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Lillington Parish Church
St Mary Magdalene
CHRISTMAS 2023

From the Vicar

Dear Friends,

“The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.” A line from the carol ‘Away in a manger.’ It is a favourite at Christmas but does seem to suggest that children should be seen and not heard.



When school parties of children visit Lillington Parish Church, they can sometimes be hushed by well-meaning staff anxious that the presence of youngsters might just disturb the peace. At St Mary Magdalene’s we love that Christmas gives us a special reminder of how important children are to God, so important in fact that he became one himself appearing on the human stage in the vulnerability of a baby.

It is almost certain that the infant Jesus will have made his feelings known to Mary and Joseph as babies always do. This Christmas the church will once again be full of children being their delightful selves, wide eyed with the wonder of the Christmas story. Once again it will be told by candlelight in the beautiful medieval atmosphere of a church where the story has been heard for a thousand years.

For those who long ago sensed the presence of God coming

into the world, the presence of a star became the sign that led them on a journey of discovery. This year the stars decorated by different local community groups will circle the church in the lead up to Christmas. And like stars these will best be viewed when it gets dark.

Do come and visit the church yard in the run up to Christmas and also join us for one of the many different services. Come along just as you are – fearfully and wonderfully made. Come and join us as with shepherds and angels we give the season its true meaning – that God so loved his world that he made himself known in the crying of a child – one of the most beautiful sounds that can ever be heard in church.

Wishing you all joy and peace this Christmas,

William



Christmas Services

Lillington Parish Church

Sunday 17th December

Nine Lessons and Carols 6.00pm

A traditional service telling the Christmas story in verse and song

Christmas Eve

Christingle Service 3.00pm

Christingle Service 4.30pm

Christingle Service 6.00pm

A service for all the family ending by candlelight and in support of the Children's Society

Midnight Mass 11.30pm

The first service of Christmas in the medieval beauty of Mary Magdalene's church

Christmas Day

All Age Communion 10.00am

A family service and an invitation to bring and show presents

All Welcome





COME AND SEE THE STARS!

This December, during Advent and Christmas,
Lillington Parish Church yard will be full of
Stars!

Light switch on during the Evening Service on
3rd December at 6pm

Join Us Online!

Did you know you can attend our church services online?

If you are unable to join us in-person due to illness, caring or travel, you can still join our weekly services. You can join us live if you are at home, or catch up later if you're otherwise engaged.

You can participate from anywhere in the world and from any time zone. We have regular virtual congregation members from Australia and Germany among others!

We stream our Sunday morning service live at 9.30am and our Wednesday morning service live at 10am. There are booklets on our website so you can follow the service.



You can join us via our website:
www.lillingtonparishchurch.org/streaming
or follow us on Twitch:
www.twitch.tv/lillington_parish_church



Do give it a go - you may be at home but you will feel like you are with us in person and we welcome your participation. You can also join us in person any time - everyone is welcome.

Diana Taulbut



Getting to know YOU!

COFFEE MORNINGS – 10AM TO 12 NOON

Second Saturday of each month, for all ages, and craft activities for the young at heart.

FILM EVENINGS – FROM 6PM

Third Saturday of most months – from Classics to modern to quirky. Chat and refreshments – a proper interval!

COFFEE AND CHAT after our morning Services each week

BRING AND SHARE throughout the year

FAIRS – Summer and Christmas

And lots of one off events such as

Bluebell walks, Board Games, Pancake parties Quizzes, Trips, and more!

Want to know more – look out for our monthly updates in Crosstalk, the weekly handout, and our website



Let's Get Social!

CONTACT US

Please do contact us with any questions or queries, or
just to say hello!



Church Office & General Enquiries

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*The Church Office is normally open 9:30am to 1pm,
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday*

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Follow us on Facebook!

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