## Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 First Sunday of Christmas NEW YEAR'S EVE



#### **Collect 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.

- 8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP) President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Eucharist (CW) President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre +Zoom Lead: Wendy Anderson, Link: Liz Mankelow
  - Hymns: The Lord's my Shepherd River wash over me Peace is flowing like a river Jesus you are changing me
  - Reading: Luke 2.22-40

Please note that there is no evening service today

WISHING EVERYONE A VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

## THE WEEK AHEAD

#### MONDAY 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus Bank Holiday

Parish Office closed

TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> Basil the Great and Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishops, Teachers of the Faith, 379 & 389

#### **Bank Holiday**

Parish Office closed

#### WEDNESDAY 3rd

Parish Office re-opens

#### THURSDAY 4th

12.30 pm Lunch club at the Church Centre TBC Youth Council at Mount Ephraim House

#### FRIDAY 5th

- 12.30 pm Community Larder at the Church Centre
- 6.30 pm Junior Choir practice
- 7.30 pm Full Choir practice

#### SATURDAY 6th THE EPIPHANY

#### NEXT SUNDAY 7th January

#### The First Sunday of Epiphany Baptism of Christ

- 8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP) President and Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Eucharist with Baptism (CW) President and Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom Lead: Viv Littlechild, Link: Karen Miller
  - 6.30 pm Compline Minister & Preacher: The Vicar

# **NEWS AND NOTES**

#### From the Vicarage

Warm greetings to you all and welcome to our services today, the Sunday after Christmas day - and the last Sunday of 2023. I trust that your Christmas was pleasant and peaceful. As we worship together on this last day of 2023, I pray that almighty God will continue to guide and protect us and cause us to flourish, even as we continue to support one another. I wish you all a peacefilled and prosperous 2024.

Ronnie

### **Parish Office**

A reminder that the office is closed until Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

### Cards for Sale

You will find baskets of greetings cards for sale in both churches. Please take a look when you have a chance. They are a bargain for a donation of 20p.

### Family Service Children's Group

Our children's group will recommences this Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January. We look forward to welcoming you back.

## Play Time at St Paul's Starting Wednesday 10th January

The Elves have been really busy behind the scenes preparing for the exciting opening of our new children's group. Please continue to spread the word, everyone will be warmly welcomed. A hot cuppa will be awaiting you. For details please contact -

Liz on 07840 837968 or Annie on 07730 771818.

## **Recycling Christmas Cards**

Once again, I will be collecting used Christmas cards. The church of St Thomas Becket in Hamburg makes them into new ones and sells them mostly to the ex-pats in Hamburg, where Christmas Cards are not so often found in shops. They have raised hundreds of euros over the years and they're all beautifully made. Sometimes, you don't notice they have been recycled!

I can collect them from either of our churches up to the end of January. I then hand them over to a contact who has a house in Sussex!

BUT PLEASE, first cut off the front cover of each card - ie you keep the personal part! - and no glitter ! Thank you in advance. Tony Rutherford.

## Youth Council

Future Meetings Thursday January 4th New Year Celebrations at Mount Ephraim House. Thursday February 1st 'Managing your money wisely!' Thursday March 7th Cooking on a Budget – Fajitas for supper! All meetings are held in the Lodge between 6 and 7:30 pm. All years 7 -13 (ages 11 to 18 are very welcome).

#### CONTACTS

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