

Parish Church of St Mary of Charity, Faversham Fourth of Advent 18 December 2016

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;
- those who help with Mission within the Church;
- the pupils and staff at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Faversham;
- the people of Aleppo;
- those who were in The Jungle and those who work with them;
- refugees throughout the world;
- those who are receiving medical treatment and those who care for them;
- those experiencing financial hardship;
- the people of Syria, Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan; and
- all who live in fear of violence and aggression.

9 am Matins

10.30 am Family Eucharist

6 pm A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Readings:

**9 am: Romans 1:1-7
Luke 1:39-45**

**10.30 am: Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-25**

COLLECT:

Eternal God,
as Mary waited for the birth
of Your Son,
so we wait for His coming in glory;
bring us through the birth-pangs of
this present age to see, with her,
our great salvation
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

**Next Sunday:
Christmas Day
Hebrews 1:1-4(5-12)
Luke 2:1-14(15-20)**



9 am Matins

Responses	Ferial
Psalm	80 vv 1-8, 12-20
Canticles	Venite & Jubilate
Anthem	Rejoice in the Lord always; Anon
Opening	For Mary, mother of our Lord
Offertory	Lo, He comes with clouds descending



For Mary, mother of our Lord,

God's holy name be praised,
who first the Son of God adored,
as on her child she gazed.

Brave, holy Virgin, she believed,
though hard the task assigned,
and by the Holy Ghost conceived
the Saviour of mankind.

She gave her body as God's shrine,
her heart to piercing pain;
she knew the cost of love divine,
when Jesus Christ was slain.

Dear Mary, from your lowliness
and home in Galilee
there comes a joy and holiness
to every family.

Lo, He comes with clouds descending,

once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of His train:

Alleluia!

Christ appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold Him,
pierced and nailed Him to the Tree,
deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of His passion
still His dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to His ransomed worshippers:
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen, let all adore Thee,
high on Thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for Thine own:
Alleluia!

Thou shalt reign, and Thou alone.



Epistle:

Romans 1:1-7

Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading:**Luke 1:39-41**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zechari'ah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

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



Christian Aid Christmas Cards

Wish your brothers and sisters in the church a merry Christmas by putting a card on the screen at the back of the nave and donating the equivalent card/postage money to Christian Aid!

Donation envelopes and Velcro coins (to stick your card up) are at the back of the church on the marked blue screen.

Please save your Christmas card stamps and drop them into the collection box on the screen. They will then be sent off, magically converted (in a Blue Peter kind of way) into cash and the money donated to Christian Aid!

***Save the date!* 2017 Candlemas Supper at
West Faversham Community Centre
Saturday, 4 February 2017**

The Planned Giving Envelopes together with "Thank You" notes are now in the back of church individually labelled.

Thank you cards are also there for those who have donated by standing order.

Anyone who wishes to join the envelope scheme should see Brian or Mary Wimlett

In February Gemma will be participating in an outreach with the Sports Ministry of Youth With A Mission (YWAM) Perth, to the capital of the Philippines, Manila.

Manila is YWAM Perth's next Megacity. For 2017 all outreach teams will be sent here. Many modern cities have lost their way with little acknowledgement of God; but God designed cities as gathering places for His people where they could glorify Him and disciple surrounding nations to do the same.

Manila has 12.5 million residents, increasing to around 20 million by day, plus it has the largest homeless population of any city in the world.


Gemma's team will be one of the first teams to go, and primarily this trip will be used to:

- * research the area;
- * meet with contacts and build relationships;
- * evangelise through sports;
- * visit churches and schools; and
- * organise tournaments/games with locals.

Please consider partnering with her in prayer and finances for a four week outreach to Manila. She is trusting for £600 for this outreach. Donations can be made through her website... www.gemmahambrook.com/donate-contact/

If you want to find out more please don't hesitate to contact her, either through Facebook or email (gemmaehambrook@aol.com).





Thank you to everyone who gave their time (and greenery) to decorate the church yesterday.

You have made our lovely building a delight for the senses and an especial treat for visitors.

Thank you to Val Tyler for organising all the behind-the-scenes essentials and being the calm voice of encouragement for everyone, along with her Top Team (you know who you are!).

The Vicar and Churchwardens would also like to thank those involved in collecting, erecting and decorating the tree (with thanks too to M & J Supplies for the use of their truck!)

7 pm, Saturday, 14 January 2017

Quiz at Ospringe School for the four Anglican Churches of Faversham.

An opportunity to get to know each other across the Benefice and to dust off those brain cells.

Teams of six (teams can be made on the night).

Team entry £5 (towards Crisis).

Nibbles provided but please bring your own drinks.

Thank you for your generous donations over the past few years; the foodbank is very low on the following:



- Long life milk (whole, semi and skimmed)
- Long life fruit juice
- Squash (urgent!)
- Cooking oil
- Toilet rolls
- Egg Noodles (not super noodles)
- Laundry powder/liquid (non bio)

If you are able to donate toiletries (especially shower gel/shampoo) and any feminine hygiene products, this would also be greatly appreciated.

Could you provide any Christmas parcels for local people in crisis by donating an item from the following list?:

Christmas puddings Christmas Crackers
Christmas Snacks Savoury Biscuits Sweet
Biscuits Children's Selection Boxes Christmas
Chocolates Iced Fruit Cake Bars Stuffing
Mix Chocolate Coins Treats

Thank you

A

**Big, Big Thank You from
Scrooge!**

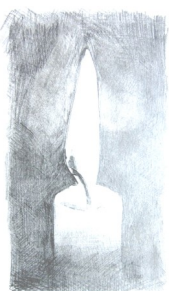
Scrooge, your Treasurer with his ever open begging bowl, is very pleased to say an enormous thank you and tell you that last Saturday's Christmas Fair raised a total of £1,557.83 towards the sound system, which now stands at £12,700. Very many thanks to all those who have contributed to these totals.

Contemplating Christmas!

Join us for an hour of reflection during Advent on the meaning of Christmas through the eyes of Mary, the mother of Jesus.

**From 7.30 pm on Monday, 19 December at
St Mary of Charity, Faversham**

Rev Sharran Ireland



St Mary of Charity Church closures in December for School Services:

Tuesday

20 December, all day QE School (including rehearsals)

Wednesday

21 December, 1.30 pm St Mary of Charity Primary
School

The church will be closed to the public during these
services.

Please join us for Choral Evensong,
led by Bishop Trevor,
at 6 pm on Sunday, 15 January 2017,
to give thanks for the building works completed this
year on the South Porch giving everyone coming to
the church improved access.

Notices to Catriona by noon Wednesday, latest!

admin@stmaryofcharity.org

01795 530553

All worship songs reproduced under CCL 89147

The Coming Week at St Mary of Charity, Faversham

Monday, 19 December 2016

7.30 pm Contemplating Christmas *North Transept*

Tuesday, 20 December 2016

All Day Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School Carol Services (*Church closed to visitors all day*)

Wednesday, 21 December 2016

8.15 am Deanery Chapter

10.30 am Eucharist

1.30 pm St Mary of Charity Primary School Carol Service (*Church closed to visitors during service*)

Friday, 23 December 2016

10.30 am Prayers in The Trinity Chapel

Saturday, 24 December 2016

8-9 am Early Morning Prayers in the Trinity Chapel (*followed by coffee*)

5 pm Crib Service

11.30 pm Midnight Mass

Sunday, 25 December 2016, Christmas Day

9 am Eucharist

10.30 am Parish Eucharist



First Sunday	9 am	Eucharist (CW with hymns)	10.30 am	Morning Praise <i>Family-friendly service</i>	6 pm	Choral Evensong
Second Sunday	9 am	Eucharist (BCP said)	10.30 am	Parish Eucharist CW		
Third Sunday	9 am	Matins	10.30 am	Family Eucharist CW <i>Family-friendly service</i>		
Fourth Sunday	9 am	Eucharist (BCP said)	10.30 am	Parish Eucharist CW		
Fifth Sunday (if applicable)	9 am	Eucharist (BCP said)	10.30 am	Benefice Eucharist CW <i>Please check for details on which church this will be held at</i>		