

**St Mary of Charity
Parish Church Faversham
Third in Advent
16 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 Matins

10.30 am Family Eucharist

Readings:

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18

COLLECT:

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent
your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards
of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and
make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to
the wisdom of the just,
that at your second coming
to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people
in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever...
Amen

**Next Sunday:
Fourth in Advent
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45**



9 am Matins

Responses	Ferial
Psalm	146 verses 4-10
Canticles	Venite & Jubilate
Anthem	Rejoice in the Lord always; <i>Anon</i>
Opening	Hark, the glad sound 36
Offertory	To God be the glory 818



Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long:
let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.

He comes, the prisoners to release
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.

He comes, the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with thy beloved name.

To God be the glory, great things he has done!

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the people rejoice!

*O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory! Great things he has done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God!
The vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives.

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.



Epistle

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 3:7-18

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we

do?’ He said to them, ‘Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.’ Soldiers also asked him, ‘And we, what should we do?’ He said to them, ‘Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.’ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, ‘I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



**Volunteers are welcome to come and sing carols
at Faversham Cottage Hospital
at 2pm on Thursday, 20 December
in the Dayroom for about half an hour.**

**Please speak to Rev Ros Parrett for further
information.**

This week's services for schools at St Mary of Charity:

Monday, 17 December, 9 am:

Ethelbert Road Primary School Carol Service

[Queen Elizabeth Grammar School choir rehearsals
11.15 and 12.50 for around an hour each]

Tuesday, 18 December, all day:

Queen Elizabeth Grammar School Carol Services

Wednesday, 19 December, 9 am:

St Mary of Charity Primary School Carol Service

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

Please join us for
St Mary of Charity's
Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
at 6 pm
on Sunday, 23 December 2018

Help decorate the church to
celebrate the birth of our Saviour!

From 9 am to noon on
Saturday, 22 December.

Bring yourself, secateurs or strong
scissors, greenery (if you have it) and
some enthusiasm (for decorating and
then tidying your area).

If anyone has any greenery they would
be happy to donate, this would be very
welcome.

No experience or expertise is required!
Please speak to Val Tyler if you are
interested.



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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