2 to help us raise money for charity. Please spread the word and do pop in.

Get Baking / Sign Up to volunteer on the day / Come and enjoy the Fair.

The Retreat: Families with young children may like to use the Melvill Room (door beside the organ) as a Retreat space for young children who are getting restless. The service is relayed into there and there are toys and books for children. There is also coffee available for adults.

Services on 17th November

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| 8am | Holy Communion BCP | President & preacher: Bishop Richard Harries |
| 10am | Parish Eucharist | President: Rev'd James Hutchings Preacher: Father Stephen Stavrou |
| 11.45am | Informal Service with baptisms | Officiant: Rev'd James Hutchings |
| 5.30pm | Healing & Wholeness | Officiant: Rev'd Sister Margaret Anne |
| 6.30pm | Scholars Concert | Free entry, all welcome |

Collect for 17th November

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

First Reading: Malachi 4 vv1-2a **Gospel:** Luke 21 vv5-19 **10am hymns:** 2, 463, 635, 818

St Mary's takes the safeguarding and care of children and vulnerable adults very seriously. Our **Parish Safeguarding Officers** are Elisabeth Munden and Natasha Mold. If you have any concerns about the safety or welfare of a child or vulnerable adults, they can be contacted via safeguarding@stmarybarnes.org or the Church Office on 0208 741 5422.

Difficulty in hearing or reading?
There is a hearing loop system in this church. Just switch your NHS hearing aid to the 'T' position. Privately purchased aids may work differently; check your aid instructions. There are also large print service booklets and hymn books. Please ask a sidesperson if you need one.

Special Prayers: Age UK Richmond, please see their display at the back of church

The sick, including Anne White, Monty & Maisie Brown, Sheila Wilson, Isabelle

Those who have died: Stephen Elkington, Markham Jackson; Muriel Lyons; Edward Cullinan

Anniversaries of death: Patricia Chapman, Robin Durie, Muriel Blain, Patricia Vowden, Ann Neiman

This week

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| Mon to Fri | 9.05am | Morning Prayer in the Langton Chapel |
| Mondays | 3pm | Sewing group (contact Rosie on 8876 5338) |
| Thurs 21 st Nov | 11am | Refreshments with the Rector in the Melvill Room |
| | 11.15am | Quiet Time in the church |
| | 12 noon | Holy Communion (CW): President & preacher: Rev'd James Hutchings |
| Sat 23 rd Nov | 10.30am | Christmas Fair at Kitson Hall 10am – 3pm |
| Sun 24 th Nov | 8am | Holy Communion (BCP): President & preacher: Rev'd James Hutchings |
| Christ the King | 8.45am | Parish Breakfast in the Melvill Room |
| | 10am | Parish Eucharist: President & preacher: Rev'd Sister Margaret Anne <i>First Reading: Colossians 1vv11-20 Gospel: Luke 23 vv33-43</i> |
| | 6.30pm | Deanery Choral Evensong at St Mary Magdalene, Paradise Road, Richmond |

St Mary's Church opening hours

One of the joys for me of St Mary's is that the church lies at the heart of the community in Barnes, and it is lovely to see people using the church for quiet prayer and reflection, aided by the presence of the Daily Friends. However, a sadness has been seeing people wanting to come into the church and finding a locked door. So, the PCC and I would like to extend the opening hours so that the church is open from Morning Prayer through to later in the afternoon, probably around 4pm. An obvious concern is security, however the advice of our insurers and national guidance is that having your church open in the daytime is not only a good thing in itself, but is also the best form of security (burglars don't like coming to a place when other people are about). We are undertaking a full risk assessment and will be making one or two changes internally in order to minimise any potential vandalism. A priority is Cheryl's safety in the office: so the door from the church to the vestry and office will be locked when the church is open and if no Daily Friend is present. Anyone with an office enquiry will need to go around the church to the office entrance.

Similarly, the door to the Melvill Room will be locked. The plan is not reliant on having extra Daily Friends, but it would be great if we can have some extra volunteers to help cover some of the extra hours. Perhaps you are not able to do mornings but could help in an afternoon? Being a Friend is a good way both to welcome people to the church but also to have a tranquil space for yourself too! Might you be able to help? Please let Sian Walford or me know if you can. Please also contact me if you have any questions or suggestions about the longer opening hours.

We are still in the planning stage but hope to start before Christmas. Revd James.

Combat Stress: the Good Companions Coffee Morning on Saturday 9th November raised a total of £1,009.52 and the Retiring Collection on Sunday 10th November raised a further £324.90. With Gift Aid Combat Stress should benefit by a total of £1,496.92. Many thanks to all those who helped in running the Coffee Shop and to all those who made donations.

Ted Cullinan, architect of the rebuilt St Mary's, sadly died this week. We are all grateful to him for providing us with an inspiring place for our worship and for our many community events following the fire in 1978. Ted was one of the most significant architects of his generation and St Mary's is now well recognised as a brilliant solution which reconciles old and new with an imaginative re-orientation and re-ordering of the church. We thank him for his legacy.

Accommodation request, can you help?

The diocese is hosting a visit by clergy and their wives from Matabeleland, 4-16 March, and are looking for offers to provide board and lodging for one couple during the visit. If you might be able to help, please let James know as soon as possible.

At our PCC meeting last week we:

- * approved a draft budget for next year. We will need a successful Stewardship campaign in Lent to balance our books;
- * decided on how to allocate income from our fundraising events between our special charities;
- * agreed how we will do risk assessments to safeguard those attending all our activities.

Celebrity Christmas Cracker Saturday 30

November at 7.30pm: a host of celebrities (Stephanie Cole, Alistair McGowan, Charlotte Page, Timothy West, Nick and Ella Waring) performing at St Mary's to launch the Christmas season. Hosted by Gyles Brandreth, the evening includes readings, short plays, music and dance. Also featured are "Misfits: The Musical", "The Snowman" and music from The Barbershop Quartet and the Olympic Choir. Tickets are £20 adults £10 children from ticketsource.co.uk/stmarybarnes

Advent Reflections:

Where am I in the Christmas Story?

Tuesdays 3, 10 and 17 December

8-9pm in the Langton Chapel

Rev'd James Hutchings will lead with time for quiet prayerful response and concluding with saying Night Prayer (Compline). All are welcome to come along to a quiet space amidst the busyness of preparing for Christmas.

Friendly Carol Service: This year, at 2pm on 9 December, St Michael's will be hosting the annual service organised by BCA and FiSH, for those suffering from dementia and their carers.

St Mary's Christmas Cards will be on sale from Monday 18th November. The church will be open from 10.30am to 2.30pm, volunteer helpers willing. Please email Charlie if you want to offer a shift. christmascards@stmarybarnes.org

Nativity Services 3.30 and 5pm on Christmas Eve:

If you wish your children to participate or want to offer help, then please contact Alison Macmillan on aejmacmillan@gmail.com

Cards for Good Causes is open again at the Methodist Church for Christmas cards, Advent calendars and gifts. Hours are 10-4 Monday to Saturday. All profits to the charities participating.

Why not kick off your festive season in style by following up your visit to the St Mary's Christmas Fair on Saturday 23rd November with a trip to The Coach & Horses in the High Street, where acclaimed local theatre company Shadow Road will be staging Emma King-Farlow's new adaptation of 'A Christmas Carol' at 3pm and 7pm on the same day? In 75 fast-paced, funny and moving minutes discover whether or not Ebenezer Scrooge can redeem himself in time to enjoy a Happy Christmas!

Tickets: www.ticketsource.co.uk/shadowroad or in person from the venue. For more information: www.firesidefolktales.com

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| Rector: | Rev'd James Hutchings | 020 8392 0325 | revdjames@stmarybarnes.org |
| <i>Please contact James if you or anyone you know has a pastoral concern</i> | | | |
| Churchwardens: | Phil Bladen | 020 8748 0277 | pbladen@gmail.com |
| | Fouki Heller | 020 8878 3309 | fouki.heller@stmarybarnes.org |
| Director of Music: | Henry Chandler | | music@stmarybarnes.org |
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