

SAINT MARY'S BUTTSBURY ***NEWSLETTER***



Services – Winter 2018/19 **DECEMBER/JANUARY/FEBRUARY**

All services are BCP unless otherwise stated.

2 December	8.30am	Holy Communion
..	5.00pm	Advent Sunday
9 ..	11.15am	Matins
16 ..	3.00pm	Crib and Christingle Service
23 ..	3.30pm	Songs of Praise
25 ..	8.30am	Holy Communion
30 ..	3.00pm	Nine Lessons and Carols
6 January	8.30am	Holy Communion
13 ..	11.15am	Plough Sunday Service
20 ..	3.30pm	Evensong with Communion
27 ..	3.30pm	Evensong
3 February	8.30am	Holy Communion
10 ..	11.15am	Matins
17 ..	3.30pm	Evensong with Communion
24 ..	3.30pm	Evensong

CRISIS AT CHRISTMAS

Donations of the following may be left in the church on Sunday 3 and Sunday 10 December; Food (use by date beyond 31 January) tinned soup, baked beans, tinned fruit, tinned fish, ham or chicken, instant coffee (no decaf please) tins of assorted biscuits, chocolate bars, soft drinks (cans or bottles, but no glass) **Toiletries** soap, razors, tooth brushes & small tubes of tooth paste, new or freshly laundered bath and hand towels & Roll on Deodorant (non aerosol) **Arts & crafts** paint brushes, crayons, felt tip pens and sketch books **Sports & Games** chess sets, board games, DVD's Bingo tickets. Bryan will take it to CRISIS in London.

FACEBOOK

St. Mary's Buttsbury has its own Facebook page. To find it just search for the church name. It is a closed group. Please take a look and submit your request to join. As a member you can then leave information or questions about the church. It is regularly updated with posts reminding about each service as well as other matters. There are also photos on the posts.

PHOTOS and PAINTINGS of ST MARY'S CHURCH BUTTSBURY

Do you have a photo or painting of St Mary's Church Buttsbury? Would you like to see your image used on the cover of a future Buttsbury Newsletter? If you would like to submit an image to our collection for consideration and possible future use please forward a digital copy via email to v-george@sky.com

CHURCH OFFICERS

Priest -in-Charge	Rev'd Patrick Sherring	Tel: 352562
Licensed Lay Minister	Tim Lee	Tel: 216583
Churchwarden	Christopher Hayward	Tel: 356836
Deputy Churchwarden	Trevor Reeves	Tel: 07595826300
Secretary	Vicky George (nee Razzell)	Tel: 01621 850730
Treasurer	Bryan Shedel	Tel: 352213
Flower Rota	Christine Makings	Tel: 840615
Sidesmen	Arline Leaves & Christine Makings	
Pianists	Jean Bourne	Tel: 840466
	Mary Cole	Tel: 840485

CAROL SINGING

Nothing invokes memories of Christmases gone by like carol singing: - carols in an ancient church by candlelight, or singing carols outside or in a pub, there is something about carol singing that immediately takes me back to Christmases years ago with a generation of friends and relatives long since gone.

I remember volunteering at the age of ten to sing the solo first verse of *Once in Royal David's City*. We walked around the church in sub-zero temperatures, then waited in the porch in great excitement for the service to begin. I inhaled a big breath of ice-cold air...the first few lines came out fine but when I got to 'Mary was that mother mild...' there was nothing left but a hoarse squeak – and a fit of embarrassed coughing! After what seemed an eternity the choir came in, singing raggedly through suppressed giggles. (Not the adults – I saw only strange grimaces!) The choir master was kind but I didn't sing any more solos. And the re-telling of the story has become a family tradition that only improves with age.

Carols were from the outset, an antidote to all stuffiness. In the middle ages they began as dance melodies smuggled in around a sacred story, replacing Latin chant with something much more exciting. And they were written by lay people, to be sung in ordinary parish churches, for all to join in.

In 1880 the service of Nine Lessons and Carols appeared, as a new way of telling the Christmas story, to make Christmas services more appealing. The first service was in a humble wooden hall while the new Truro cathedral was being built. Over 400 people came for that first service - so the idea clearly worked.

From the 1930s the service from Kings College Cambridge became a rather more polished affair, broadcast on the BBC. The radio broadcasts kept going even throughout the [Second World War](#)- despite the [stained glass](#) having been removed from the Chapel and the lack of heating – chilly! For security reasons, the name 'Kings' was not mentioned during wartime broadcasts. Since the Second World War, it has been estimated that each year there are millions of listeners worldwide who listen to the service live on the [BBC World Service](#).

When we sing our Christmas carols we are joining in a long tradition. Like the story of Joseph and Mary things don't always go to plan. The joy of Christmas is not about outshining Kings but joining into a 'singing community' that celebrates a joyful story – God revealing himself in very ordinary lives. The story improves in the re-telling each year - and the singing - come and join us, all voices welcome.

Tim Lee

SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE

Our thanks go to Margaret and Bryan who between them raised £170 for the Friends of Essex Churches Ride and Stride on 8th September. Half of the money raised comes to Buttsbury. Thanks too to the sponsors and to those who were there to welcome riders to the church with refreshments.

INGATESTONE & FRYERNING CHURCHES TOGETHER

On **New Year's Eve** there will be a churches together service at 6pm in St Edmunds & St Mary Parish Church Ingatestone, everyone welcome. Afterwards, at 7pm, there will be a display of fireworks in the field next the Church.

SERVICES AT CHRISTMAS

Advent Sunday 2nd December at 5pm - we look forward to welcoming Pastor Barnabas and the United Reformed Church congregations of Billericay, Brentwood and Ingatestone on Sunday 2nd December at 5pm for an Advent service.

Christingle Service Sunday 16th December at 3pm: Candlelit family service featuring the decoration of the Christmas tree, the presentations to the crib and the special Christingle oranges and candles. Bishop Stephen will be present. The collection at the service will be given to The Children's Society.

Songs of Praise on Sunday 23rd December at 3.30pm: Our Evening song service will include Hymns and Carols chosen by members of the congregation shared with the reason for their choice.

Christmas Day Holy Communion at 8.30am: Christmas Day celebrated at Buttsbury to welcome the Christ child into our hearts. The service will be taken by Bishop John and followed by a festive drink and mince pies.

Carols by Candlelight Sunday 30th December at 3.00pm: this Benefice service will be our Carols by Candlelight service to express our joy at His coming. Shenfield Parish Church choir is joining us.

Plough Sunday January 13th at 11.15am : A special country service for plough Sunday. Please join us for coffee and biscuits after the service.