



St Mary  
Magdalen  
OXFORD

# **Parish Notes**

## **December 2017**

## **Services:**

### **Sundays**

Eucharist at 8 am and 5.30 pm,  
Mattins 10 am High Mass at 10.30 am

### **Weekdays**

Eucharist at 12.15 pm and 6.00 pm  
Morning Prayer 8.15 am,  
Evening Prayer 5.40 pm

### **Confessions**

Daily after the 12.15 pm Mass,  
Wednesdays & Saturdays at 6.30 pm  
Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage by  
appointment with the Parish Priest

## **Parish Clergy:**

The Reverend Canon Dr Peter Groves  
Telephone: 01865 247836  
peter.groves@theology.ox.ac.uk

\*

The Reverend Dr Jarred Mercer  
Telephone 07583 503796  
jarred.mercer@merton.ox.ac.uk

\*

The Reverend Dr Jonathan Jong  
Telephone: 07799 271913  
jonathan.jong@anthro.ox.ac.uk

\*

Mrs Katie Balfour (Parish Administrator)  
Telephone: 01865 246143  
marymagsoxford9@gmail.com

### **Website**

[www.stmarymagdalenoxford.org.uk](http://www.stmarymagdalenoxford.org.uk)

# **Events**

## **Christmas Services**

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December

4.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Eve

10.30 High Mass

Afternoon (time to be confirmed) Crib Service

11.30 pm Midnight Mass of the Nativity and Blessing of the Crib

Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Day

8.00 Mass

10.30 High Mass

## **Carol Service**

On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December, at 4.30pm, we shall hold our annual service of carols by candlelight. This will be a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate the newly refurbished church and to welcome new faces to join us. It is also a chance for us to make the most of the magnificent music provided by our wonderful choir and organist. The consistently high standard of music in our church has been a significant factor in our continuing growth and is a real joy. Please support this event, and invite friends to join us as well.

There will be no evening mass on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Crib Service**

Our crib service will take place on Christmas Eve, probably at 4pm (time to be confirmed). All are welcome, young and old, regulars and visitors.

## **Confessions Before Christmas**

A priest will be available to hear confessions in the days leading up to Christmas at the following times:

Monday 18th December 12.45 (Fr Jonathan), 6.30pm (Mthr Judith)

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm (Fr Peter)

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> 12.45pm (Fr Barry)

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> 12.45pm (Fr Peter)

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> 5pm (Fr Peter)

## **After Christmas**

There will be no evening mass on St Stephen's Day (Boxing Day) or on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December (New Year's Eve).

There will be no public Morning Prayer between Christmas Day and 1<sup>st</sup> January.

The Feast of the Epiphany will be celebrated on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January. This transference means that this year the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is not celebrated on a Sunday, but falls on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January.

## **Concert**

On the evening of 22<sup>nd</sup> January there is to be a concert in church with all donations to Mary Mags. Helen Timms' newly commissioned piece will form a part of the evening entitled Pirates & Politics. It will feature songs for mezzo-soprano, Alison Wells and bass clarinet Ian Mitchell. Please do support what promises to be a lovely musical evening, with wine available.

## **Ordination**

Mthr Sarah Foot, a member of our congregation, will be ordained priest in the Cathedral on 21<sup>st</sup> December at 5pm. Please pray for her.

## **Notices**

### **Noisy Mass**

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January Noisy Mass will resume. On each Tuesday we welcome babies and toddlers to join us at the 12.15 mass, with coffee and biscuits available after the service. Do join us and bring a sandwich for lunch afterwards if you wish.

### **Scripture on Saturday**

Our final Bible Study morning of the year takes place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December from 10.30am. All are most welcome to come, no previous participation necessary.

### **Church flowers**

There will be collections for the flower fund, for Christmas and afterwards, after the High Mass on Sundays in December.

### **Church Watch**

Many thanks to those who have volunteered to assist with keeping the church open. Any contribution at all is of value, volunteering for even a single afternoon in the year would help, so please continue to ask yourself if you can assist with this essential ministry. Those wishing to volunteer or to know more should either ring Katie in the parish office on 01865 246143 or email her at [marymagsoxford9@gmail.com](mailto:marymagsoxford9@gmail.com)

### **Coffee and Hospitality**

Now we are back in church we are starting a new chapter which gives people an opportunity to help with hospitality after Mass on Sundays. All volunteers will be warmly welcomed. We will be using our new coffee machines and donations towards these would be much appreciated. Please speak to Veronica Ellis or Nigel Speight, or email Katie in the parish office.

## **Gatehouse Christmas Presents**

As you buy your presents, please remember the Gatehouse which relies heavily upon people donating gifts. Please take socks, gloves, scarves, hats, underpants and chocolate bars to the Gatehouse before 20<sup>th</sup> December, when a wrapping party will be wrapping them up for their guests. They have an average of 385 visits a week and 44% of those attending are rough sleepers. Please bring your unwrapped offering to the Gatehouse between 5pm-7pm Monday to Friday and on Sundays between 4pm-6pm. St Michael's are kindly happy to act as a depot – open 10am to 3pm on weekdays and the shop at other times if necessary.

## **Parents Group**

Our parents group exists so that parents (at any stage) can meet to get to know each other, and reflect on parenting and faith in a supportive environment. It meets fortnightly at 10am, alternating Fridays and Saturdays. The next meeting will be on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December at North Lodge, Norham Gardens OX2 6QR, but then will take a break for Christmas, starting again in January. Children are most welcome. Please contact Clare Gardom ([clare.gardom@gmail.com](mailto:clare.gardom@gmail.com)) or Fr Peter for further details.

## **Parish holiday in Rome**

We are planning a parish trip to Rome, for around a week sometime between 10<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Details are being formulated. If you are interested in going, please add your name to the list by emailing Katie in the parish office at [marymagsoxford9@gmail.com](mailto:marymagsoxford9@gmail.com) We are currently in touch with the Anglican Centre in Rome who are helping with planning, and should have some definite dates and details very soon.

## **Confirmation**

On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm there will be a confirmation service celebrated by the Bishop of Oxford. There are four candidates at the time of writing, but space for more. If you are interested in exploring confirmation (or indeed baptism) please speak to Fr Peter or email one of the clergy.

## **Oxford Winter Night Shelter**

OWNS is a project being run by Oxford churches to offer emergency night shelter accommodation for the homeless in Oxford this winter. It is being run over seven nights a week, from January 2018 through to March. St Mary Magdalen's has been involved in the planning of this project, and has provided some volunteers for the staffing. We now need to be able to back this up with financial support, and so the collection at our Carol Service, and the Crib Collection at our Christmas services, will go towards funding the night shelter. If you would like to make a specific donation for this purpose, please use a gift aid envelope and mark it "Winter Night Shelter".

### **Intercessions**

*Please pray for the long term sick and those in special need, among them:*

Holly Ryan, Wendy Webb, Ann-Marie, Abigail, Melanie, Dan, Angela, Anna and Phoenix, Philip, Chris, Lewis, Julie, Michael, Sue Goodall, Alex Underwood, Richard Gurney, Brian, Jonathan, John Duffield, Allan Moore, Eleanor Harrison, Ian Morris, Alan Springett, Jane Thomas, Bennet Saunders, William Pope, Chloe Ogden, Colin Brown, Sybilla Pfeiffer, Liam Bradshaw, Di Taylor, Tracy O'Sullivan, Abigail Bruins, William Missin, Joanna Hickie, Tony Washington-Jarvis, David Games, Charlotte Jacob-Maguire, Trevor Shakeshaft, Barbara Shakeshaft, Helen Burrows, Sidney Rutter, Rowena Mackaness, David Gostick, Kevin Timpe, Beryl Dryden.

### **Sunday readings**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December: Isaiah 63.16-17, 64.1, 3-8; I Corinthians 1.3-9; Mark 13.33-7

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December: Isaiah 40.1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3.8-14; Mark 1.1-8

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December: Isaiah 61.1-2, 10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24; John 1.6-8, 19-28

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December: 2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8-11, 16; Romans 16.25-27; Luke 1.26-38

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December: Ecclesiastes 3.2-6, 12-14; Colossians 3.12-21; Luke 2.22, 39-40.

