



The Parish of Moseley St Mary's & St Anne's



Parish of Moseley - First Sunday of Advent

Our Services for Sunday 1st December - First Sunday of Advent

- 8.00 am - Holy Communion at St Mary's
- 10.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Mary's
- 11.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Anne's
- 6.30pm - Service of Readings and Music for Advent at St Mary's

Parish Breakfast will follow the 8am service - all are welcome.

Morning readings for the First Sunday of Advent: Jeremiah 33.14–16, 1 Thessalonians 3.9–13, Luke 21.25–36

Thought for the Day by Debbie Barwell

There are certain traditions associated with counting down to the joyous day when we commemorate Christ's birth: the Advent wreath with its symbolic candles; a single Advent candle burning down through the 24 days of December and Advent calendars. Behind the magical little doors in the Advent calendars of my childhood were glittery, colourful images of Christmas. Nowadays, it seems that you can find almost anything behind those little doors: chocolate, coffee, cheese, beauty products and even gin, to mention just a few. A tradition that will be new to my family this year is to decorate a Jesse tree. This idea takes its inspiration from Isaiah 11:1: 'A shoot shall come out of the stock of Jesse and a branch shall grow out of his roots.' The Jesse tree, represented by the family Christmas tree or some simple twigs or branches, can be used to trace the ancestry of Jesus, the promised Messiah born of David's line. A simple decoration can be added each day in order to represent important people and events in the Bible. For example, a picture of the Earth to represent creation; an apple for the story of Adam and Eve; a rainbow for the story of Noah and so on up to the final image of a baby in a manger. As well as being a creative way to journey through Advent with children, the images serve as a visual reminder of God's faithfulness throughout history and his promise fulfilled in the birth of our saviour.

Future Services

Sunday 8th December - Second Sunday of Advent

- 8.00 am - Holy Communion at St Mary's
- 10.00am - Nativity at St Mary's
- 11.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Anne's
- 6.30pm - Taize Worship at St Mary's

A **Taizé** service is meditative in style and includes sung or chanted prayers, periods of silence and readings from the Bible. It is the repetitive nature of the singing that allows the mind and heart the freedom to go deeper into worship.

Sunday 15th December - Third Sunday of Advent

- 8.00 am - Holy Communion at St Mary's
- 10.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Mary's
- 11.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Anne's
- 5.00pm - Community Carols at St Anne's

Our Regular Worship

- Details of our regular pattern of worship can be found on the Services page of our website [here](#).
- Details of how the pattern relates to Children's Worship can be found on the Children and Youth page of our website [here](#).
- Details of specific services can continue to be found in the Calendar.
- Morning Prayer is at 9.10am in the Lady Chapel at St Mary's on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday and at 9.10am in St Anne's on Tuesday. Please note the time of Morning Prayer is currently being reviewed.
- The Thursday Midweek Communion service is at 12.15pm in the Lady Chapel at St Mary's.

Notices

Christmas Fair - Saturday 30th November, 10.00am -2.00pm

We hope to see you at the fair at St Mary's on Saturday 30th November. Cakes for the cake stall can be brought into church on the day - thank you!

Advent Quiet Morning

There will be a Quiet Morning to think about the themes of the season at St Anne's Church on Saturday 14th December from 9.30am to 12 noon.

Moseley Parish is in search of a new Treasurer!

Do you have financial or book keeping skills and could help the parish manage it's funding streams? We are currently looking for someone to help specifically with the bookkeeping and financial forecasting for St Mary's Church. If so, we really need your help from January 2025. The Treasurer would be part of a finance team along with others who currently help with the management of church properties, Gift Aid reclaiming and St Anne's finances. If you think you might be able to help with skills and time or know of someone who could, please contact Revd Ange [here](#).

The Great St Mary's Balloon Race!

Please help the Trebles do their bit to raise money for the Organ Renovation Project and take part in our **Virtual Balloon Race!**

Balloons cost £3 each and are on sale now and will be available to buy until midday on Thursday the 5th of December 2024. The race starts at midday on Saturday, 7th December and ends at midday on Saturday 14th December.

The winner will be announced on Sunday 15th December and will receive a £30 Amazon gift voucher. There will also be a Chocolate Hamper and Sweetie Hamper for second and third places.

To buy your balloon, please visit www.balloonrace.net/tfosmcam

Thank you for your support and Good Luck! Team Trebles

Reverence - Magdalen Smith

If you have not already purchased a copy of Magdalen's book, you can now do so via [Amazon](#).

Advent Discipleship

In Advent we will be commencing a Bible Study Group and looking at Paula Gooder's creative and accessible book, Women of the Nativity. The book tells the story of 9 well-known and less well-known biblical women and has some simple questions for reflection at the end of each chapter. You do not need to buy the book as resources will be provided but if you want to the link is [here](#).

In the second session, we will be looking at "Mary's story", from the book. To read Mary's story, [click here](#). To see an image from the book, [click here](#).

The next session is on 11th December (venue to be confirmed) and the final session is on 18th December (West Room at St Mary's), 7.30-9.00pm.

Advent Prayer Resources

Rather than producing our own Advent Prayer resource this year we are encouraging people to use resources from the Church of England's 2024 Advent resource, Follow the Star: Calm and Bright. [Click here](#) to access the resources. There will be some paper booklets to take on the Welcome Desk and Magdalen will be using some of the material at the Quiet Morning at St Anne's on 14th December 9.30am-12.00 noon.

Visit to Lichfield Cathedral for the Christmas Tree festival - Saturday 7th December

We aim to travel by train, go to the cathedral then you will be free to explore Lichfield for the rest of the day and return by train in the afternoon. If you are interested, please contact the office or sign up on the sheet which is available in church. More details to follow.

Blue Christmas: 2.30pm Sunday 8th December 2024, Lady Chapel, St Mary's Church

A quiet and pastoral space to hold a short service for those mourning and remembering loved ones who have died, or for those who do not find the festive season easy.

The service will last about 40 minutes followed by hot drinks, mince pies and conversation in the West Room. All are welcome to come, regardless of faith.

Christmas Day Together

All being well, we hope that this year's event will be back in St Anne's Hall, on Park Hill. Last year all the people who helped out had a really good time, so we hope that some of you will want to make volunteering part of your Christmas activities. We will need help beforehand, preparing food and setting up the hall, on Christmas Day itself we will need people to serve meals and drinks, wash up and chat to guests. We also need volunteer drivers to pick up and /or take guests home again. The event will run from 12.00 until 2.30 pm. Volunteers can also have a Christmas meal if they would like to. Please let the office know if you would like to be a volunteer, there will also be

a list in both churches from late November. Any queries contact Bridget on 07816 828439. We look forward to hearing from you. Bridget & James Langstaff.

Moseley at the Movies

On every first Wednesday of the month, there is Moseley at the Movies, a group which meets to watch a film together and discuss it afterwards.

Come along to St Mary's West Room at 7:15pm for a 7:30pm start! (Unless otherwise stated).

The next showing is on 4th December.

January 2025: Way of Discipleship Online – “Becoming like Christ”

“Becoming like Christ” is a 6 week course on Zoom covering:

- Who Jesus is and what He came to do through His life, death, resurrection and ascension.
- How we change and the kind of practices that grow Christlike self-giving love in us.
- How God sees and uses the difficult times in our lives.

Monday evenings, 7pm – 9.15pm, January 13th/20th/27th and February 3rd/10th/17th.

Contact guydc@cofebirmingham.com to book.

This week in the Parish

We continue to pray for:

Cathie Carey and Stella Fernley, Tony Sheppard, Mike Carter, Ruth Carter, Jon Terry, Rachel McLeod, Sheila Perks, Laurie Flood, Elisabeth Leicester, Lincoln Hoeschen, Phil and Trish Burt, Geraldine and Gerald Cartin, Malcolm McDonald and Jenny Taylor.

Souls of the Departed: Mike Midgley and Anne Winstone.

The Parish also prays and gives thanks for:

- For all involved in our Christmas fair on 30th November and for those who will visit.
- Those who work in retail in the run up to Christmas.

Church of England Birmingham Praying Together: The November edition is [here](#).

Inclusive Church Newsletter: The November edition is [here](#).

We celebrate the Birthdays of: Angus Watson, Mick Perrier and Philip Holloway.