



St Mary's News Christ the King Sunday next before Advent 23 November 2025

Christ the King Sunday 23 November 2025

10.00am Holy Communion

6.30pm Said Holy Communion

The Reverend Chris Moore will preach and preside at our 10.00am Holy Communion service

Additional Holy Communion service

Revd Keith Hine has kindly offered to preside at an additional Said Holy Communion service this Sunday, 23rd November. This is for those who are unable to attend one of the morning services or who prefer an evening service. There will be our usual 10.00am Sung Holy Communion and then also the Said Holy Communion at 6.30pm. All are welcome to attend either or both services.

Prayer during our Church Vacancy

To help us in our worship during our Church Vacancy a special prayer has been developed which we hope everyone will be willing to use and to pray daily, at our services on Sunday or whenever we meet as a group. It is important that we ask for God's help in everything we do and especially as we go forward working together to bring a new Rector to St Mary's. We all have a part to play in what is happening and we can all influence the outcome. With God's help we will succeed in getting the right person to help us grow in faith and to lead us forward in whatever God puts before us. **Derek and Ian.**



Vacancy Prayer

O God our Father, send your Holy Spirit to our Church of St Mary's Lymm, to fill us with vision, energy, and love. Help us to bring new life to our community and fellowship, and in unity and expectation, remain ever faithful to your calling.

Guide with your heavenly wisdom those involved in bringing a new minister to this Church that whomever we receive may be a wise and gentle shepherd. We pray that the minister of your choice will hear your call and respond in faith, ready to serve us with joy, and to lead us by example in loving obedience to your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Lord in your Mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

PCC meeting – to discuss Parish Profile The Extraordinary Meeting of the PCC to discuss and to look again at the Parish Profile will be held on Tuesday 9th December at 7.30pm.

Comments on the Profile which have been received by then will be discussed and changes to the draft agreed – do keep the comments coming as they are really helpful.

Autumn Big Clean – Saturday 29 November 9.00am – 12.00pm

As we move towards the end of the year and prepare to welcome so many people to our church during December, the time has come to have another Big Clean. Prior to this, a great deal of

decluttering will happen. We hope to present a church which is tidy, spick and span by end of all this. As we are without a regular cleaner for the time being, this has now become an area where we can all help to make a difference. So come along in your old clothes, ready to attack the cobwebs and the dust. All cleaning equipment will be supplied. There may also be sausage rolls and other goodies to help keep us going. Even if you can only spare an hour, please, please do come and help us get our church building presentable again.



Community Christmas Tree Festival 2025

Friday 5th – Sunday 7th December

Time to Sign Up to help!

The Christmas Tree Festival is approaching fast. Lists are now available at the back of church for you to sign up when you can help or any cakes you can provide. More information is attached with this email. Please give generously of your time. It's a wonderful community event enjoyed by so many in the village and from beyond.

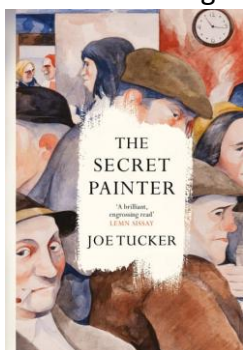
Box for crafts There is a box at the back of church for you to start bringing in any craft/produce items which you are donating for the craft stall.

Set up help required We need one or two additional helpers on **Monday 1st December** from 9.30am to help set up the boards for the Christmas trees. It is very straightforward – we just need a little additional manpower please. If you can help, please let Sue Walton or Mike Hall know.

St Mary's Bookworms – January 20th 2026

Would you like to join a small group of readers who meet every two months to discuss one/two books which we have read? It is a friendly informal meeting, and we always have a lively and wide-ranging discussion about and around what we have read. You don't need to have read both or either book to come along and join in, and you can help choose what we read next.

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 20th January 2026** at Maralyn Barlow's home.



We will be reading:

The Secret Painter by Joe Tucker

A non-fiction book with a very local connection! Joe Tucker's Uncle Eric was a beloved yet unconventional figure throughout his life. A shambolically dressed man who lived with his mother for almost eighty years, he appeared to exist only for daily trips to the bookie - and yet had also quietly amassed over five hundred of his own remarkable paintings without anyone ever realising his achievements.

And Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng

Twelve-year-old Bird Gardner lives a quiet existence with his loving but broken father, a former linguist who now shelves books in Harvard's library. For a decade, their lives have been governed by laws written to preserve 'American culture' in the wake of years of economic instability and violence. *Our Missing Hearts* is an old story made new, of the ways supposedly civilized communities can turn a blind eye to the most searing injustice. It's a story about the power - and limitations - of art to create change in the world.

If you would like more information about the Bookworms, speak to Vanessa Lees, Sue Walton or Liz France.

Decorating the church for Christmas

As we have in previous years, we are asking for your help to decorate St Mary's for our Christmas services. It is a huge help to the decorations team and much appreciated. There will be jars inside zinc buckets available from church from Sunday 23rd November – please take a jar and fill it with evergreen foliage plus a few red and/or white supermarket flowers such as red roses or red and white spray carnations. Please also decorate the outside of the bucket with some red and/or gold ribbon. You can use your own ribbon or take a length from the reels beside the jars. Just remember to remove all leaves below the waterline in your jar. Full instructions will be attached.

We need the jars to be returned on **Saturday 20th December** to church between **10.30am and 11.00am** please. We can also arrange for you to drop off at another time if that is not convenient for you. Thank you in advance for helping us to make our church look beautiful and welcoming as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord.



Church Hall Garden – Sensory Garden Design

Recently there were a series of successful primary school visits for over 200 children who came and visited the church and church hall garden, participating in lots of fun activities. Thank you again to all who were involved in making it a success.

We are pleased to report that all the primary schools have responded with entries to our competition to design the Sensory Garden section of garden. Entries will be collected from the schools over the course of the next few weeks, then judging and shortlisting will take place.

The shortlisted entries will be displayed at the back of the church for the congregation to look at and vote for as part of the judging process. All entries will be on display at a future date.

Services November/December 2025

Christ the King 23 November 2025	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Chris Moore	6.30pm Said Holy Communion Priest Reverend Keith Hine
1 st Sunday of Advent 30 November 2025	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Keith Hine	
2 nd Sunday of Advent 07 December 2025	10.00am Christmas Tree Festival Family Advent Service 	
3 rd Sunday of Advent 14 December 2025	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Bishop Sam, Bishop of Stockport	
Monday 15 December	Ravenbank School Christmas Concert	
Wednesday 17 December	Cherry Tree School Christmas Concert	
4 th Sunday of Advent 21 December 2025	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Anita Raggett	6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Wednesday Christmas Eve 24 December 2025	4.00pm Christingle and Crib Service	11.30pm Holy Communion Priest Reverend Christina Westwell
Thursday Christmas Day 25 December 2025	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Edmund Betts	
Holy Innocents 28 December 2025	10.00am Holy Communion Priest Reverend Keith Hine	

Green Tips - It's National Tree Week

The Tree Council says....

The winter planting season is upon us so it's the perfect time to get outdoors and get planting. Trees and hedgerows are some of the most powerful tools we have in the fight against climate change. And the good news is that we can all make a difference by planting a tree! Whether you plant a tree in a pot on your doorstep, a hedge in your garden or organise a community event at a local park, every tree will help us grow a greener future together.

Please Pray

- For our Churchwardens, Lay Readers, visiting clergy and all involved in running our church during our period of vacancy
- For those lives and livelihoods destroyed by climate change including recent flooding in South Wales
- For those suffering as a result of civil war in Sudan
- For a lasting ceasefire and peace in Gaza, Israel and the West Bank
- All those suffering as a result of conflict in Ukraine
- Remember in prayer those in the Book of Remembrance for today and the next week
- For those being prayed for by St Mary's Prayer Circle

Contact Details

Website - www.stmaryslymm.org

Rector: Vacancy

Lay Readers: Derek Buckthorpe 01925 752810 Ian Bunday 01925 755286

Church Wardens: Elizabeth France 07956 408300 George Bainton 01925 757732

PCC Secretary: Derek Buckthorpe 01925 752810

PCC Treasurer: David Young 01925 759919

Choir Director / Organist: Susan Gadd 07398 399121

Church Hall Secretary: Kath Hough Telephone: 01925 754435

Pastoral Care Team: Derek Buckthorpe 01925 752810, Pauline Buckthorpe 01925 752810 Ian Bunday 01925 755286

St Mary's Prayer Circle – Co-ordinator for Prayer Requests Jill Wasey 01925 754265 email jhwasey@yahoo.co.uk Members - Susan Brooks 01925 755735 Derek Buckthorpe 01925

752810, Pauline Buckthorpe 01925 752810 Ian Bunday 01925 755286 Vanessa Lees 01925 757471, Angela Roberts, Jill Wasey

Church Wi-Fi Wifi name = St Marys Church Wifi code = Welcome2Everyone

FIRE EXITS VIA THE MAIN ENTRANCE, THE DISABLED ENTRANCE BY THE TOILETS AND THE EXTERNAL DOOR VIA THE FELLOWSHIP ROOM