

This week's diary

Sunday 24th

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT CHRISTMAS EVE

8.00am Eucharist
10.00am Sung Eucharist
4.00pm The Blessing of the Crib and
Nativity Story
11.30pm Midnight Mass

Monday 25th

CHRISTMAS DAY

10.00am All-age Eucharist with carols and
visit to the crib

Tuesday 26th

S. STEPHEN

11.00am Eucharist

Wednesday 27th

S. JOHN THE APOSTLE

10.30am Eucharist

Thursday 28th

HOLY INNOCENTS

10.00am Eucharist

Friday 29th

S. THOMAS BECKET

8.30am Eucharist

Saturday 30th

9.30am Eucharist

Sunday 31st

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

8.00am Eucharist
10.00am Sung Eucharist
5.30pm New Year's Eve Devotion and
Benediction



THE ORBIT

WELCOME

to St. Edmund's
Sunday 24th Dec 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT CHRISTMAS EVE

Today's Services

8.00am Eucharist

10.00am Sung Eucharist

Setting: Thorne

Anthem: The Truth from above – English Trad

4.00pm Blessing of the crib & Nativity Story

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Please join us for refreshments in the Hall after the 10am service

Vicar: Father Michael Miller
vicar@saintedmundschurch.org.uk
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**Please take this home with you
for your reference and prayers this week**

orbit@saintedmundschurch.org.uk

Today's Readings

2 Samuel 7:1-11,16; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

People are sometimes puzzled by the emphasis placed on Jesus as 'the Son of David' in the Christmas story. What does the title signify?

The answer begins in today's Old Testament passage from 2 Samuel. King David toys with the idea of building a 'house' for God –that is, a temple in Jerusalem. God, however, turns the tables of David and promises instead to build a 'house' out of him –that is a royal dynasty based on him that would guarantee the future of Jerusalem and the kingdom based there.

After the Babylonians destroyed Jerusalem and deported its inhabitants the Jews retained a hope that one day, somehow, the dynasty of David would return to the throne. This is essential background to the angel's visit to Mary. Luke sets the scene by telling us that she is 'of the house of David'. In this coming King, the promise, so long held in obedience, will at last be fulfilled.

But as the letter to the Romans tells us, God has something altogether greater and more wonderful in mind than just another King on David's old throne.

For your prayers this week...

The sick: Amy Austin, Marianne Dawson, Barbara Fairclough, Bernard Fairclough, Kay Fletcher, Betty Glass, Iris Golding, Darren Hale, Saman Khan, Margaret Messenger, Suzanne Nicholls, Emil Pimm, Margery Richards, Joan Rix, Ian Roberts, Ros Shirran, Charlie Shirran, Fred Webb, Julie Windsor, Rachel Windsor, Nora Wood

Anniversaries of death: James Barnes, David Owen, Keith Turner

Notices

REVISED TIMES FOR EUCHARIST Please note that there are revised times for several of this week's Eucharist services. Tuesday's service will be celebrated at 11am and Wednesday's at 10.30am. Services from Thursday onwards will be as normal.

NEW YEAR'S EVE There will be a service of Devotion and Benediction for New Year's Eve next Sunday at 5.30pm.

NORA WOOD You may have spotted in last Sunday's Orbit an appointment for the Choir at Bushey Beaumont. What did this mean? It refers to the Bushey Beaumont Nursing Home, where Nora is a resident. Ann Hughes organised members of the Choir to go and sing to Nora, and other residents, last Monday. It was a great success. Nora was able to sit in a wheelchair and listen while the Choir, led by Mark, sang a selection of Christmas pieces. I would like to record my grateful thanks to Ann, Mark and all the others for their support. I shall remember it for a long time.
Bernard Wood

CALENDAR The current calendar of events can be found online at tinyurl.com/EdmundCalendar