

**St Mark's Parish Church,
Shelfield & High Heath**

4th Sunday of Advent

December, 2025



St Mark's is part of
Inclusive Church



Christmas Services



Christmas Eve, 11:30 pm:

Midnight Mass

Christmas Day, 10 am:

Christmas Day Eucharist



We welcome and thank

Archdeacon Liz

who will be presiding & preaching for us at our
Midnight Mass and **Christmas Day** services

A large **Christmas Card**

is available at the back of Church for everyone to sign if they wish.

Donations are for St Giles' Hospice Charity.

Please pray for... Young Andrew, Myra, Annette & family,
Chris, Ann & Len, Andy's Father-in-Law, Elena, Lea, Tony & Sita,
Trudi & Lauren & Josh, David & Marilyn, Michael, Matthew, Jhool,
Pat, Steven, Martin Leech, Joy, Sue J., Margaret, Bridget,
Trevor & Susan, Anne J., Andrew, Samantha, Natalie, Gary,
Malcom C., Jonathon, Little Anna, Alice, Shelley & Bobby, Ann,
Wayne, Elaine M., Alice, Samuel & his family, Winnie, Julia,
Pamela, Pete, Kyle & family, Adam, Martin, Julie, Tina & Paul,
Tanya & Ian & Anne & Olivia, Maurice & Margaret, Mavis,
George & June, Ann, Pat, Mandy, Mike, Lianne & daughters

And those whose illness is more long term...

Carol Coleman, Matt & Nicola, Lisa, Janet & Les,
Ron W., Connie, Beryl, Kitty, Gill, Wyn, Marion C.,
Winnie A., Bettie, Alan, Chris, Karen, Steph, Jackie,
Evelyn & Peter, Revd. Mike.



Lord we remember those we have loved but see no longer
especially:

Harry

We Pray for All Those Who Grieve

***Please pray for the people of Gaza & The Holy Land,
Lebanon, Sudan, Ukraine, Yemen & all war zones.***



Lord we pray for these organisations:

Walsall North Foodbank,
Shelfield & High Heath Youth Support Group

Please Pray...

May all members of the church announce faithfully God's
word of new life. . .

May world leaders be guided by God's plan of salvation for all. . .

May the poor, the downtrodden, and the suffering be granted the
new possibilities of life God desires for them. . .

May all of us hear God's word spoken to us and respond faithfully
with our yes. . .



*We have been invited to a Service of Thanksgiving for
the Ministry of **Rev. Joyce Stewardson***

11th January, 2026 at 4 p.m.

St John's, Heath Hayes, Hednesford Road, WS12 3DZ

**Eve is collecting children's / baby clothes,
children's shoes and baby blankets for charity.
For Sunnyside Dog Rescue Eve is collecting old blankets
towels etc, (nothing feather and no pillows please).**

Daily Readings for next week...

Monday O Rex Gentium		Malachi 1: 1 & 6-end Matthew 19: 1-12
Tuesday O Emmanuel		Malachi 2: 1-16 Matthew 19: 13-15
Wednesday Christmas Eve		Malachi 2: 17-3: 12 Matthew 19: 16-end
Thursday Christmas Day	<i>Midnight Mass:</i> Isaiah 9:2-7 Titus 2: 11-14 Luke 2: 1-14 [15-20]	Isaiah 62: 6-end Titus 3: 4-7 Luke 2: [1-7] 8-20 Isaiah 52: 7-10 Hebrews 1: 1-4 [5-12] John 1: 1-14
Friday Stephen, deacon, first martyr		2Chronicles 24: 20-22 Acts 7: 51-end or Galatians 2: 16b-20 Matthew 10: 17-22
Saturday John, Apostle & Evangelist		Exodus 33: 7-11a, 1John 1 John 21: 19b-end
SUNDAY The Holy Innocents 1 st Sun. of Christmas	Jeremiah 31: 15-17	Isaiah 63: 7-9
	1 Corinthians 1: 26-29	Hebrews 2: 10-end
	Matthew 2: 13-18	Matthew 2: 13-end

Service times for next Sunday	Holy Communion	8.30 a.m.
	Sung Communion	10.00 a.m.

A word for the week

"Words! Words! Words! I'm so sick of words!" Eliza Doolittle sings in "My Fair Lady." We ourselves often say, "Talk is cheap." God's word, however, always bears meaning and power. God's word (Hebrew: *dabar*) is always active and effective: God speaks, and David is promised a kingdom that is to endure forever; God speaks, and the Word is made flesh.

God's word surprised both David and Mary, announcing a much greater future than they envisioned not only for themselves but for the whole world. God announces to David through the prophet Nathan that God's house is to be a holy people who will "endure forever" rather than a temple. God announces to Mary through Gabriel that the Infant she will conceive will be no ordinary Child, but "the Son of God." God's word always calls us to new possibilities and new life.

A word about new possibilities for our lives raises two challenges for us: first, discerning whether the word we hear is in fact from God and God's will for us; second, having the courage to say Yes, if it is.

St. Mark's is supporting the Rotary charity Books4Home.

1 in 8 children in the UK do not own a book of their own. Books4Home collects pre-read books for children to choose, take home, read & keep forever. You can help by donating pre-read children's books. Please bring books to St Mark's.



Please like our new page on Facebook...
"Marks Church"

CONTACT DETAILS

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