

NEWSLETTER

Sunday 19 December: Advent 4



Readings: Micah 5.2-5a; Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1.39-55

Today

- 8.00am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington
Rev Mark Poole
- 9.00am Holy Communion : St Mary, Warthill
Rev Mark Poole
- 10.30am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington
Rev John Schofield
- 10.30am Morning Worship : Holy Trinity, Stockton
Judith Hewitt
- 6.00pm Carol Service : St Nicholas, Dunnington
Rev Nick Bird, Rev Mark Poole, Judith Hewitt
At St Nicholas
- 9.30am Church open for quiet prayer and reflection
- 10.00am Coffee, reflection, prayer and music
- 10.30am Holy Communion
- 6.00pm Carol Service

 [Online Benefice Worship](#) (YouTube)

This week

Monday 20 December

- 9.00am [Morning Prayer \(zoom\)](#)
- 4.00pm Carol Singing : The Glebe Carpark, Dunnington
- 7.00pm Carols around the Christmas Tree : Holy Trinity, Stockton

Tuesday 21 December

- 9.00am Morning Prayer : St Mary, Warthill
- 11.00am Funeral : St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 6.00pm Carol Singing : The Green, Dunnington

Wednesday 22 December

- 9.00am Holy Communion : St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 9.45am Bereavement Café : St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 10.00am Holy Communion : Holy Trinity, Stockton
- 7.00pm [Compline \(zoom\)](#)
- 7.30pm Meditation Group : St Nicholas Tower Room

Thursday 23 December

- 9.00am [Morning Prayer \(zoom\)](#)
- please note: this will be the last morning prayer before Christmas, and we will resume on Thursday 6th Jan*
- 12.30pm Christmas Communion followed by soup & pudding : St Nicholas, Dunnington



A reflection on Mary, by Judith Hewitt

This Sunday our thoughts turn towards Mary, a young girl, chosen by God for a very special task. The visitation of Gabriel to Mary, actually happened nine months ago, but it is usually included in the Advent/Christmas readings.

Mary was told that God had chosen her to be the mother of his Son. I wonder how you would feel to know God had chosen you for something, whatever that might be. Frightened. Why me? What have I done for this to happen to me? I am probably sure you would not be pleased.

Until that moment Mary was an ordinary girl, who was planning her marriage to Joseph the local carpenter. They would no doubt be preparing their future home when Mary's world was turned upside down. She would have no one to talk to, which was why she went to visit her cousin Elizabeth. Something inside Mary told her she had to submit herself to God. We may not have an angel appear to us and say we must.....but we may hear God speaking to us through words we hear in church, while out for a walk, though those people we are in contact with each day, when we read the Bible, and most of all when we least expect it. We then have to respond, because unless we do, God will keep 'niggling' until we submit and say 'yes'.

When we do say 'yes', we like Mary have to trust God and he will be there to guide and encourage us through the task he has given us.



Friday 24 December : Christmas Eve

- 3.00pm Crib Service : St Mary, Warthill
- 4.00pm Crib Service : Holy Trinity, Stockton
- 5.00pm Crib Service : St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 7.00pm Holy Communion : Holy Trinity, Holtby
- 9.00pm Holy Communion : Holy Trinity, Stockton
- 9.00pm Holy Communion : St Nicholas, Dunnington



Saturday 25 December : Christmas Day

- 9.00am Holy Communion : St Mary, Warthill
Rev Nick Bird
- 10.30am Holy Communion : Holy Trinity, Stockton
- Please bring along something you have opened!**
Rev Mark Poole
- 10.30am Holy Communion : St Nicholas, Dunnington
Rev Nick Bird

Sunday 26 December: St Stephen's Day

- Readings: Acts 7.51-end; Matthew 10.17-22
- 10.30am Benefice Communion : St Nicholas, Dunnington
Rev Mark Poole

 [Online Benefice Worship](#) (YouTube)

Parish Churches News & Events

A letter from UNICEF to St Nicholas Church:

I am writing today to say thank you so much for your kind gift of £3400.

By donating to our VaccinAid campaign, you're helping bring us all one step closer to beating the pandemic. COVAX is a groundbreaking collaboration between 190 countries & its aim is simple; ensure every country in the world has fair and equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccines. At UNICEF we share this that aim. Global COVID-19 vaccines rollout began on 24th February 2021. In the first 2 weeks, nearly 30 million doses were delivered to 32 countries. This is just the beginning. And thanks to people like you, we'll deliver 2 billion before the end of the year.

... Thank you, once again, for your incredible support and for being a crucial part of the biggest health & logistics project in history.

Puddings: If you are able to make a pudding to serve after the Christmas Communion on 23rd December, please could you let Judith know, thank you.

Sunday Coffee at St Nicholas: If you are able to serve coffee either before or after the service, there is a new list on the rota board. Coffee before needs to be ready for 10.00, please. We do appreciate all who volunteer to help with refreshments.

Carol Singing: We are Carol Singing in The Glebe carpark on Monday 20th December at 4.00pm and on The Green on Tuesday 21st December at 6.00pm. The carol sheet can be downloaded from stnicholsdunnington.org.uk and will be available as a paper copy. Don't forget to bring your musical instrument! In Stockton, there will be Carols around the Christmas Tree on Monday 20th at 7pm—just bring your voices, there will be mulled wine and mice pies. Everyone is welcome.

Bereavement Café: We recognize Christmas can be a difficult time for all who have lost a loved one, so come along on Wednesday 22nd December, from 9.45 to 11.15. Share with others and light a candle.

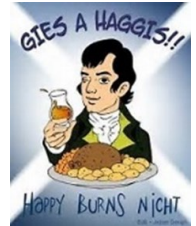
Christmas Communion: For all who may prefer a quieter service do come along on 23rd December at 12.30. The service will be followed by soup and a pudding. To help with catering please let Judith, 488331, know if you are coming.

Advent at St Nicholas Church: In the Lady Chapel there are some prayer stations to help you through the season of Advent. Do explore them either on a Sunday or during the week. The Church is open daily from 9.00 until 4.00pm. During Advent, we remember that it is a time of waiting and longing. What are you waiting for?

Carol Service at St Nicholas: We are planning to serve mulled wine, to take away or drink in, **today**. If you can provide mince pies and shortbread, they will be gratefully received. If you have access to large flasks, that we could borrow, to keep the mulled wine warm, please could you speak to Judith, thank you.

Burns Night: Informal Burns Supper Friday 28th January 2022, 7.00 pm in the Tower Room, Dunnington.
Haggis, tatties and neeps (alternative veggie haggis option) plus soup and dessert.
Bring your own drink
Dress – Smart Casual (but feel free to wear your kilt if you wish)

Tickets £7.50 - numbers are limited so don't delay! - contact Judith Hewitt 488331; Eve Scoreby 489008; Joan Verrier 481626 or Diane Benson 07951 582672.



Tuesday Cycle Rides: The small group of cyclists go out on the 2nd Tuesday of the month leaving the Cross Keys at 10-30am for a ride of approximately 10 to 20 miles and sometimes on rough tracks, however there is usually an alternative road route. Tuesday 11th January we will ride to Deans Nurseries where we will plan next years rides. All rides are subject to change on the day depending on weather conditions. Helmets and bright clothing are recommended, please bring a spare inner tube in case of puncture, ride at your own risk. Do come & join us. Any queries to Margaret Eastwood 07791 599661 or Tony Hudson 07979 793066



IMPORTANT: Updated Covid-19 Guidance

The Church of England have recently published new guidance in light of the ever-changing COVID-19 situation. Please note that this guidance applies to **all churches in the benefice**. A key point to note is that the wearing of face coverings is now a legal requirement (unless exempt). [Click here](#) or visit tinyurl.com/newcovidguidance to read the guidance in full.

Lectionary Corner at St Nicholas

As there are no Saints' Days this week, a selection of prayers will be displayed at Lectionary Corner.

To receive newsletters by email, contact grapevine.rey@gmail.com. Also available on the St Nicholas Church website and in St Nicholas Church.

To receive the Methodist Circuit News, please contact the office by email yorkcircuitoffice@gmail.com or phone 07984 019995.

Next newsletter on **Sunday 26th December** [Email items to grapevine.rey@gmail.com](mailto:grapevine.rey@gmail.com) by **9.00 am on Thursday 23rd December**.

Please note, next week's newsletter will cover both 26th December and 2nd January.