

ST. MARGARET'S ILKLEY

**The Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 6th 2020**



Dear Friends,

Many of you have expressed your gratitude to us as a family for seeking to sustain our worshipping life during our present pandemic through live-streamed and on-line services. It has been quite a learning curve! I certainly could not have done this without the immense help and support I have had from Sue, Anthony and Rebecca. As my family has more recently returned to their respective lives of work and study so my capability to supply on-line services has reduced from the heights of the first lockdown when we were producing around 4 services and podcasts a week. Our inability to live-stream from the church has been a difficulty which I hope you may be able to be address in the future. However, we have used the former study in the Vicarage as the on-going temporary Chapel and have been able more recently to offer a service on YouTube every Sunday.

As I write we are now exactly three weeks away from Christmas Day when my time at St Margaret's will finish. I know that it will be important in the weeks to come to offer worship on-line which people shielding at home can continue to access until the pandemic is over. With this in mind, I have been in conversation with the Parish of St Matthew's, Northampton. Some of you may remember that around two and a half years ago I went to St Matthew's to preach at the Silver Jubilee of the Parish Priest there, Fr Nicholas Setterfield. Fr Nicholas and I trained together at St Stephen's House, Oxford in the early nineties, and I was privileged to act as Deacon at Fr Nicholas' First Mass back in 1993, only one day after my ordination to the Diaconate.

Fr Nicholas has been able to create a strong on-line offering of worship. Particularly he is able to live-stream worship from their beautiful church and so people can participate in the worship live from home. <http://www.stmatthewsnorthampton.org.uk/> You will find that the tradition and style of worship at St Matthew's is quite similar to St Margaret's and they have a very strong choral tradition also. Fr Nicholas knows that I am suggesting to us as a parish that we participate in their worship, alongside our own during the vacancy, and he is delighted that members of St Margaret's will be able to join with St Matthew's whilst shielding at home

remains necessary and essential. I hope and pray that this will be a wonderful resource for you all as the

With my love and prayers

Fr. Philip

Sunday "Coffee Time"

Please join us on Sunday, December 6th for our virtual "coffee time". The meeting details are below.

Topic: St Margaret's Coffee Meeting

Time: December 6th, 2020 11:30 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/7586081733?pwd=bFVnZ1dpbzFPN3h5aVpVbmJmank4QT09>

Let Us Pray

God of Love,

Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.

He is a sign of your love.

Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent,

As we wait and prepare for his coming.

We pray in the name of Jesus, our Saviour

Amen



Services on

Sunday 6th December

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10.00am Mass in Church

Sung Mass by Choir

Booking is essential through the Parish Office
stmargaretschurchpa@gmail.com.

This service will NOT be live-streamed

10:30am YouTube Premiere: Sung Mass
from the temporary Chapel in the Vicarage

Sunday 13th December

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10.00am Mass in Church

Sung Mass by Choir

Booking is essential through the Parish Office
stmargaretschurchpa@gmail.com.

This service will NOT be live-streamed

10:30am YouTube Premiere: Sung Mass
from the temporary Chapel in the Vicarage



**With Vicar
Canon Philip Gray**

Live Services available on Facebook and YouTube
Search for @StMargaretsChurchIlkley

Private Prayer at St. Margaret's

Monday to Thursday

9.30am - 11.30am

St Margaret's continues to be open for individual private prayer on Monday to Thursday mornings between 9.30am and 11.30am.

Please use hand sanitizer when you enter and leave church and take responsibility for your own social distancing. Please also pick up one of the "Please clean me" notices on entering church. We kindly ask you to leave this notice on your seat when you leave church.

We wish to keep the church as a place of quiet. Any social conversations should take place away from the Church and its grounds. There will be no hymn books or prayer books or other cards available, so if you would like any prayer resources please bring those with you and take them away similarly.



**Christmas Appeal
for Keighley Women's Refuge & Staying Put**

This year's Christmas appeal is in aid of the women's refuge in Keighley which is run by the charity *Staying Put*.

Staying Put is a domestic and sexual abuse charity working with women, men and children who are victims, with survivors and with families with complex needs across West and South Yorkshire, and with perpetrators in challenging their behaviour and actions. By offering both practical and emotional support it's often possible for clients to remain safely in their own home, allowing them to stay within their community and support networks. However, for the 20% of clients who are at high risk, remaining in their homes is not an option and secure temporary refuge or dispersed accommodation is provided.

Staying Put say, "Domestic and sexual abuse can affect anyone at any stage in their life. In 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic we have seen domestic abuse incidents rise dramatically due to the lockdown and the "stay home, save lives" message, resulting in an escalating risk to vulnerable people. Recently the referral rate for our services has gone through the roof. Since the lockdown measures were put into place in March, we have seen approximately 200 more referrals to our services per month than this time last year. Our work is needed now more than ever."

This link has been developed in conjunction with the St Margaret's branch of the Mothers' Union. All donations given at the Christmas services will be passed to *Staying Put*. Last year £4,800 was raised. This year's financial appeal is particularly important as, due to COVID restrictions, we will not be able to provide our usual assistance in kind through toiletries and gifts.

Contributions (cash or cheque made payable to St Margaret's PCC) should be put in an envelope marked for the attention of the Stewardship Secretary and placed in the safe at the back of church. Alternatively, they can be posted to Alison Stretton (Stewardship Secretary) at the address below. If you prefer to give by direct bank transfer, please contact Alison for details of how to do this. If you wish to Gift Aid, please state this in your email or in a covering note and we will use your existing GA declaration or send a form out to you.

Contact details for postal/direct bank contributions:

Address: Alison Stretton, 4 Oakburn Road, Ilkley LS29 9NN

Tel: 01943 430024

Email: astretton1@virginmedia.com



St Margaret's Lockdown Quilt

Thank you to all the contributors to the lockdown quilt. To Catherine Gibson for the purple backing material, and particularly to Judith Smith who put all the squares together. The squares depict what we missed during lockdown, what we did to keep ourselves happy and occupied or just what we felt like doing at the time! After display at the back of church, the quilt will be passed to the Manor House for their display in Spring 2021.

Contributors: Catherine Beaumont, Philippa Higgins, Pratima Shaw, Jane Sheldon, Judith Smith, Alison Stretton, Marion Tetley and Nadine Wharton.



Advent Readings

Freedom is coming: From Advent to Epiphany with the prophet Isaiah by Nick Baines

The second part of the book of Isaiah rings with proclamations and prophecies that find their fulfilment in the Gospels and are still being fulfilled by followers of Jesus today.

Freedom is coming! The title is confident, and indicates the author's own conviction that the Christian message of hope will transcend the current fragmentation and cultural malaise of our society. Bishop Nick Baines has produced an interesting and original series of reflections designed to take us through the hectic six weeks of Advent to Epiphany, using the prophecies of Isaiah.

<https://transformingministry.co.uk/2019/12/15/book-review-freedom-is-coming/>

Let it Slow by Stephen Cottrell

Christmas is one of the most joyful times of year, and it can also be one of the most stressful. It comes laden with expectations and, for many, overshadowed by difficult memories and emotions. If every other day of the year has us running in different directions, driven by the bleeping demands of our phones and devices, Christmas makes us run faster still.

This understanding and uplifting book offers another way to approach Christmas and to discover how its joys and promises can restore our lives, not add to their burdens.

You are invited to take a few minutes each day during December to join in a conversation with bestselling author, Stephen Cottrell, who offers simple reflections and practical suggestions for making your Christmas the celebration it is meant to be.

<https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/books/9781781402092/let-it-slow>

Paths to Christ: Love God, Love my Neighbour, Hunger for Justice by Professor Maurice Mullard

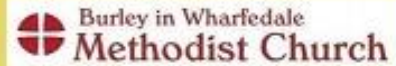
A lay person's journey, named Paths to Christ in the plural because each of us is on a unique journey. Jesus spoke to us in parables so that each of us hears the story in that a way that resonates with our biography, but also that the word is aimed at a universal community. A spiritual journey that will help the reader better understand how to read the Gospels.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Paths-Christ-Neighbour-Hunger-Justice-ebook/dp/B08LZLNHHS>



**WHARFEDALE
REFUGEE
RESPONSE**

In partnership with



Reverse Advent Calendar Appeal

Providing practical support and showing we care this Christmas

For many people in our region, including many asylum seekers and refugees, providing food for their families is a daily struggle, this year more than ever.

How you can help

Take a strong, sealable cardboard box, and each day of advent put one essential food or hygiene item into your box. By Christmas Eve, your box will be full to the brim with 24 items.

All of the boxes we receive will be distributed to people who need it most by a range of local organisations.



Suggested items:

Flour / Sugar / Rice / Couscous / Pulses / Tinned fruit and vegetables / Toilet Roll / Cereals / Instant Coffee / Tinned meat and fish / Dried Fruit & Nuts / Chocolate / Condiments / Long life milk & juice / Cooking Oil / Shampoo / Tea / Toothpaste & brushes / Deodorant / Sanitary products / Laundry detergent

Please no porridge oats, pork or baked beans

TOP TIPS!

- Please ensure each item has at least 3 months' shelf life, is in sealed packaging and can be stored at room temperature
- Try to include a range of different size and weight items
- 2 smaller boxes may be better than 1 big one
- Please include 2 heavy duty bags-for-life in your box so the contents can be carried home on public transport

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

- To try to minimise the risk of Covid-19:
- Boxes should be dropped off with our volunteers outside the church building
 - Please do not bring your box if you have any symptoms
 - We will quarantine the boxes for 36-48hrs before delivery
 - If lockdown rules change it may not be possible to deliver the boxes, in which case we may unfortunately have to cancel the appeal. We'll provide updates on Facebook and on the Methodist Church noticeboard outside church.

To donate your filled box, seal it up and bring it to Burley Methodist Church on:

**Saturday 2nd
January 2021**

**9am – 1pm
and
2pm – 7pm**

Thank you for your support. Follow [Wharfedale Refugee Response](#) on Facebook for news and updates

Organ Recital Cancelled

Please note the organ recital on Friday, December 17th has been cancelled due to tier 3 restrictions. We look forward to hosting organ recitals back in church very soon.

For information: please be advised the **12 Faces of Hope exhibition** due to be held at Christchurch, December 3rd to 18th (and advertised in our news sheet last week) has been cancelled.

Practical Support and Help

Ilkley and District Good Neighbours provides a range of support and practical help during coronavirus to include shopping, a regular phone call, collecting prescriptions and other help needed. For more information go to <http://info@goodneighboursilkley.org.uk>

Ilkley Corona Response Group (ICRG) can be contacted via the Bradford Hub on 01274 431000, or use the online form at <https://bit.ly/ilkleycorona>

Ilkley Library. To reserve books from the online catalogue and for the Home Library Service – ilkley.library@bradford.gov.uk 01943 436225

Ilkley Chat provides the latest news affecting Ilkley as a result of COVID-19 <https://www.ilkleychat.co.uk/coronavirus> This link also provides details of **food delivery services** offered by supermarkets. Contact Alison Stretton on 01943 430024 or Vickie Kemp at stmargaretschurchpa@gmail.com for more information.

During this difficult time it is important to keep in touch with friends. Please do feel you can call a member of our church family who will be pleased to hear from you.

Fr Philip	01943 607210
Fr Bernard	01943 816253
Fr Godfrey	01943 603861
Jane Sheldon	01943 431288
Helen Buswell	01943 608146
Linda Whittaker	01943 601144
Alison Stretton	01943 430024

**Daily Hope, is a 24 hour free phone line for Christian worship and prayer.
Call 0800 804 8044**