

This week's diary

Sunday 31st	FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
8.00am	Eucharist
10.00am	Sung Eucharist
5.30pm	New Year's Eve Devotion and Benediction
Monday 1st	<i>No services today</i>
Tuesday 2nd	7.15pm Eucharist
Wednesday 3rd	5.30pm Eucharist
Thursday 4th	10.00am Eucharist
Friday 5th	8.30am Eucharist 6.30pm Evening Prayer
Saturday 6th	9.30am Eucharist
Sunday 7th	THE EPIPHANY
8.00am	Eucharist
10.00am	Sung Eucharist



THE ORBIT

WELCOME
to St. Edmund's
Sunday 31st Dec 2017

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Today's Services

8.00am Eucharist

10.00am Sung Eucharist

Setting: Thorne (Thorne Gloria)

Anthem: Love came down at Christmas – M.Archer

Hymns: 33, 39, 21, 40, 36

5.30pm New Year's Eve Devotion & Benediction

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

Vicar: Father Michael Miller
vicar@saintedmundschurch.org.uk
☎ 020 8866 9230

www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk

**Please take this home with you
for your reference and prayers this week**

orbit@saintedmundschurch.org.uk

Today's Readings

Isaiah 61.10-62.3; Galatians 4.4-7; Luke 2.15-21

Christianity lives within the wonder first sketched out by the prophet Isaiah. On the one hand there is the thrice-Holy divine Mystery beyond and among all creatures, all finitude, all time and space. And on the other hand, this governing and creating divinity redeems us as one of our own kind, as our own flesh and blood.

Paul's words to the Galatian Christians served to remind them that God's only child was sent at a time determined by God in order to redeem those under the law and to make men and women children of God. God's inexhaustible love and salvation are available to all in his Messiah.

Luke's account of the birth of Jesus closes with the response of three participants to this gift of salvation. First, there are the shepherds, who come and find the angelic sign verified: the infant Messiah lies in a manger. Second, Luke introduces a group of hearers, who are astonished at the shepherds report. Third, Mary 'kept with concern all these events, pondering them in her heart.' For Luke, Mary is a model disciple who interprets the events around Jesus' birth, and who lasts into his adult ministry and even into the Church.

Notices

THIS EVENING At 5.30pm there will be a service of Devotion and Benediction for New Year's Eve

CALENDAR The current calendar of events can be found online at [**tinyurl.com/EdmundCalendar**](http://tinyurl.com/EdmundCalendar)

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: Julie Cooksey, Winston Varcoe, John Hughes, Timothy Huckings, Mary Barkley