

St Bridget's, West Kirby with Caldy Church



Fourth Sunday of Advent

21st December 2025

We light the fourth candle to pray for love. We pray for the love which is patient and kind, and the love which goes on caring and believing. May we show this love to one another and be open to welcome the love of God into our hearts. We pray for everyone who feels unloved, and for every time it is difficult to love others. May we see some sign of love that shines like this candle flame. Lord Jesus Christ, you showed us that God is love. Help us to live in love, so that we live in God. Come close to us this Advent. Amen.

- 8am** Holy Communion – St Bridget's
- 10am** Holy Communion – St Bridget's (livestreamed)
- 10am** Holy Communion – Caldy
- 3.30pm** Christingle and Nativity – Caldy
- 6.30pm** Carol Service – St Bridget's



ADVENT: a time of waiting, watching and preparing a space for God to dwell with us.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES 8am at St Bridget's, 10am at St Bridget's and Caldy Church

CHRISTINGLE AT CALDY 3.30 pm this afternoon Sunday 21st

A simple retelling of the nativity story with the help of the toddlers and including a Christingle. The service is likely to last just over half an hour, depending on how the camels and sheep behave ...



Please join us this evening, 6.30pm at St Bridget's for our traditional service of readings and carols. Our adult choir and Sing Aloud choristers will be singing at this beautiful candle-lit service.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LECTIONARY READINGS for the fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7.10-16

Romans 1.1-7

Matthew 1.18-end

WHAT'S ON FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS 22nd December – 3rd January

The Rector will be on annual leave 28th December to 2nd January

The Parish Office will be closed from Christmas Eve and will re-open on Tuesday 30th December.

Monday 22nd Rector's day off

Tuesday 23rd 9.30am Decorating St Bridget's church

10am Holy Communion – Caldy Church followed by coffee / tea

Wednesday 24th CHRISTMAS EVE

3.30 for 4pm Outdoor / Indoor family nativity – start by the Lychgate, finish in church

11.30pm 'Midnight Mass' – St Bridget's (livestreamed)

Thursday 25th CHRISTMAS DAY

8am Holy Communion – St Bridget's

10am Holy Communion – St Bridget's (livestreamed)

10am Holy Communion – Caldy



Friday 26th St Bridget's churchyard closed, no through access

Sunday 28th December

The First Sunday of Christmas

8am Holy Communion – St Bridget's

10am Holy Communion – St Bridget's (livestreamed)

10am Holy Communion – Caldy

NO EVENING SERVICE



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

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.

Lectionary readings for the first Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 63.7-9

Hebrews 2.10-end

Matthew 2.13-end

Monday 29th Rector on annual leave all this week

Parish Office closed

Tuesday 30th (no Communion service at Caldy)

7.30pm Bell ringing practice

Wednesday 31st 9.30 – 11.30am Link café – Centre

10am Knit & Natter, Craft and Chat group – Centre

11.30am Holy Communion – St Bridget

Thursday 1st Bank holiday, Parish Office closed

9am Morning Prayer on Zoom

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR CARDS, GIFTS AND KIND WISHES
MAY WE WISH YOU ALL A PEACEFUL AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS**

FROM OUR BOOKS OF REMEMBRANCE (21st December – 3rd January)

St Bridget: Ena Doreen Cable, John Alfred Housley, Frederick Cook, Leslie Bolland, Dorothy Hewitt, Alfred Bayliss, Enid Manley, Ida Kathleen Watt, David William Titley, Norma Hughes, Denise Smith, Hanna Jones, John Miller, Christopher Igglesden, Ethel Cynthia Lucy Marrs, Gladys Mary Sargeant, John Wilde, Patricia Heyes, John James Toner, Jessie Tann, Jeffrey Thomas Lunt, Elsie Esther Gould.

Caldy: Daryl Neal, Paul Cockeram, Ann Webster, Winifred Crooks, Richard Pickering, Elisabeth Watson, Frances Cockeram, Marian Wilson, Warren Alfred Nicholls, Audrey Spencer, James d'Arcy Nesbitt, Maggie McCulloch, Clifford Free, Betty Lewis.

RIP: Jo Ashcroft, Eileen Romnes.

CHANGES TO REGULAR SERVICES OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

Wednesday 24th December NO morning service of Holy Communion at St Bridget's

Sunday 28th December NO service of Evening Prayer at St Bridget's

Tuesday 30th December NO service of Holy Communion at Caldly

Also please note that the Museum will be closed on Saturdays 27th December and 3rd January



THE LINK CAFE ... CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR

There will be **NO LINK** on Christmas Eve but there will be a session on New Year's Eve.

CHRISTMAS EVE: NO ROOM AT THE INN arrive from 3.30 pm for 4 pm start

Now a firm favourite – journey with us to Bethlehem to witness the birth of the baby Jesus. Meet the Shepherds, try and find an inn keeper who will let you in, dodge the tax collectors and if you're very lucky find a space inside as the Christmas story unfolds in lights and music. Ideal for all ages and lasts about an hour.

If you would be willing to help us tidy up afterwards then please come along at 5pm. This enables us to get home sooner!



CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS DAY A mixture of services to welcome Jesus

At ST BRIDGET'S:

Midnight Mass – Holy Communion, carols and candle-light. Starts at 11.30pm Christmas Eve.

8am Christmas Morning – quiet said Communion (traditional language) lasts approx. 40 minutes

10am Holy Communion with short address and with all ages in mind. We aim to be finished in under an hour. The Rector likes to see what Santa has brought you ...

At CALDY: **Christmas Day 10am** Holy Communion with carols.

BEREAVEMENT JOURNEY

The next *Bereavement Journey*®, a 7 session programme which assists bereaved people to process their loss, will be held at the West Kirby Methodist Church from January 28th for seven weeks, every Wednesday from 2-4pm. If you are interested in attending or know someone who might benefit, please let Paula in the office know, or contact Susan Rice-Oxley on 07867 544964 or susanriceoxley@live.co.uk

THEOLOGY DISCUSSION GROUP

The next meeting will be upstairs at the Ring O' Bells at **7pm on Tuesday 6th January 2026**, and the focus will be on *Liturgy*. Richard Williams has kindly agreed to lead this session and will be circulating some material ahead of the meeting.

COATS, HATS, JOGGING BOTTOMS and TRAINERS

A huge thank you for your generous donations which are massively appreciated and have made a big difference to those arriving in Hoylake with very little. We are continuing to collect items which are desperately needed – please leave in the church porch.



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS WORKED SO HARD IN OUR PREPARATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS



CONTACTS

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