



'WHAT'S ON & PRAYER SHEET' December '21 - January '22.

**“Love one another... forgive one another... bear one another’s burdens...
pray without ceasing ... preach the gospel... don’t be ashamed.”
[John 13:34; Col. 3:13; Gal. 6:2; 1 Thess. 5:17; Mark 16:15; Rom. 1:16.]**

Coming Up:

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY:

Launch service Sunday 16th January '22 at 6.30pm at St Edmund’s Church, Westgate St. Bury St Edmunds IP33 1QG. Leader: David Bagstaff (St. Edmund’s RC Church), Speaker: Simon Harvey (St. Mary’s CofE Church). Daily prayer sessions at various churches each day from Mon. 17th – Sat. 22nd. 12.30-1.30. (Bring your own lunch).

CHURCHES TOGETHER MEETING Monday 31st January 7.30pm. at ‘Bridge Church’ (formerly known as West Road Church), West Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 3EW

Dates Ahead:

PRAYER MORNING: in February / March to be arranged, venue / ‘Zoom’ link to follow.

Good Friday UNITED WALK OF WITNESS EVENT in the morning of **Friday 15th April** starting at the **Cathedral**. Details to follow.

Churches Together SUMMER CELEBRATION in the **Abbey Gardens** in the afternoon of **Sunday 26th June**. Details to follow.

PLEASE PRAY FOR, AND SUPPORT, THE EVENTS LISTED ABOVE.

Give thanks for all the new things happening at cross-church neighbourhood level, and ‘on-line’, growth in numbers and faith, and the growth of the Kingdom of God.

HEALTH: Pray for the on-going control of Coronavirus, healing for those ill, comfort for those dying and those bereaved, and for those for whom restrictions still result in particular problems. Pray for the NHS, Vaccination programmes, Care-staff, and other key workers. Pray for local businesses and those who have lost their employment, home, relationships. Pray for those away from home.

PRAY for our government and for Parliament to have integrity, humility and wisdom, and for God’s guidance and over-ruling, and for peace and unity in our country, that as a Nation we will work together for the common good, and with mutual respect.

PRAY for countries where there is conflict, insecurity, hunger, and for refugees.

PRAY for our churches, for gospel outreach, pastoral care, and neighbourhood concerns, and Christian influence in national and local public life.

PLEASE CIRCULATE THIS SHEET IN WHATEVER WAY YOU CAN.

For more information about Churches Together see our web-site: Churches Together in Bury St. Edmunds and District. For regular information about activities join our google group (instructions are on the web-site).

Still many people in our churches say they don’t know about our activities – please recommend that they join the google group for themselves. HC.

Some Encouragements and Prayer Requests from Churches:

- **St George's (North Bury Team)**

We continue at St George's to try to encourage families to our services....

We will be holding a special service over the Christmas period to which families will be most welcome.

But please note that booking will be required.

The Chocolate Nativity and Crib service on Christmas Eve at 3pm.

Facemasks should be used as also the hand sanitizers, and social distancing will be in place.

Please book with Rev Val email valgagen@hotmail.com or phone 01284361963

- **Christ Church Moreton Hall** up-date:

Sunday 19th December 10:30 am Fourth Sunday in Advent Church Carol Service
4.00 pm Kids' Church Christingle Event

Friday 24th December 4.00 pm Crib Service (for young children and their families)

Sat 25th December 10:30 am Christmas Day Holy Communion

Sunday 26th December 10:30 am Boxing Day Service of Reflection

Our main Sunday services are online at <https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchMoretonHall/live/>

An Alpha course will begin in the New Year.

For information about this and all events at Christ Church see our website or email worship@ccmh.org.uk

- **West Road Church & Westley Community Church -> 'Bridge Community Church'.**

West Road Church and Westley Community Church have become one registered charity and Church as 'Bridge Community Church'. We will still retain both sites under this new church name but we will function together as Bridge Community Church.

- **The Churches Together Weekly Column in the Bury Free Press**

We would like to include more diversity in this weekly column. Please pray for, and actively encourage, people in affiliated churches to join the rota for writing this column. This is a good opportunity to bring the Christian message to our community. We ask for prayer for this, and action. Hold the pen, think, pray, write. Please let me know if you would be able to join the rota. Also thanks to Peter & Helen as editorial team. Also thanks to the BFP.

- **Cathedral.**



January 1st 2022 Start the New Year with some history, joining us for a New Year's Day guided tour. At 11 am on Saturday 1 January 2022 explore the Cathedral and hear the story of its history and development. The tour will last about an hour. Tickets must be pre-booked and cost £5 pp.

9 January 2022 Plough Sunday: St Edmundsbury Cathedral will mark Plough Sunday with the blessing of a tractor and plough. Choral Evensong at 3.30 pm, will include prayers led by the Agricultural Chaplain, Graham Miles. This year, the plough, (located by the Norman Tower), is kindly being provided by the Euston Estate. Everyone is welcome to join the service and blessing.

16 January 2022 Organ Recital: Olivier Messiaen's 'La Nativité du Seigneur, will be played by Timothy Parsons, Director of Music. It was written in 1935 when Messiaen was 27 years old and is in nine 'meditations' and was inspired by the birth of Christ. Starts at 6.00 pm. Free admission.

23 January 2022 Candlelight Epiphany Service, three revelations– the revelation of Christ to the Magi; the revelation of Jesus as the Son of God at His baptism; and the revelation of His glory in His first miracle at the wedding in Cana, the turning of water into wine. During the Epiphany service, we focus on the Crib, where incense is offered as a sign of our worship of Christ the Son of God; on the Font, commemorating His Baptism, when we reaffirm our own baptismal covenant; and on the Altar, as we give thanks for the transforming grace of the Eucharist, echoing the overflowing grace of God.