

# St Mary of Charity Parish Church Faversham

## First in Christmas 31 December 2017

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 St Mary of Charity clergy team and lay ministry and all whose ministry is in Faversham and the Ospringe Deanery;
- those affected by 'natural disasters' and extreme weather in the world;
- the Rohingya seeking safety;
- 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;
- those who volunteer their time for the good of others;
- the people of Syria, Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan; and
- all who live in fear of violence and aggression.

10 am Combined Benefice Eucharist at St Mary Magdalene with St Lawrence, Davington and The Brents

### Readings:

**Galatians 4:4-7**

**Luke 2:15-21**

COLLECT:

God in Trinity,  
eternal unity of perfect love:  
gather the nations  
to be one family,  
and draw us into  
your holy life  
through the birth of Emmanuel,  
our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Amen

### Next Sunday:

**Epiphany**

**Ephesians 3:1-12**

**Matthew 2:1-12**



## ***Epistle***

Galatians 4:4-7

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ***Gospel Reading***

Luke 2:15-21

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and

praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

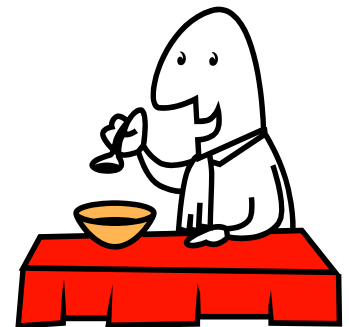
This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Parish Lunch will be on the third  
Wednesday of the month

**17 January 2018**

*All* are welcome to enjoy good, home-cooked food and fellowship - the sign-up sheet is at the back of St Mary of Charity church!



## *Thank you - everyone at St Mary of Charity*

*Rev Simon Rowlands would like to thank everyone for the Christmas gift he and Gail received from all at St Mary of Charity, and sends best wishes for 2018.*

*Dear all - on behalf of myself, Marcia, Robert and Lucy, I'd like to thank you very much for the lovely Christmas gift! Best wishes and blessings for 2018. Rev Simon Young*

*Dear Friends at St Mary of Charity,  
thank you so much for the most generous Christmas present which we received from you. It is much appreciated.  
Every Blessing for the New Year. Rev Ros Parrett*

*Dear All at St Mary of Charity*

*Thank you very much for the lovely gift received this Christmas. Angela and I would like to wish you a happy New Year and all the best for 2018!*

*Rev Allan Norris*

*Very many thanks to St Mary of Charity for your very kind Christmas Gift. Happy New Year! Rev Sharran*

*Thank you, everyone at St Mary of Charity, for the thoughtful Christmas gift. I hope you all had a peaceful Christmas and have a good new year ahead in 2018. Best wishes, Rev Douglas Turton*

*Struan and Sylvia would like to thank the Church Family of SMOG for the very kind gift. This generosity was very much appreciated, along with your good wishes and prayers. With much love for the New Year Rev Struan Dunn*

## A reminder from Stewardship Corner:

For all those who have planned giving envelopes: 2017 has 53 Sundays, so you will have an extra envelope in your box with the text

“MY WEEKLY OFFERING  
FOR THE  
53rd SUNDAY  
Contributor’s No  
\_\_\_\_\_”

***Please*** don’t forget to write your number in so that we know who has given!

In addition, some of the numbers printed on the envelopes towards the end of the year have been a bit ‘patchy’ and numbers in the ‘10s’ haven’t printed clearly. Could you please check that your number is clear on your envelope before you put it into the collection?

Kind regards and best wishes for 2018

**Brian Wimlett**

Gift Aid Secretary

Thank you to everyone who, over the past year, has given time and effort into the cleaning, upkeep, decoration and care of St Mary of Charity; a special thanks goes to those who were involved with the reordering of the South Porch and the social space at the west end of the church, the buttresses in the North Transept and the sound system installation. And to those who faithfully and regularly sweep, polish and vacuum the church and keep the building looking at its best.

**Do you regularly drive to church? Are you able to offer a lift to members of the congregation who don't drive or would find it difficult to walk?**

If the answer is 'yes' then please either speak to Miranda or add your name to the list for '*Lifters*' on the screen at the back of the church.

And *thank you* for helping those who wouldn't otherwise be able to come to a regular Sunday service...



*Please note that if you are giving people lifts in your car on behalf of the church, you need to have this reflected in your car insurance.*

*This is often a free option at the time of renewal.*

## **Who's missing?**

**Have you noticed one of our church family who you normally see on Sundays is no longer attending church?**

**Is there someone you know who has had to stop coming to church because of ill health but would like to remain in contact?**

**We have a group of volunteers who can visit people in their homes to be a link to the church and provide spiritual support. Home Communion can also be given.**

**If there is someone you think would benefit from such a visit please contact the Pastoral Visitors' Co-ordinator Kevin Swinney (kevin.swinney@outlook.com) or a member of the Clergy team.**

**Notices to Catriona by noon Wednesday, latest!**

**01795 530553**

**admin@stmaryofcharity.org**

All worship songs reproduced under CCL 89147

# The Coming Week at St Mary of Charity, Faversham

## Monday, 1 January 2018

All day Church closed

## Wednesday, 3 January 2018

No Eucharistic Service

*Services back to normal from next week*

## Thursday, 4 January 2018

NO Little Fishes (*back on 11 January 2018*)

## Friday, 5 January 2018

10.30 am Prayer in the Trinity Chapel

## Sunday, 7 January 2018; Epiphany

9 am Eucharist

10.30 am All Age Worship

6 pm Evensong (said)



## The St Mary of Charity usual monthly pattern of services:

<b>First Sunday</b>	9 am	Eucharist (CW with hymns)	10.30 am	All Age Worship <i>Family-friendly service</i>	6 pm	Choral Evensong
<b>Second Sunday</b>	9 am	Eucharist (BCP said)	10.30 am	Parish Eucharist		
<b>Third Sunday</b>	9 am	Matins	10.30 am	Family Eucharist <i>Family-friendly service</i>		
<b>Fourth Sunday</b>	9 am	Eucharist (BCP said)	10.30 am	Parish Eucharist		
<b>Fifth Sunday (if applicable)</b>	NO EARLY SERVICE AT ANY BENEFICE CHURCH		10 am	Benefice Eucharist CW <i>Please check for details on which church this will be held at</i>		