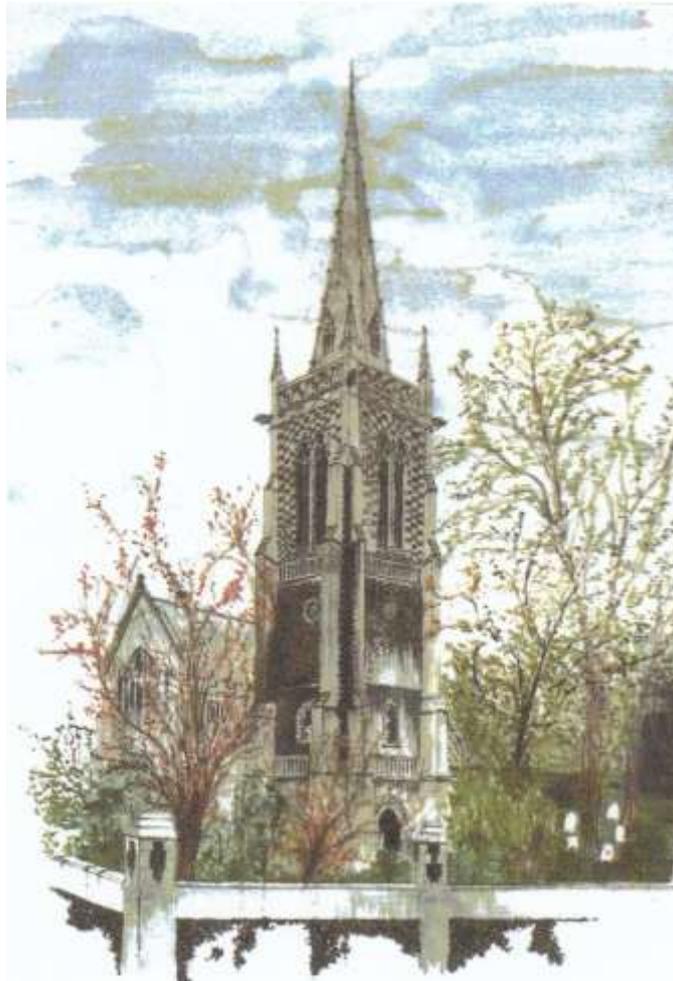


ST MARY-LE-TOWER CHURCH PAPER

SUNDAYS 23rd & 30th DECEMBER 2018



Vicar: **The Revd Canon Charles Jenkin, BSc**
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See back page for further contact details.

www.stmaryletower.org.uk

If you have difficulty in getting to the Communion Rail, or require gluten-free bread, please let a steward know and appropriate arrangements will be made.

Sunday 23rd December **4th Sunday of Advent**

- 8.00AM Holy Communion (BCP)**
President: Canon Charles Jenkin
Readings: Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1.39-55
- 9.30AM Choral Matins (BCP)**
Officiant: Mr Richard Hanley; Choir: Choristers & SCS
Readings: Micah 5.2-5a; Luke 1.39-45
Psalm: 80 vv. 8-14 (page 449); Responses: *Brown*
Setting: *Dyson* – Benedictus in C
Anthem: *Britten* – The Birds (*page 6*)
Hymn: A&M 32
- 10.30AM Crib Eucharist (CW)**
Special Order of Service. Choir: Choristers & SCS
President: Revd Jeanette Gosney
- 4.00PM St Elizabeth Hospice “Light up a Life” Service**
Officiant: Canon Charles Jenkin

<u>Christmas Services</u>		
Christmas Eve	7.00pm	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
Christmas Day	8.00am	Christmas Communion (BCP)
	10.30am	Christmas Festival Communion (CW)

Sunday 30th December **First Sunday of Christmas**

- 8.00AM Holy Communion (BCP)** President: Canon Roger Pallant
- 10.30AM Parish Communion (CW)**
President: Canon Charles Jenkin; Preacher: Canon Roger Pallant
Readings: Colossians 3.12-17; Luke 2.41-end
Setting: *Shephard*: Addington Service
Hymns: A&M 83(omit*), 89i, 68, 87, 72
- 9.30AM & 5.00PM No Choral Matins or Choral Evensong (Choir Holiday)**

Sunday 6th January 2019 **Epiphany Sunday**

- Principal Readings: Isaiah 60.1-6; Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12**
- 8.00AM Holy Communion (BCP)** *Canon Charles Jenkin*
- 9.30AM Choral Matins (BCP)** *Canon Charles Jenkin*
- 10.30AM Choral Eucharist (CW)** *Canon Roger Pallant*
- 4.30PM Festival of Epiphany Carols** *Canon Charles Jenkin*

INTERCESSIONS

O God the Son, highest and holiest, who humbled yourself to share our birth, and our death: bring us with the Shepherds and Wise men, to kneel before you, that we may come to sing with the angels your glorious praises in heaven.

We pray for the mission and unity of the Anglican Church throughout the World, remembering today the diocese of Kubwa (Nigeria). In our diocese we pray for the Revd. Rhiannon King, recently appointed to be the new Archdeacon of Ipswich to lead the Inspiring Ipswich process.

In our life at the Tower we pray for Charles, Jeanette and Roger, our priests, and give thanks for their ministry amongst us; and also for Revd Sarah Jenkins during her first year in parish ministry. We pray for all attending Christmas Services, that they may be strengthened in faith and love. And we pray for grace to celebrate and share a lively and courageous faith in Jesus Christ, the light of the World.

We pray for the homeless and the lonely; and give thanks for those who are able to open their doors and offer a meal and company to others at Christmas.

We pray for peace in the World: for those living amidst conflict and an uncertain future. We pray for our own nation, for unity, wisdom and commitment to the common good. For all involved in the continuing Brexit negotiations. For those who travel over the festive period.

We pray for those we know who are sick or otherwise distressed including: Jean Goodson, Christopher Browne, and Jaydon McConnachie. We continue to pray for, Adrian Parry, Barbara Bellamy, Angela Pantelis, Bob and Alexander Tostevin and Linda Haywood Smith.

We pray for those now unable to be regularly in Church, including this week: Eileen Mayers and Pam Blatchly. *Be with them and those who care for them.*

We pray rest in peace and rise in glory for those who have recently died among them Robin Silver, and we pray for all who mourn. We give thanks for the lives of those whose remembrance falls at this time of year, among them, Stanley Barnes, Dorothy Parnell and Michael & Doris Fiddaman.

Names and Topics for the prayer lists should be given to the Administration Office.

Thank you to Everyone

who has who has contributed to

Christmas Celebrations

at St Mary-le-Tower in any way.



Sunday 23rd December

Fourth Sunday of Advent

PRAYER FOR THE DAY (THE COLLECT)

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Hebrews 10. 5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said, ‘Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, “See, God, I have come to do your will, O God” (in the scroll of the book, it is written of me).’

When Christ said, ‘You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings’ (these are offered according to the law), then he added, ‘See, I have come to do your will.’ He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 1. 39-55

Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, ‘Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.’

And Mary said, ‘My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.’

Sunday 30th December

First Sunday of Christmas

PRAYER FOR THE DAY (THE COLLECT)

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Colossians 3.12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body.

And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2.41-52

Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey.

Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to

Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

ANTHEMS SUNG BY THE CHOIR (23rd December)

9.30AM, Britten:

When Jesus Christ was four years old, the Angels brought him toys of gold, which no man ever had bought or sold and yet with these He would not play. He made Him small fowl out of clay and blessed them till they flew away *To creasti Domine*. Jesus Christ, Thou child so wise, bless mine hands and fill mine eyes and bring my soul to paradise

CONGRATULATIONS and MANY THANKS to everyone who contributed to the Messiah performance last Sunday. It was a truly inspiring and memorable performance with a particularly high standard. Well done Christopher!

ST MARY-LE-TOWER ADVENT APPEAL

In aid of the Children's Society.

Boxes are available at the back of church. Please take one.
The due date for the return of the boxes will be 25th December.



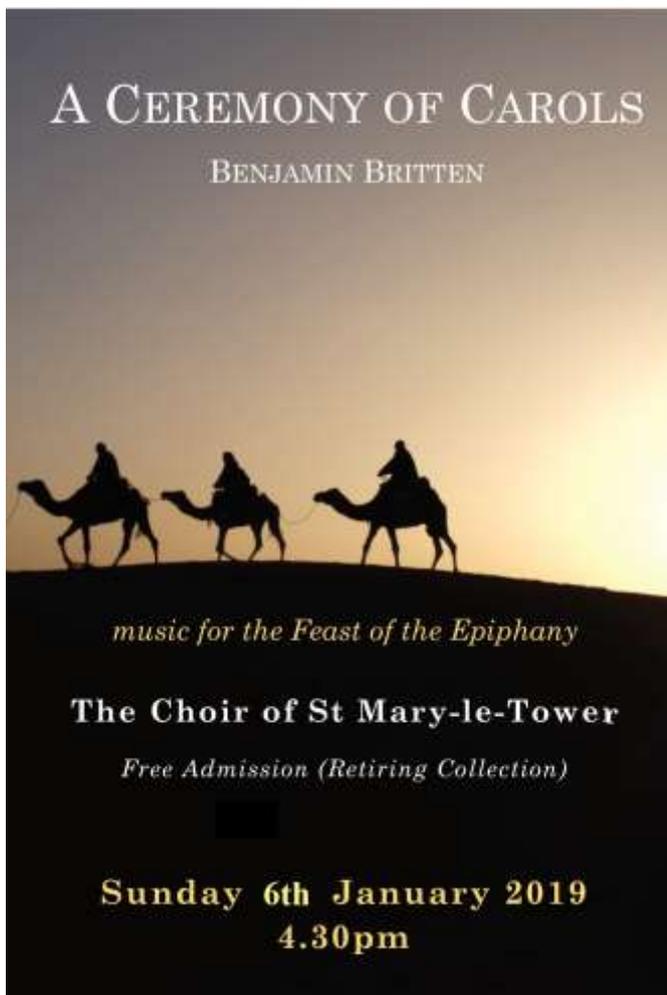
IPSWICH LIGHTHOUSE WOMEN'S AID



At Epiphany we will once again be collecting gift vouchers for the Ipswich Lighthouse Women's Aid. They are very grateful for these vouchers and also unused toiletries which they use for birthdays and gifts to their residents.



*Clergy, Staff and Lay Leaders
of St Mary-le-Tower thank everyone for their Christmas
greetings and wish everyone all the blessings of Christmas
and a joyful New Year.*



VICAR'S STUDY LEAVE Canon Charles will be taking extended study leave next year from Monday 7th January until the end of March (12 weeks). Arrangements are being made to cover Sunday services which will continue as usual. Midweek Choral services will not take place until after Easter. Monday Prayers and Wednesday Communion will continue as usual. Overall, the parish will run for these 12 weeks on the same general principles as though we were in an interregnum.

This is not an extended holiday! Rather it is a structured period of rest, refreshment and resourcing in preparation for the next years of Charles' ministry at the Tower. Charles will be supervised by Bishop Mike. Extended leave has three main elements: a time of intentional rest and recovery, a programme of spiritual refreshment, and a specific area of study.

The subject for Charles' study is looking at how parish churches can be more intentionally encouragers and resourcers of people's spiritual pilgrimages, as they come into contact with the Church in multiple ways, meeting them where they are rather than just expecting them to join in with congregational life and groups.

Please pray for the parish officials teams who will manage the parish in the vicar's absence and for Charles too.

WHAT'S ON AT THE TOWER 24th Dec – 7th Jan 2019

The church is normally open to visitors 10AM – 12NOON

Mon 24th	Christmas Eve 7.00PM Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
Tues 25th	Christmas Day 8.00AM Christmas Communion (BCP) 10.30AM Christmas Festival Eucharist (CW)
Wed 26th	<i>Boxing Day – Church closed.</i>
Sun 30th	8.00AM Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30AM Choral Eucharist (CW) <i>No 9.30AM or 6.30PM Services (Choir holiday)</i>
Tues 1st Jan	<i>New Year's Day – Church closed.</i>
Wed 2nd	10.30AM Holy Communion (BCP)
Sun 6th	Normal Sunday Services except: 4.30PM Festival of Epiphany Carols
Mon 7th	12N Prayers for Light and Peace

THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed from the 24th December to 2nd January. Normal service will be resumed from 3rd January 2019.

INSPIRE, the Christmas issue of the parish magazine is published today. Many thanks to all contributors

ADMINISTRATOR (Church and Tower House): Mrs Donna Joyce.
See Parish Office contact details on the front page.

Outgoing Letters: Remember to check the letter rack at the back of church.



THE CHORAL FOUNDATION FOR ST MARY-LE-TOWER

Patron: Ed Sheeran MBE Hon Doc Mus

The Choral Foundation is an independent charity whose purpose is to promote, preserve and expand the choral tradition at St Mary-le-Tower, including its outreach programme encouraging choral singing amongst young people in the wider community.

Ed Sheeran says, 'I appreciate the benefits which singing brings to young people both physical and emotional. Singing teaches you lots of skills and provides many opportunities which will help, enrich and sustain you throughout life.'

www.choralfoundationipswich.org.uk