

**St Mary of Charity  
Parish Church Faversham  
Fourth Sunday in Advent/  
Christmas Eve  
24 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 the natural disasters 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.

**9 am Eucharist BCP**  
10.30am Parish Eucharist (CW)  
5 pm Crib Service  
11.30 pm Midnight Mass

**Readings:**

**Romans 16:25-27**  
**Luke 1:26-38**

**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

**Next Sunday:**

**First in Christmas**  
**Joint Benefice Service at St**  
**Mary Magdalene with St**  
**Lawrence, Davington**  
**Galatians 4:4-7**  
**Luke 2:15-21**



## ***Epistle***

Romans 16:25-27

To God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith – to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ***Gospel Reading***

Luke 1:26-38

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will

be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.’ Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’ The angel said to her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.’ Then Mary said, ‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’ Then the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Vicar, Clergy Team and Churchwardens would like to wish all of the parishioners of St Mary of Charity a peaceful Christmas and a New Year filled with love and compassion.

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

**01795 530553**

**[admin@stmaryofcharity.org](mailto:admin@stmaryofcharity.org)**

All worship songs reproduced under CCL 89147

## The Coming Week at St Mary of Charity, Faversham

### Monday, 25 December 2017

10.30 am Family Christmas Eucharist

### Tuesday, 26 December 2017

All day Church closed

### Wednesday, 27 December 2017

10.30 am No Eucharistic Service

### Friday, 29 December 2017

10.30 am Prayer in the Trinity Chapel

### Sunday, 31 December 2017; First in Christmas

10 am Joint Benefice Family Eucharist at *St Mary Magdalene with St Lawrence, Davington and The Brents*

*Please note there is no Eucharistic service at 10.30 am on 3 January 2018.*



## 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<br><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<br><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<br><i>Please check for details on which church this will be held at</i> |      |                 |