

# St Mary of Charity

## Parish Church Faversham

### First in Advent

## 1 December 2019

Welcome to the beautiful church of St Mary of Charity. Please do stay for a drink and fellowship. If you are here for the first time, please make yourself known to one of the clergy.

For our prayers:

- the Benefice of Faversham clergy team and lay ministry and all whose ministry is in Faversham and the Ospringe Deanery;
- all visitors to our church and town;
- those affected by 'natural disasters' and extreme weather in the world;
- those affected by political unrest;
- those who strive for reconciliation;
- the bereaved;
- those who work in disaster relief;
- those affected by the Grenfell Tower fire;
- those who are homeless or vulnerably housed;
- those who are experiencing financial hardship;
- those who work for the emergency services;
- those who are receiving medical treatment;
- the people of Syria, Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan; and
- all who live in fear of violence and aggression.

**9 am Eucharist (CW) with hymns**  
10.30 am All Age Worship with Christingle  
6 pm Advent Carol Service

**Readings:**

**Isaiah 2:1-5**

**Romans 13:11-14**

**Matthew 24:36-44**

**COLLECT:**

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

**Next Sunday:**  
**Second in Advent**  
**Isaiah 11:1-10**  
**Romans 15:4-13**  
**Matthew 3:1-12**



## 9 am Eucharist (CW) with hymns

Opening: Come, thou long-expected Jesus  
Offertory: The advent of our King  
Closing: Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding



### **Come, thou long-expected Jesus,**

born to set thy people free ;  
from our fears and sins release us ;  
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art ;  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver ;  
born a child and yet a king ;  
born to reign in us for ever ;  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thy own eternal Spirit,  
rule in all our hearts alone :  
by thy all-sufficient merit,  
raise us to thy glorious throne.

### **The advent of our King**

our prayers must now employ,  
and we must hymns of welcome sing  
in strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Son  
incarnate deigns to be ;  
himself a servant's form puts on,  
to set his servants free.

Daughter of Sion, rise  
to meet thy lowly King ;  
nor let thy faithless heart despise  
the peace he comes to bring.

As judge, on clouds of light,  
he soon will come again,  
and his true members all unite  
with him in heaven to reign.

All glory to the Son  
who comes to set us free,  
with Father, Spirit, ever One,  
through all eternity.

**Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding ;**

'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say ;  
'cast away the dreams of darkness,  
O ye children of the day.'

Wakened by the solemn warning,  
let the earth-bound soul arise ;  
Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling,  
shines upon the morning skies.

Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,  
comes with pardon down from heaven ;  
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
one and all to be forgiven ;

That when next he comes with glory,  
and the world is wrapped in fear,  
with his mercy he may shield us,  
and with words of love draw near.

Honour, glory, might, and blessing  
to the Father and the Son,  
with the everlasting Spirit,  
while eternal ages run.



## CONTEMPLATING CHRISTMAS

*The Christmas Story through the eyes of St Luke*



*Spend an hour this Advent  
with reflections, silence & music*

**At St Mary Magdalene with St Lawrence,  
Davington and The Brents on  
Thursdays: 28 November and  
5, 12 and 19 December at 7 pm**

*or*

**At St Mary of Charity, Faversham on  
Fridays: 29 November and  
6, 13 and 20 December at 10.30 am**

***Old Testament***

*Isaiah 2:1-5*

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,  
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,  
and their spears into pruning-hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

Here ends the Lesson

## ***Epistle***

*Romans 13:11-14*

Brothers and sisters, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ***Gospel Reading***

*Matthew 24:36-44*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus spoke to his disciples: 'About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept

them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**





## **Kids' Christmas Craft**

Following the 10.30 am services on the first and second Sundays of December the children from Footsteps (our second and fourth Sunday group) will be running a stall with hand made crafts and treats.

All funds raised will go towards Footsteps and children's church.

Please do come along to see if there is anything to tempt you - *and don't forget your pocket money!*



**Notices for Monthly Notice Sheet to Catriona by  
Friday, 20 December latest!**

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