

# St Mary of Charity

## Parish Church Faversham

### Second in Advent

### 9 December 2018

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;
- those baptised into the family of Christ today;
- 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 (BCP)**  
10.30 am Parish Eucharist  
12 pm Burial of Ashes  
1 pm Baptism

**Readings:**  
**Philippians 1:3-11**  
**Luke 3:1-6**

COLLECT:

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power  
and come among us,  
and with great might succour us;  
that whereas, through our sins and  
wickedness  
we are grievously hindered  
in running the race that is set before us,  
your bountiful grace and mercy  
may speedily help and deliver us;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever.  
Amen

**Next Sunday:**  
**Third in Advent**  
**Philippians 4:4-7**  
**Luke 7-18**



## **Epistle**

*Philippians 1:3-11*

My brothers and sisters, I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

*Luke 3:1-6*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the

region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**



Please note that the Church’s  
Christmas Tree will be erected  
and decorated on 15 December,  
and the Church itself will be decorated on  
the morning of 22 December.

Apologies for any confusion in the  
December Notice Sheet.



St Mary of Charity (along with the rest of The Benefice of Faversham) will be using the *#FollowTheStar* books from Christmas Eve until the end of Epiphany.

Please see the December Notice Booklet or notices at the back of the church for further information.

In an effort to reduce copying and paper waste, we produce a monthly notice sheet for you to take home and keep which shows all coming services and events in the church, plus any notices. Pew sheets are for individual Sundays and give information relevant to services (readings, hymns, etc).

*Please don't forget to take your December Notice Sheet home with you!*

**Notices for Monthly Notice Sheet to Catriona by  
Friday, 21 December latest!**

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