

### **Planned Giving Envelopes**

We have recycled some old envelopes to save money (and the planet!) Please pick one up from the back of church and let Grace or Hilary know your new number.

### **Christmas Pillar Box**

The Pillar Box will be out throughout Advent for donations towards the work of Manorlands and Martin House.

### **Confirmation**

There will be a confirmation service at St. John's on January 14th. If you would like to be confirmed, or know of someone else who would, please see Daniel or Philippa

### **Focus Group Update**

There is a summary of what was discussed at the last Focus Group and a question sheet to consider for the next one on the board at the back of church. Dates for your diary - **21st January** (note change of date); 25th February 10.00 a.m. start; 11.15 a.m. finish - Holy Communion at **9.30 a.m.**

# **Sunday 31st December 2023**

## **First Sunday of Christmas**

**Service: Holy Communion**

**Hymns:**

**34; 109; 176; 165**

## **Welcome to St. Saviour's Church**

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

**Interim Priest-in-Charge:**

Vacant

**Interim Associate Minister**

Revd Philippa Slingsby-Lunn (*tel. 01274 49137*)

**Interim Assistant Curate**

Revd. Daniel Furlong (*tel: 07749 941348*)

**Churchwardens:**

Mrs. Grace Studholme; Mr. John Ratnik

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**Children in Church**

Children are most welcome to our services.

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**Refreshments.**

**Please join us for refreshments in the hall after the service.**

*Please take this service sheet home with you*

### **Collect of the Day** (*First Sunday of Christmas*)

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### **Galatians 4.4-7**

<sup>4</sup> When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. <sup>6</sup> And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'

<sup>7</sup> So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, **Alleluia!**

For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

**Alleluia!**

### **Luke 2.15-21**

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.'

<sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

<sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

<sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

<sup>21</sup> After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

### **Post-communion** (*First Sunday of Christmas*)

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Activities for the week**

Today 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

Wednesday 3rd 9.30am Holy Communion at St. James's

Sunday 7th 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

Please pray for all on our prayer list: Wendy and Eric; Simon and Keretha, Pauline, Doreen, Dennis, Tracy, Rosemary, Dermot and anyone known to you.

