

Office Hours and Christmas Contacts

St Mary's Church Office is closed from

3pm Friday 22nd December until 11am Wednesday 3rd January

and messages will not be checked in that time.

However, in **absolute emergencies only**, please call:

Phil Marsh on 07766 314957

Want to know more? Get in touch.....we'd love to hear from you

The Church Office office@stmarysely.org or call 01353 659550

Open weekdays 11am - 3pm.

Priest-in-Charge - Revd. Phil Marshphil.marsh@stmarysely.orgTeam Curate - Revd. Ruth Holmesruth.holmes@stmarysely.orgOperations Co-ordinator - Kirsty Smithkirsty.smith@stmarysely.org

Join us for Christmas ST MARY'S

Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve

We are concluding our Advent sermon series Holy Moments looking at the groups represented by each advent candle.

Our Online sermon is available from 9am Sunday.

the eight15

Our traditional communion service

Leader: Phil Marsh, Speaker: Ruth Holmes

Crib Service 4pm

An interactive retelling of the Christmas Story. Come dressed as your favourite nativity character!

Midnight Communion 11.30pm

Leader Phil Marsh, Speaker: Ruth HolmesMoving from Advent to welcome Christmas!

Monday 25th December Christmas Day

the eight15

Christmas Communion Service

10am

Christmas
Communion Service



Please note, there is no Thursday Communion 28th December

Sunday 31st December New Year's Eve

All the congregations gathering together to look ahead to 2024!

10am

Combined Communion Service Leader & Speaker: Ruth Holmes

Our normal service pattern resumes from Sunday 7th January 2024

Dates for your Diaries!

Wednesday 3rd January

Office back 11am - 3pm weekdays

Open Space 10am - 12.30pm. A warm, friendly and inclusive space to drop in for a chat, free refreshments, newspapers and games. Stay for as long or short as you like during our opening times.

Bereavement Café 10am - 12 noon. Anyone who has suffered the loss of someone close to them is invited to drop in for a cup of tea or coffee, a warm welcome and someone to chat to.

Thursday 4th January

Thursday Communion 9.30am. Join us for a short said Market Day Communion.

Thursday Coffee 10.15am - 11.30am. All welcome to drop in for a coffee and a chat!

Sunday 7th January

The normal service pattern resumes with:

Eight15 traditional communion service

Nine45 intergenerational breakfast service

Eleven15 morning worship service including ministry with children

Pathfinders 6.30pm - 8pm. Every Sunday in term time with dinner, games and a God slot

Under 1s is back Mondays 10am - 11.30am from 8th January. A friendly drop in for parents and carers with Under 1s.

Be Still. The first session of 2024 is Monday 8th January 8pm - 9pm in the Lady Chapel. All welcome to explore different dimensions of prayer and meditation.

Under 5's is back Tuesdays 9.30am - 11am from 9th January.

A toddler group for children under school age with their parent or carer.

Mothers' Union first meeting of 2024 is 2.15pm Wednesday 10th January.

Jam Packed is back Thursdays 4.15pm - 5.30pm from 11th January. Games, chat, worship and fun for school years 1 - 6.



Saturday 13th January

2pm - 4.30pm

Sing-Song, Games, Conversation and Refreshments!

Free entry but strictly by ticket, available from the church office

Want to see in a new light? Find out more about the Christian faith.

You are warmly invited to join a group for people who want to learn more about the Christian faith.



The group is for:

- those who have been prompted by the Christmas story to explore more.
- those who want the chance to think about the Christian faith.
- those who have recently started coming to Church.
- those preparing for baptism.
- · or anyone just wanting to know more.

The group will meet for 6 weeks in the new year.

If you'd like to know more, email the church office officeestmarysely.org, or send us a text to 07766 314957.

Mothers' Union Postage Stamps Collection

Mothers' Union in Ely Diocese collect used postage stamps for 2 charities (Moggerhanger Hospice and Marie Curie Cancer Care). Please would you collect your stamps over the Christmas period and bring them along to the next meeting on 10th January, or drop them off at the Church Office. Carefully cut off the stamp from the envelope, leaving a small border around the edge of the stamp, without any damage to it at the edges.



Congregational Conversations

As we prepare to celebrate the Christmas Season, we'd love you to just pop a date into your diary for next year. We have a number of things we want to explore with each congregation, like returning to the common cup in communion, and reviewing how each of our services are developing. To do that we want to gather congregations individually first and then altogether so that we can learn from one another across the fullness of our church.

We would like to gather,

the 815 congregation on the afternoon of the 7th Feb,

the 1115 on the morning of the 10th Feb,

and the 945 on the afternoon of the 10th Feb

Then we will gather everyone together on the **16**th **March**

We also want to find a date to do this with our **Thursday morning congregation** as well.

More details and times to follow, but for now..... save the date!!!