



# ST MARY'S

◆ CUDDINGTON ◆

**Pew Sheet for 28 December 2025**

*A warm welcome to everyone attending today's services*

## **The First Sunday of Christmas**

### **Collect:**

God in Trinity,  
eternal unity of perfect love:  
gather the nations to be one family,  
and draw us into your holy life  
through the birth of Emmanuel,  
our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Hymns:**

<b>CP57</b>	Joy to the World
<b>Source353</b>	Meakness & Majesty
<b>Source539</b>	We Are Marching
<b>CP48</b>	Christians Awake

Although there is no formal collection during the offertory hymn, please feel free to make a contribution to the work of St. Mary's either in the Treasury box at the back of church, or using the card reader, also at the back of church. Thank you.

## Readings:

### **1 Corinthians 26-29**

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, so that no one<sup>1</sup> might boast in the presence of God.

### **Matthew 2 13-18**

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or

under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

“A voice was heard in Ramah,  
wailing and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

**Post-communion prayer:**

Heavenly Father,  
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly  
home:

help your Church to live as one family,  
united in love and obedience,  
and bring us all at last to our home in heaven;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Dates for your diary

**NEW YEARS DAY - 1ST JANUARY 2026 - CHURCH WALKING GROUP** - is organising a New Years Day walk around Ham and Richmond Park. Meet in the church car park at 11.00am and car share to the Ham Street CP. We expect to lunch (bring your own) at Pembroke Lodge before returning to Ham Street via Ham Gate. All are welcome.

**SATURDAY 3RD JANUARY at 7pm at All Saints Weston. Hey for Christmas!** The Ripieno Choir collaborates with professional group Siglo de Oro and the Spinacino Consort in a reimagining of the Christmastide revelry at a 17th century London house party. Tickets from [www.ripienochoir.org.uk](http://www.ripienochoir.org.uk)

**SUNDAY 4TH & 11TH JANUARY 2026** - there will also be an 8am service.

**SUNDAY 11TH JANUARY 2026 - BAPTISM OF CHRIST** - On this day, we celebrate the Baptism of Christ. All those who have been baptised at St Mary's are warmly invited to bring their baptismal candle and take part in a prayer of baptismal renewal, using the Collect for the day, during the 9.30 am service.

**SUNDAY 18TH JANUARY 2026 - The Listening Group of St Mary's** will be introduced during the 9.30am service.

**SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026** - We will welcome a **special guest speaker from the Prison Ministry** at the 9.30am service.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS & STAMPS** - don't forget you can leave cards for others in the pigeonholes and used stamps can be left in the red box at the back of church for Princess Alice Hospice.

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