

ST. MARGARET'S ILKLEY

NEWS SHEET Sunday, December 2ND 2018 ADVENT SUNDAY TODAY

The Christingle Service: Sunday, December 2nd at 4.00pm

The annual service of light for children and their families in aid of The Children's Society followed by a Children's Party in the Parish Hall

THIS WEEK

Tuesday, December 4th: Healing Mass takes place at 7.00pm.

Thursday, December 6th: **Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols** at 7.00pm, in partnership with H. Eaton & Sons. This will include an opportunity to sign a Book of Remembrance and light a candle in memory of loved ones for those who have been recently bereaved. Refreshments follow the service in the Parish Hall.

From Friday, December 7th the **Friday early morning Mass** will begin at a new time of **8.00am** (rather than 7.15am). Morning Prayer will continue to be said at 7.45am.

Friday, December 7th: The **organ recital at 12.30pm** will for once not be defined by Advent music (but do buy a copy of the Advent Organ Music CD if you haven't done so already – compiled from previous December recitals!) Just two works: Rheinberger's 1st sonata which is concise, tuneful and romantically grand; and the very joyful Dance Suite by Noel Rawsthorne, with its opening (and closing) march based on Ilkla Moor baht 'at! Christopher

Advent Retreat Day at The Briery

Friday 7th or Saturday 8th December (10.00am - 4.00pm)

Led by Fr Dennis Cassidy, The Advent Retreat Days will explore some of the teachings of the various schools of Spirituality. The day is open to anyone who would like the opportunity for a quiet and reflective day during Advent. Please book with The Briery Retreat Centre at 01943 607287 or briery@btconnect.com

NEXT SUNDAY

The **Young Persons' Breakfast** takes place at 8.15am.
St Margaret's Choir sings **Advent Carols at Fewston Church** at 3.00pm.
Said Evening Prayer will take place therefore at 6.30pm.

Next Sunday Fr Philip will interview Helen Pilling at the Family Mass and High Mass about her work with *A Bit of a Break*, the charity we will be supporting this year through our Christmas Appeal. *A Bit of a Break* gives people living with a palliative illness some space away. For more information please go to abitofabreak.com

NEXT WEEK

Wednesday, December 12th: ILKLEY PLAYHOUSE's December production is the traditional seasonal play ***Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens**. St Margaret's has reserved 10 seats for Wednesday, December 12th at 7.30pm. If you would like one of those tickets, contact Janet Kish (tel. 608612) before December 4th. Tickets will cost £10 each, payable on the night.

NOTICES

POSADA (Travelling Crib): The large figures of Mary and Joseph (from the church crib) are looking for families to stay with for up to a week during Advent. If you would like to have them in your home, please contact Catherine Gibson (01943 603967 or catherinegibson@uwclub.net).

Thank you to everyone at St. Margaret's who helped make Ilkley's first **Christmas Tree Festival** such a success. Many from St. Margaret's gave their time to prepare the church, set up each day, decorate trees, sing in our choirs, welcome visitors throughout the event and clear up at the end. It was a special occasion shared by many. We should have more details on how much was raised and which Christmas Tree was voted the best very soon!

Thank you to all who baked and bought at our Mission Fund Cake Sale which raised £189.95.

Financial Report October 2018

St Margaret's is a Stewardship Parish. Regular members of the congregation commit themselves to Planned Giving, through Bank Standing Order or Weekly Numbered Envelopes. If you would be willing to join one of these schemes or for further information, contact our Stewardship Secretary, Bethany Harrison, Tel. 07803 175080. The White Gift Aid envelopes to be found in the back of the seats are intended for the use of visitors. We very much appreciate receiving donations made in this way as we can reclaim a further 25% from the tax you have paid.

Our income from regular giving and collections in October came to £9,053 against our monthly budget of £10,167. The total giving to the end of October came to £97,124 against a budget of £101,667.

Thank you to all who give to enable St Margaret's to offer ministry and mission to our parish and beyond, to maintain the wonderful heritage of our church buildings and to finance the ministry of the church in materially poorer parts of West Yorkshire.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE: Thank you to all those who have already returned their stewardship response forms. We have so far achieved an increase of £343.96 per month (target £500 per month) from a 23% response rate. There is still time to return your forms and these can either be posted in the safe at the back of church or given directly to Bethany Harrison, Stewardship Secretary. For questions regarding any aspect of your giving, please contact Bethany directly on either 07803 175080 or harrison16bethany@gmail.com

WEEKLY NUMBERED ENVELOPES: Subscribers to the weekly numbered envelope scheme will find their boxes of envelopes for 2019 on the table at the back of the church. If there is anyone who would like to join the scheme and have a box of envelopes in 2019 please contact Bethany Harrison on 07803 175080 or harrison16bethany@gmail.com

Confirmation and Enquirers' Courses 2019

There will be a **Confirmation Course for young people** who are Year 6 (aged 11 in that school year) and older from September 2018 beginning in February. The group will normally meet on **Sunday evenings at 5.45pm – 6.45pm** in the Parish Hall. For more details please speak to Fr Philip (607210) and/or sign up on the list at the back of Church. Secondly, there will be an **Adult Enquirers' Course** for those who would like to know more about the Christian faith and, in particular, explore and ask those questions about Christianity which may interest or trouble you. The Enquirers' Course will be particularly suitable for the parents who attend our Family Service or newer members of our congregations. The Enquirers' Course will begin in February too and meet initially for five weeks. If you would like to know more please speak to Fr Philip (607210) and/or sign up on the list at the back of Church. There are quite a number of adults around the Family Service too who have experienced the course in recent years and its cuisine. Ask one of them to find out how great they found it!

Flowers for Christmas

Donations to decorate the church for Christmas will be gratefully received. Cash or cheques made payable to St. Margaret's PCC and placed in a flower donation envelope may be put in the safe at the back of church or given to Philippa.

Christmas Treats for Needy Families

At Playtime we are collecting items to make Christmas parcels for twelve needy families. These include single men and women, families with young teenagers, primary children and one baby girl. If you would like to join in, please give your gifts to one of the Playtime team on Friday mornings at Playtime or at Sunday services. The closing date is Sunday, December 16th.

Countdown to Christmas!

Buy your CHRISTMAS CARDS today following the Sunday services. £4.00 for ten cards and envelopes. Proceeds to the Development Fund. Cheques payable to *St. Margaret's PCC*. Thank you. Liz White (603275) and Val Banks (608947).

St M's Our Lady of Walsingham Pilgrimage 2019

A weekday pilgrimage lasting three nights is in its planning stages for the early summer time of 2019. We are looking for an estimate of the number of potential pilgrims to assist in planning of transport and accommodation to the shrine and so far there has been good interest shown. There will be a time for both religious devotions and also free time to look at the scenery and destinations in beautiful Norfolk. When secured, dates will be published for the trip. If you're interested please speak with either Richard Hilton (07447 903943) or Graham Fieldhouse.

DIARY DATES

Services for Christmas in the Residential Homes of our Parish

During the final days of Advent St Margaret's leads a service of Christmas Carols, Readings, Prayers, and the reception of Holy Communion in each of the residential rest and care homes in our parish. These are greatly appreciated by the residents, especially when they are also supported by members of our congregations. These are the dates for each of the services:

Monday, December 17th at 2.30pm: Homecroft

Monday, December 17th at 3.30pm: Abbeydale

Thursday, December 20th at 2.00pm: Troutbeck

Thursday, December 20th at 3.00pm: Straven House

Do please come and support as many as you can to offer our love and support to the elderly or vulnerable of our parish this coming Christmas.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2018

Sunday, December 23rd

**TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS
at 6.30pm**

followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies in the Parish Hall

Monday: Christmas Eve

CHRISTMAS EVE CRIB SERVICE at 4.00pm

followed by Mulled Wine/Juice and Mince Pies in the Parish Hall

FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS at 10.30pm

Tuesday: Christmas Day

Holy Communion at 8.00am

CHRISTMAS DAY PARISH MASS at 10.00am

*(This Christmas Morning Service will last around an hour
and is intended to be suitable for the whole St Margaret's family.)*