

## Worship this Month in our churches:

Date:	Sunday and Christmas Services St Paul's, Tadley
Sun 1st	9am Holy Communion (Steve) 10.15am Café Worship (Steve)
Sun 8th	10am Messy Christmas (Elizabeth, Steve, Chris & Messy Church team)
Sun 15th	9am Holy Communion (Steve) 10.15am Morning Worship (Myles and Simon)
Sun 22nd	9am Holy Communion (Steve) 10.15am Holy Communion (Steve)
Tues 24th	4pm Tadley Crib Service (Steve)
Tues 24th	13.30pm Midnight Christmas Communion (Steve and Simon)
Wed 25th	10am Christmas Day Family Worship (Chris)

Date:	Sunday, Wednesday & Christmas Services St Luke's
Wed 4th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Cathy)
Wed 11th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Linda)
Wed 18th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Cathy, Linda and Myles)
Tues 24th	2.30pm Pamber Heath Nativity (Cathy, Linda and John)
Tues 24th	11.30pm Midnight Christmas Communion (Cathy and Linda)

Date:	Sunday, Wednesday & Christmas Services St. Marys, Tadley
Sun 1st	10.30am Morning Worship – Advent Carols (Chris)
Tues 3rd	7pm Air Cadet's Carol Service (Charles)
Wed 4th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Chris and Charles)
Sun 8th	10.30am Holy Communion (Cathy and Charles)
Wed 11th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Steve)
Sun 15th	9am RISE Christmas (Chris) 10.30am Holy Communion (Steve and Charles) 6pm Tadley North Candlelit Carol Service (Chris)
Wed 18th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Chris)
Thurs 19th	4pm CTAT Live Nativity Trail
Sun 22nd	10.30am Holy Communion (Karen and Charles)
Tues 24th	4pm Tadley North Crib Service (Chris) 11.30pm Midnight Christmas Communion (Chris)
Wed 25th	10am Christmas Day Holy Communion (Steve)
Sun 29th	10am Benefice Service (Steve and Karen)

Date:	Sunday & Christmas Services St Mary the Virgin, Silchester
Sun 1st	8am BCP Holy Communion (Karen) 10am Toy / Christingle Service (Karen)
Sun 8th	10am Holy Communion (Karen) 3pm Stillness on Sunday (Eve)
Sun 15th	10am Advent Morning Worship (Karen)
Sun 22nd	3pm Lessons and Carols (Karen)
Tues 24th	3pm Silchester Crib Service (Karen) 11.30pm Midnight Christmas Communion (Karen)
Wed 25th	10am Christmas Day Worship (Karen)

Date:	Services St Peter's, Tadley
Sun 22nd	4pm Tadley Candlelit Carol Service (Steve, Chris and Band)



## December Newsletter

### Our Clergy, LLMs and Administrator

Rev Steve McKay	Email: <a href="mailto:revstemckay@gmail.com">revstemckay@gmail.com</a>	Tel: 07759 151576
Rev Karen West	Email: <a href="mailto:revkarenw24@gmail.com">revkarenw24@gmail.com</a>	Tel: 07525 494025
Rev Chris Knight	Email: <a href="mailto:revdchrisknight@outlook.com">revdchrisknight@outlook.com</a>	Tel: 07443 726962
Rev Cathy Pynn	Email: <a href="mailto:c.pynn@btinternet.com">c.pynn@btinternet.com</a>	
Charles Lewis	Email: <a href="mailto:c_m.lewis@btinternet.com">c_m.lewis@btinternet.com</a>	
Simon Day	Email: <a href="mailto:seday68@yahoo.co.uk">seday68@yahoo.co.uk</a>	
Virge Routledge	Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@stpaulstadley.org.uk">enquiries@stpaulstadley.org.uk</a>	

As you start to prepare for Christmas, I wonder how many gifts you've bought already? Perhaps the idea of shopping fills you with dread. For many, Christmas is a difficult time of year, a time when checking in on those who are alone is even more important.

We remember that the greatest gift we've ever been given wasn't bought in a shop. No cash exchanged hands. It wasn't even wrapped. Yet it cost the Giver everything. It wasn't a Black Friday deal, but a Good Friday gift. How far love came to bring us home.

This month millions will hear the gospel of Immanuel. God with us. Let preachers preach it, choirs sing it, Zoom declare it, kids unwrap it, rulers fear it, mothers hold it, cynics see it, people with heads bowed perceive it, those with debts receive it, and those souls whose faith has been shaken this year – believe it all again. Blessed is the season that engages the whole world in the conspiracy of love.

We invite you to celebrate Christmas with us in Tadley, Pamber Heath, and Silchester and pray that the joy and hope offered here will fill your hearts afresh with optimism that those who walk in darkness, this Christmas WILL see a great light.

Please keep this sheet for reference and check for updates via email.

Like our Facebook pages: [@St.Marys.Tadley](#) | [@stpaulstadley](#) | [@silchesterchurch](#) or go to our websites:

<https://st-marys-church-tadley.org.uk/>

<https://www.stpaulstadley.org.uk/>

<https://www.silchesterchurch.co.uk/>

## Advent and Christmas Events around our community

**Pray Tadley** – The weeks of Advent offer a time of hope, love, peace, and joy. It is our hope that all the streets in Tadley will be covered by prayers of hope, love, peace and joy during the four weeks of advent. We have divided Tadley and surrounding areas into 12 ‘zones’ for prayer. These maps will be in our churches. Each zone has a coordinator, so you can either pray alone or as a group with people from other churches in Tadley. Will you commit to pray for the people who live in the streets around you this Advent?

**Benefice Advent Group** – an opportunity to join together for four sessions of pre-Christmas calm during advent. Sessions run from 6pm to 7pm in the Silchester Pavilion on Monday evenings from 25<sup>th</sup> November.

**30th Nov -The Tadley Christmas Craft Fair at St. Paul’s between 11am – 3 pm.** We have some fantastic local craftspeople joining us who will be selling unique handmade gifts. It will be a great community Christmas shopping event. We are very short of people to help us run our church stalls. **Could you help for an hour or two next Saturday?** If you can help, please let Steve know

**1<sup>st</sup> Dec – Advent kicks off at St. Paul’s with Café Church at 10.15am (join us for breakfast from 9.40am), with an Advent Carol Service at St. Mary’s, Tadley as part of the morning service at 10.30am, and a Toy Service and Christingle at St. Mary the Virgin, Silchester at 10am.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Dec, 3pm to 5pm – Youth Group** meets at St. Mary’s, Tadley.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Dec, 7pm – Air Cadet’s Carol Service** at St. Mary’s, Tadley.

**6<sup>th</sup> Dec, 7pm and 7<sup>th</sup> Dec, 5pm – the amazing pantomime ‘Knight Fever’.** Tickets are available from: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/christchurch-players>

**7<sup>th</sup> Dec, 6pm – Mayor’s Carol Service at All Saints’ Church,** Basingstoke. Steve will be leading this in place of Bishop David. Entry is free but booking in advance essential: <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/carolservice-2024>

**8<sup>th</sup> Dec, 10am – Messy Christmas at St. Paul’s.** Relive the Christmas story by dressing up and joining in as we tell the greatest story ever told. There will be crafts, carols, and lots of breakfast. We will also be collecting toys for the Christmas Toy Appeal. Dressing up is not mandatory, but always fun!

**11<sup>th</sup> Dec, 7pm – Arts Festival Review** meeting at The Rectory.

**14<sup>th</sup> Dec, 10am to 4pm and 15<sup>th</sup> Dec, midday to 4pm – CTAT Community Christmas Tree Festival** at Tadley Common Methodist Church. Come and see the spectacular trees including our Messy Church and RISE Christmas trees.

**15<sup>th</sup> Dec, 9am – RISE Christmas in St. Mary’s Hall, Tadley.** Christmas family fun as we tell the Christmas story, take part in crafts and challenges and share breakfast! Why not pop over to the Christmas Tree Festival after RISE and see the RISE Christmas tree that you all helped to make.

**15<sup>th</sup> Dec, 6pm – Traditional Candlelight Carol Service at St. Mary’s, Tadley.**

**16<sup>th</sup> Dec, 7.30pm – CTAT Live Nativity Trail ‘Actors and Helpers’ meeting.** We had over 300 people last year at this event. We need stewards to walk the trail and to help people cross roads. We also help with refreshments and crafts. We also need mince pies and mulled wine. If you can help in anyway at all please pop along to this meeting. Even if you can’t make the meeting, please do offer to help by emailing Revd Steve (email address overleaf).

**19<sup>th</sup> Dec, 4pm – CTAT Live Nativity Trail.** Come and live the Christmas story as we travel to Bethlehem and meet the characters. There will be live animals, Christmas Carols, mulled wine, crafts, and a folk band. It all begins at St. Mary’s, Tadley at 4pm.

**22<sup>nd</sup> Dec, 4pm – Tadley Traditional Candlelight Carol Service at St. Peters, Tadley.** Come and sing together in our beautiful ancient church.

**22<sup>nd</sup> Dec, 3pm – Lessons and Carols at St. Mary the Virgin, Silchester.**

**24<sup>th</sup> Dec, Christmas Eve:**

**2.30pm – Pamber Heath Nativity Service at St. Luke’s.** Come and join in Pamber Heath’s Crib service as Cathy leads us through the Christmas story.

**3pm – St. Mary the Virgin, Silchester Crib Service.** Hear the Christmas story in this beautiful, ancient church.

**4pm – St. Paul’s Crib Service.** Last year we were told the story through a slightly irreverent 12 Days of Christmas! Come and see what character our Rector ends up as this year! Carols will be led by Tadley Concert Brass. This service is always really popular, so arrive early to get a seat!

**4pm – St. Mary’s, Tadley, All Age Crib Service and Christingle.** A crib service for everyone! Chris and the St. Mary’s team will tell the Christmas story with some of your favourite carols along the way.

**11.30pm – ‘Midnight’ First Christmas Communion services** take place in four venues: St. Mary’s Tadley, St. Luke’s, St. Paul’s and St. Mary’s Silchester.

**25<sup>th</sup> Dec, Christmas Day – 10am Christmas Day Family Service at St. Paul’s & Christmas Day family Communion at 10am St. Mary’s Tadley & St. Mary-the-Virgin, Silchester.**

**25<sup>th</sup> Dec, midday – Lunch at Ambrose Allen Centre.** Are you alone for Christmas, or maybe you have a friend or neighbour who would benefit from this event. Bookings can be made by emailing: [tadleychristmasday@gmail.com](mailto:tadleychristmasday@gmail.com)

### Can you help?

**Planning our CTAT Live Nativity** – we need stewards, help with refreshments and craft activities and actors! Please contact Revd Steve if you can help.

### Christmas Appeals

This year our CTAT churches are joining in with the toy collection run by the Salvation Army. Collections can take place until 13<sup>th</sup> Dec as the toys are distributed locally to families who need them, so no overheads other than the donated toys. Toys must be new and unwrapped – any bought at The Entertainer toy shop will be matched in value by the store. Money donations also be accepted and will be used for food vouchers for local families. Special toy collection services will take place at St. Mary-the-Virgin, Silchester on 1st Dec and St. Paul’s Messy Church on 8<sup>th</sup> Dec.