

## WELCOME TO OUR CHURCHES & SERVICES



28<sup>th</sup> December 2025 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas

### THIS WEEK

**Collect:** *Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

**Readings:** Isaiah 63:7-9 Matthew 2:13-23

**Hymns:** 43 Hark the herald angels sing

68 Unto us a boy is born

50 Jesus good above all other

42 Good Christians all rejoice

(all from blue Carol Book)

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

10.00am Holy Communion at Burwell

*Sorry no livestream this week*

### WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

**Mon** 7.30pm Bell ringing practice

**Wed** 10.30am Holy Communion at St Mary's  
(a slightly longer service for New Year's Eve)

**Frid** 10.00am Refresh Café at St. Mary's

**Sat** 9.00am Village Green Pray-ers  
11.00am Open House at Vicarage (till 12.30pm)

### SUNDAY WORSHIP – Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026

8.30am Holy Communion at Reach

10.00am Café Church at St. Mary's

### FOR YOUR PRAYERS:

- Christ, born in a stable, give courage to all who are homeless. Christ, for whom the angels sang, give the song of the kingdom to all who weep. Christ, worshipped by the shepherds, give peace on earth to all who are oppressed. Christ, before whom the wise men knelt, give humility and wisdom to all who govern. Christ, whose radiance filled a lowly manger, give the glory of your resurrection to all who rest in you. Jesus, Saviour, child of Mary, you know us and love us, you share our lives and hear our prayer. Glory to you for ever. Amen.

- We pray for all those affected by the shooting whilst attending the Hannukka celebrations at Bondi Beach, Australia. For the families and friends of those who have lost their lives, for the injured and all those traumatised by the events.

- We continue to pray for an end to the war in Ukraine. Be near to those who are anxious; bring comfort to all who are suffering.

- We pray for the peoples of Gaza and Israel, that a stable and lasting ceasefire plan may be secured.

- We pray for world leaders and those in positions of power. May they work for justice, peace, and the dignity of all people, especially the poor and marginalised. May they seek to serve rather than to be served.

- For the work of organisations helping families around the world to overcome poverty and injustice, wherever the need is greatest, and there is high risk of famine including: Myanmar, Haiti, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Yemen, Syria, DRC, South Sudan.

- We give thanks for the beauty of our world. We pray for people whose lives are destroyed by floods, heatwaves, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and other natural occurrences. Help us to care actively for this world, to take responsibility for looking after it rather than simply using and abusing it. We pray that world leaders, local governments and communities work together to protect our common home.

- For all those struggling in today's difficult economic situation. May adequate immediate provision be made available, and support to find longer term solutions, so that everyone has their basic needs met for food, shelter, employment and security. For national and international governments as they tackle the economic and social issues which affect them. May those in authority act with wisdom and justice to bring greatest good for the greatest number of people.

- We give thanks for the gift of community, a place where we can connect, support, and encourage one another. We pray for unity, understanding, and love among all members. Help us to see each other as your children, and to treat each other with kindness and compassion.

- For the new Archbishop of Canterbury elect, Bishop Sarah Mullally – for grace to fulfil this challenging role, for wisdom, discernment, humility and courage. For our leaders as the Diocese continues the process of choosing a new Bishop of Ely.

- For this parish, for Eleanor, Paula, Jo, Kevin & all in leadership. For our work with children, young people and families, including Refresh Café, Messy Church and Connect Café. For those involved on the teams, and for all who come along.

- For those living in:- Baker Drive, Ness Court, Ness Road, The Avenue (Burwell), Chapel Lane (Reach).

- For those in special need: Danny, Sarah, Jackie C, Neil, Janice, Sonny (Jackie & Tony's Great Grandson), Kate, Jennie D, John D, Joanne, Pam C, Michael (Ysanne's brother), Jackie L, Sue A, Daphne, Hilary, Paul (Alison K's friend), Lesha (Janice Fearn's granddaughter), Jessica, Stephen (Boppo), David K.

- For the bereaved including the family and friends of Phil Hudson (Paula's brother), Canon Jim Garrard (of Ely Cathedral) and for those remembering anniversaries of loss of loved ones.

### FOR YOUR ATTENTION

\* **Well done and thank you to all for the hard work** that went into the Christmas services – decorating, vergers and stewards, service leaders and preachers, musicians, choir, refreshments and tech.

\* **Thankyou** to everyone who contributed wine and mince pies towards the refreshments after the Carols by Candlelight, and to those who helped serve – it all went down a storm!! Val & Dick.

### PASTORAL CARE

Please contact Eleanor or Paula with messages about pastoral news, needs & concerns, requests for prayer. Revd Canon Dr Eleanor Williams 01638 741262

vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Revd Paula Spalding (Associate Priest): 07849 936085  
associatepriest@stmarysburwell.org.uk.