

Welcome to The Marden Vale Team Ministry
 (Christ Church, Derry Hill; Holy Trinity, Quemerford;
 St. John the Baptist, Foxham; St. Martin, Bremhill;
 St. Mary the Virgin, Calne; and St. Peter, Blacklands.)

17 December - 3rd Sunday of Advent (Purple)

<p>Services around the Benefice 08:00 St Mary's Holy Communion 10:00 St Mary's Parish Eucharist 10:00 Holy Trinity Quemerford Family Carol Service 15:00 St Peter's Blackland Carol Service 16:00 Christ Church Derry Hill Carol Service 18:00 St Mary's Carol Service 18:00 St Martin's Bremhill Carol Service</p>	<p>Sunday 24 December – Christmas Eve 10:00 St Mary's Spoken Holy Communion 15:00 Christ Church Derry Hill Carols and Crib 16:00 St Mary's Crib Service 18:00 Bowood Chapel Carol Service 21:00 St Martin's Bremhill Midnight Mass 23:00 St Mary's Midnight Mass</p>
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Today's Collect: God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion Collect: We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

Regular events:
Tuesdays
Church House SMUFs (St. Mary's Under Fives) *the next meeting will be on 9 January 2024*
Derry Hill (8 Barry Place) 19:00: Bible Study group hosted by Rachel Collins
Wednesdays
St Mary's church: 10:00 Holy Communion
Church House: 15:30 - 17:30 Wednesday Club for children aged 4-11. Term time only
Derry Hill church: 18:00 Meditation; 19:30 Handbells
Thursdays
Derry Hill church 10:30 coffee & chat **St Mary's church:** 18:30 – 19:00 Christian Meditation
Fridays
Bremhill Village Hall 10:00 coffee & cake **Derry Hill church** 14:00 Crafternoon
St Mary's church: 19:00 Choir Practice; 19:30 Bellringing

Other Notices:
Monday 18 December
St Mary's church 10:00 Springfield Academy Christmas Service
St Peter's church 12:00 We welcome the family and friends of Alice and Christopher who are to be married today
Tuesday 19 December
St Mary's church 09:30 Priestly School Christmas Service
Holy Trinity church 11:30 Funeral Service of the late David Trueman
Wednesday 20 December
St Mary's church 14:00 Marden Vale Academy KS2 Carol Service
Thursday 21 December
St Mary's church 14:00 Funeral Service of the late Antony (Tony) Trotman
St John the Baptist Foxham 18:00 Carol Service
St Mary's church 19:00 Blue Christmas Service
Saturday 23 December
St Mary's church 10:00 – 12:00 Rehearsal for the Crib Service

Thursday 21 December @ 19:00 in St Mary's Church – A Blue Christmas Service. The longest night - A gentle service of reflection, hope and healing. A time when we can, with others, acknowledge the 'blue' feelings we have at Christmas time, the reasons for them and offer them to God.
 In this time of prayer, candlelight and quiet music, we gather with neighbours and strangers. All are welcome.

Please pray for: Morcia Ankcorn, Ian Liddle and Debbie Smith

All those in need of God's healing.

Please pray for the family and friends of: Peter Howell, Val Stiles, David Trueman and Tony Trotman

All who have recently died; all who mourn the loss of a loved one; all whose anniversary of death falls at this time.

Pray too for:

The people of Afghanistan, East Africa, Haiti, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Morocco, Myanmar, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Syria, Turkey, Ukraine, Yemen and especially those who have become refugees because of conflict.

Israel & the people of Palestine in Gaza.

The victims of violence.

For those who have lost their homes because of natural disaster, extreme weather conditions or famine.

For those helping people and families in poverty.

We pray for all the children, young people and staff of our local schools.

Zoom morning prayer for the whole benefice is at **8.30am every Friday morning**. Click here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86707029064?pwd=MTlnaGM2bnNBRStYN3Q0Vi9STWxudz09>

Meeting ID: 867 0702 9064 Passcode: 123456

Today's readings are:

Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11

I Thessalonians 5.16-24

John 1.6-8,19-28

If you would like to receive a Gluten Free wafer at Communion please let the Churchwardens or priest know before the service.

Our Churches are open for private prayer:

Bremhill - daily from 09:00-16:00

Derry Hill – Tues-Sat 09:00 -16:00 and Sundays 12:00-16:00

Foxham – Sundays 11:00 – 16:00

St Mary's – Wed 11:00 – 13:00 and Fri 14:00 – 16:00

Ride & Stride. The event was held on 9th September, one of the hottest days of the year. Calne & Blackland Parish participants didn't visit many churches, because of the heat, but still raised £835.00. C&B has recently received from the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust certificates and cheques for £417.50.

Well done all those who took part and also their sponsors.

Contact us: Church House - 30, Church Street, Calne, SN11 0HU,

(Open – 09:00 – 13:00 on Mon., Weds., & Fri. only) Tel. 01249 816 522. (excluding bank holidays)

Email enquiries@mardenvale.org.uk

Web <https://www.mardenvale.org.uk> or <https://www.parishofcalneandblackland.org.uk/>

- Team Rector The Revd Caspar Bush Caspar.Bush@mardenvale.org.uk
Tel. 01249 914364 (Day off Monday)
- Team Vicar The Revd Teresa Michaux tmx256@hotmail.co.uk
Tel. 01249 817 841 or 07963 399 645 (Tues. - Fri. mornings only)
- Licensed Lay Ministers Enid Powell Tel. 01249 813 801 & Steven Colby Tel. 01249 819 097
stevenc@mardenvale.org.uk
- Church Army Sister Jenny Colby Tel. 01249 819 097
- Permission to Officiate The Revd Annie Church anniemchurch@gmail.com
Tel. 01249 490440 or 07789 778312.

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