

St Mary's Newsletter

www.henlowchurch.org.uk

Week beginning Sunday 14th December 2014



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 11.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday Club

An audio loop is installed for those with hearing aids: please switch to the 'T' position.

WE WELCOME all who join us for our service today. Please stay on after the Eucharist for coffee or squash – the time to meet and greet.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

...those who suffer in mind, body or spirit: Angie Rigney; Sue Denwood; Jean Mattock; Mark Williams; Yvonne Milne; Bert Hobby; Eli Garland; Ben Pratt; Michael Jordan; Tom Vincent; David Wilson; Canon Liz Hughes; Wally Clarke; Keith Wetherall; Andrew Gregory; Joan Cook
...those in care homes: Jessie Child; Pat Cook; Clemency Clarke; Sarah Scott
...R.I.P: All the Faithful Departed

THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

Monday 15th - 9.00am Morning Prayer
7.30pm Henlow Singers' concert
Tuesday 16th - 6.00pm Young People's
Bellringing 7.00pm Choir Practice
8.00pm Bellringing practice
Wednesday 17th - 9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Holy Communion
Thursday 18th - 1.45pm Year 5 Christmas Service
Friday 19th - 9.00am Morning Prayer
10.15am Coffee for Raynsford Academy Parents
11.00am Raynsford Academy Christmas Service
Saturday 20th - 12 noon Holy Matrimony
~ Alastair Macfarlane and Lucie Flint ~

NEXT SUNDAY 21st December

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

11.00am Parish Eucharist with Young
People's Handbells

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER TO THE EDITOR, JAMES BURGESS (Tel 01462 700115)

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE – The Reverend Canon Sue Groom M.Phil, The Vicarage, 65 Church Street, Langford – 01462 700248;

ASSISTANT CURATE – The Reverend Patsy Critchley BA

CHURCHWARDENS – Mrs P Tomlinson, 1 Jordan Close - 01462 850233 ~ Mrs S Moore, 80 High Street – 01462 815392

NOTICES

The next **Coffee Morning** on Wednesday 7th January at usual time of 10.45 am in church.

Next Sunday at 6.00pm there will be a service of **Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas** at St Mary's, with choirs from Raynsford and Henlow Academies in addition to our own choir taking part. Make this joyful celebration in word and song part of your welcoming the Christ-child into the world.



The **Henlow Singers' Concert** of Christmas music is at 7.30pm on Monday 15th December

The **Christmas Leaflets** are available at the back of the church – please help yourself if you haven't received one.

Raffle tickets are now on sale for a home made Christmas cake

Pilgrim courses start again in the New Year, on Monday evenings at 1 Jordan Close and Wednesday afternoons at 6 Oak Drive. Please let Canon Sue know if you would like to attend. Week beginning Monday 5 January - The Beatitudes.

The church will be being decorated for Christmas and we will also be **making Christingles (PLEASE BRING SCISSORS AND A SHARP KNIFE)** on Monday 22nd December from 9.30 am, so please try to come along and help with one or the other of these. Also, contributions towards the cost of the Christmas flowers would be most welcome and should be given to Hilary Nicolls or one of the churchwardens please.

Bring out your rubbish! We are intending to run a craft session for young people on the first Saturday of every month, and need a range of items to get us started. Please bring in cardboard inner tubes, silver paper, clear cellophane paper (sweet wrappers) and anything else which you think might be useful. There will be a bag at the back of the church to put things in.

Canon Sue will be running a course on **Leading the Intercessions** on Sat 7th Feb 2015 at St Andrew's Church, Langford from 9am - 1pm. Whether you have been leading the prayers of intercession for some time, or would like to think about it, this course offers an opportunity to share ideas and resources and to learn more about this ministry. Please speak to Sue if you would like to know more or to sign up to attend.

Jackie & Alan Painter would like to wish everyone at St Mary's a happy and blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year. In lieu of cards, a donation will be made towards the upkeep of the church.

Take time this Advent to pause

Connections for Life is a daily opportunity to think prayerfully about your relationship with the world, with other people and with God - and to allow that reflection to shape your life and actions.

Receive a brief email: a bible verse, a short reflection, an image and a challenge for each day. Or get texts to your phone, or follow @live_challenge.

Stop and think. Pray and act

Connections for Life begins Sunday 30th November 2014.

Sign up at www.livethechallenge.co.uk