

Diary

Weds. 31st
Fri. 2nd

N.B. No CAMEO at Holy Spirit today
N.B. No Choir Practice in St. Mary's Church

Notices

1. Family Services. At Holy Spirit the All-Age Worship services are usually on the first Sunday of each month at 11am. The next one is on Sunday 4th January 2026. The monthly Family Services at St. Mary's, 'Catch the 9.15!', are on the 3rd Sunday of each month. The next one is on Sunday 18th January 2026.

2. PCC Meetings. The next meeting of the PCC at St. Mary's is on Tuesday 27th January 2026 at 7pm in Church. The next meeting of the PCC at Holy Spirit is on Tuesday 3rd February 2026.

3. Home Group. Please note the Home Group has stopped meeting for the present time.

4. Tabletop Sale. The next monthly Tabletop Sale at The Church of The Holy Spirit will be on Saturday 10th January 2026, from 1pm. Please contact Liz Nicholls on **07719959391** or email liznicholls@blueyonder.co.uk for more information.

5. Easy Fundraising. Don't forget, when shopping on-line, to use www.easyfundraising.org.uk to raise some extra money for St. Mary's at no cost to yourself. We now have **32** people supporting us. Our total raised so far is **£937.82**. Ask Andy King for more details. (**07708590704**)

6. Church News. If you would like to be added to (or removed from) the weekly mailing list to receive the Church News and other messages via email, or to submit queries or notices for the Church News, please contact andy@saintmarys.org.uk.

Next Sunday 2nd Sunday of Christmas

**4th January 2025
EPIPHANY**

St. Mary's:

9.15am Holy Communion (CW)

6.30pm Celtic Prayer

Isaiah 60: 1 – 9,

John 2: 1 – 11

Holy Spirit:

11am All Age Worship

Morning Readings: Isaiah 60: 1 – 6,
Matthew 2: 1 – 12

Ephesians 3: 1 – 12

Team Rector:

Rev. Gerda van Ommeren, Email: reverendgerda@outlook.com
53 Whitsoncross Lane, Tamerton Foliot, PL5 4NT Tel. 629255
(N.B. Not available on Mondays)

Reader:

Carrie Tucker Tel. 767661 Email: carrieatucker29@gmail.com

Churchwardens at St Mary's:

Andrew King 4 Drakes Close, Derriford Mob. 07708590704

Susanne Burnett 25 Ashleigh Close, Tamerton Foliot Tel. 791587

Churchwarden at Holy Spirit:

Gwynneth Greenacre 4 Brockton Gardens, Roborough Tel. 775788

Safeguarding Contacts:

St. Mary's: Gill Camp Mob. 07763492286

Holy Spirit: Liz Nicholls Mob. 07719959391

Church News



Holy Spirit,
Southway

www.saintmarys.org.uk

<https://holyspiritsouthway.org.uk>

Find us on Facebook



Saint Mary's,
Tamerton Foliot

Tamerton Foliot & Southway Team Ministry

28th December 2025 1st Sunday of Christmas



Today's Services St Mary's

N.B. No services at St. Mary's today

Holy Spirit

10am Holy Communion (CW)
Isaiah 63: 7 – 9,
Matthew 2: 13 – 23

Team Service
Hebrews 2: 10 – 18

During the twelve days of the Christmas festival, the Church continues to celebrate the 'Incarnation' (Latin *incarnare* = to become flesh). This means God, in the birth of His Son Jesus Christ, became inextricably involved with human beings. He shared in our humanity so that we, through Christ's saving work, may share the life of His divinity, and enjoy fellowship with God for ever.

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. Amen.*

Please remember in your prayers this week:

Those living in: Rolston Close, Waring Road, Beverston Way, Chepstow Avenue, Highclere Gardens, Lulworth Drive, Barbury Crescent, Treago Gardens, Tiverton Close, Caldicott Gardens, Widewell Lane, Tavistock Road, Boundary Place. Southway Community Centre. Our Doctors' surgeries and other health care facilities. Our Uniformed organisations. All our Community workers.

First Reading* **Isaiah 63: 7 – 9*

⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. ⁸ For he said, ‘Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely’; and he became their saviour ⁹ in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Second Reading* **Hebrews 2: 10 – 18*

¹⁰ It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹² saying, ‘I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.’ ¹³ And again, ‘I will put my trust in him.’ And again, ‘Here am I and the children whom God has given me.’ ¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Gospel Reading* **Matthew 2: 13 – 23*

¹³ 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.’ ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, ‘Out of Egypt I have called my son.’ ¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, 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 wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸ ‘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.’ ¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰ ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.’ **(Continued on Insert)**

Coffee, Cake and Chat

A St. Mary’s Community Group meets on the first Tuesday of each month in St. Mary’s Church Hall from 10am to 12pm. The next one is on Tuesday 6th January 2026. It is a chance for anyone to come along for a coffee, some cake and a chat.

Tea and Cake

A social group meets at The Church of The Holy Spirit, Southway from 2pm – 4pm on the first Thursday of the month. Please note, there will be no Tea and Cake at Holy Spirit in January. The next meeting is on Thursday, 5th February 2026.

Tamerton Tinies

If you know anyone with young children who would benefit from attending the Tamerton Tinies group, please let them know the parent and toddler group meet in St. Mary’s Church Hall from 10am – 11.30am every Thursday morning during School Term Time. It’s a chance for parents to meet with others, and for the children to play together.

Lifts For Team Services

We would like to create a list of those people who need a lift to Team Services when they are not being held at their own Church, and also a list of those who are able to offer a lift to the afore mentioned. We have 2 people on the list, so far, who can offer lifts.

It has been suggested several times that we need to do more things together as a Team Ministry, so it would be nice to have as many people as possible from both Churches attending the monthly Team Services. Please let Andy King (**07708590704** or **andy@saintmarys.org.uk**) know if you require a lift, and to which Church, or if you can offer a lift to anyone, and we will try and co-ordinate things. Thank you.

Christmas Cards

This December, as in recent years, we have been running the scheme at St. Mary’s whereby those who wished to do so could put on the notice board in Church a single Christmas greetings card to all their friends at St Mary’s, whilst pledging to the Shelterbox charity the money that they would have spent (or more!) on numerous individual cards. Thank you to everyone who has done this, both for your cards to each other, and for your donations.

Team Services

The next monthly Team Service is at The Church of The Holy Spirit at 10am today, Sunday 28th December. There will be a few exceptions, but our Team Services are now at 10am on the 4th Sunday of each month and will alternate between the two Churches. There will be Evensong at St. Mary’s on these 4th Sundays each month, but not today.