

Christmas Services 2023

at St Mary the Virgin, Henley-on-Thames

“...to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” (Luke 2.11-12)

You are warmly invited to join us to celebrate the birth of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ this Christmas!

There are many different services, some in the evening, some in the morning; some with music or with incense, and some with neither. We hope there is something that everyone can attend and enjoy. Please also have a look at what's on at St Nicholas Remenham, our sister church.

Sunday 17th December

6.30 PM FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

The ultimate traditional carol service, with the Choir of St Mary's Church. Seasonal refreshments will be offered after the service.

Sunday 24th December

Christmas Eve

3PM CRIB SERVICE

An exploration of the Christmas story especially suitable for families and children. All are welcome to dress up as their favourite Nativity story character, be it an angel or an ox or ass!

11PM THE MIDNIGHT MASS OF CHRISTMAS

With the Choir of St Mary's Church. Incense is used at this service.

Monday 25th December

Christmas Day

8AM HOLY COMMUNION

Short, simple, traditional. No music or incense. Ideal for those with significant cooking duties!

9.30AM THE SUNG EUCHARIST OF CHRISTMAS DAY

With the Choir of St Mary's Church. Incense is used at this service. Activities will be provided for younger children.

Friday 29th December

12NOON REQUIEM EUCHARIST

At Christmas we are often more than usually conscious of loss. At this Requiem Eucharist we remember before God those we love but see no longer. Prayer requests can be emailed to the Parish Office.

Sunday 31st December The First Sunday of Christmas

Our celebration of Christmas continues this Sunday.

8AM HOLY COMMUNION

9.30AM SUNG EUCHARIST

Monday 1st January The Naming & Circumcision of Jesus

11AM HOLY EUCHARIST (SAID)

Get the New Year off to a good start!

Sunday 7th January The Feast of the Epiphany

The Epiphany is a great feast of the Church in its own right, celebrating the visit of the Wise Men to the infant Jesus.

8AM HOLY COMMUNION

9.30AM SUNG EUCHARIST

With the Choir of St Mary's Church. Remembering the gift of Frankincense, incense is used at this service.

All are welcome, and so please spread the word to family, friends and neighbours. Our regular Sunday services are 8am Holy Communion and 9.30am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church.

If you want to get in touch, please contact:

office.hwr@btinternet.com or 01491 577340.

"...the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger". (Luke 2.15-16)

stmaryshenley.org