

## WHAT'S ON?

**Advent Bible Study (discontinued):** Unfortunately, we must cancel our Advent Bible study due to lack of hosts and interest.

**Christmas Services:** Our Christmas Eve services this year will be a 6pm Communion in support of Aberlour Trust and an 11pm Vigil Eucharist (please see Rector's Reflection for more). On Christmas day we will have a 10.15am Eucharist.

**Soup Lunch & Raffle Tickets:** All money and counterfoils for the raffle should be returned to Mary Allardyce by next Sunday, 4 December. The drawing will be held on 7 December following the soup lunch after our 10am communion.

**Lunchtime Fellowship** will be held Tuesday, 29 November at 12.30pm. This will be the last one until January, as we will take a hiatus for Advent and Christmas.

**Carols for All:** With Roger Williams and Drew Tulloch at St Mary's, 16 December at 12.45pm. Please feel welcome to invite friends and family. We could use donations of food and volunteers.

**Bach Choir 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert** will be performing Mass in B Minor on 4 December at 7.45pm at St Machar's Cathedral. Tickets are available at Aberdeen Box Office. Speak with Margaret Rayner for more information.

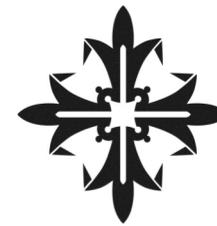
**Buying Christmas Gifts Online?** This is just a reminder that if you plan on buying any of your Christmas gifts online, you can use [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) and elect St Mary's as your charity – a portion of your purchases will be donated to us.

## WHO'S WHO?

**Rector:** The Revd Dr James Merrick  
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**Visiting Priest:** The Revd Andrew Errington

**Ministry Assistant:** Mr Austen Barraclough  
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**SAINT MARY'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

First Sunday of Advent, 27 November 2016

## WELCOME TO SAINT MARY'S

Relax and rest in God from the past week.

Rejoice with friends and family.

Be renewed by shared prayer, adoration and thanksgiving.

**Children** of all ages are welcome. Our children's programme occurs during the 10.15am service.

**Communion** is open to all baptised Christians. You may drink from the chalice or dip the bread into it. If you prefer not to receive communion, you are welcome to come to the altar for a blessing; indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.

**Coffee, tea and biscuits** are enjoyed after the 10.15am service.

Connect     

## RECTOR'S REFLECTION: CHRISTINGLE

Many of you may already be aware that this year we will not be holding a Christingle service this year. I know this may come as a disappointment to some, but please know the decision was not taken lightly. It seemed more appropriate to hold a 6pm Communion service for those members of the congregation unable to attend the Midnight Vigil. The collection at this service will support the Aberlour Trust.

There are three main reasons to forgo the Christingle this year: First, last year's Christingle service received sparse interest, with only two families visiting us. Second, Queen's Cross hosts a Christingle service that is much better known in the community and it doesn't make sense to compete with them. Third, without investing in children's ministry it doesn't make sense to offer a children's service. It is something to work on for the future.

## HOLY COMMUNION at 8AM (1970 Liturgy) & 10.15AM (1982 Liturgy)

### I. PREPARATION

#### ANTIPHON

I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to God's house.'

#### OPENING HYMN

98, Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

### II. LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

**Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

#### FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 2.1-5

#### PSALM 122: *Laetatus sum*

**R = I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to God's house.'**

I was glad when they said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."

Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.  
Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;  
To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,  
the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the Lord. **R**

For there are the thrones of judgment,  
the thrones of the house of David.  
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:  
"May they prosper who love you.  
Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.  
For my brethren and companions' sake,  
I pray for your prosperity.  
Because of the house of the Lord our God,  
I will seek to do you good." **R**

#### SECOND LESSON

Romans 13.11-14

#### THE GRADUAL HYMN

196, Hark! A Herald Voice Is Calling

#### THE GOSPEL

Matthew 24.36-44

#### THE HOMILY

The Revd Andrew Errington

### III. LITURGY OF THANKSGIVING

#### OFFERTORY HYMN

226, I Cannot Tell

#### POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

**God for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life. Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man. We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

#### CONCLUDING HYMN

307, Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

### INTERCESSIONS FOR THIS WEEK

**Aberdeen City Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer:** The Kirk of St Nicholas Uniting and the Revd Stephen Taylor

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Kansas - (VII, The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Dean Wolfe

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** Hospital Chaplaincies, the Revds Joan Lyon, John Duthie and Sylvia Spencer

**St Mary's, Carden Place:** the Revd Dr James Merrick and family; the Revd Jason Hobbs; Jonathan Strickland; Richard and Bobbie Sutton; Ann Swallow; The Tarling family; the Thomson family; and all who are not with us.