

COLLECT

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming
as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7:1-11. 16

A reading from the second book of Samuel.

Now when David the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you, David, that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom

shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

CANTICLE OR PSALM

Either **Magnificat (Luke 1:46b-55)**

Or **Psalm 89:1-4. 19-26 (or 89:1-8)**

R Truly the Lord is our shield.

My song shall be always of the loving-kindness of the Lord:
with my mouth will I proclaim your faithfulness
throughout all generations.
I will declare that your love is established for ever;
you have set your faithfulness as firm as the heavens. **R**

For you said: "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
"Your seed will I establish for ever and build up your throne for all generations." **R**

You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people:
"I have set a youth above the mighty;
I have raised a young man over the people.
"I have found David my servant;
with my holy oil have I anointed him. **R**

"My hand shall hold him fast
and my arm shall strengthen him.
"No enemy shall deceive him,
nor any wicked person afflict him.
"I will strike down his foes before his face
and beat down those that hate him. **R**

"My truth also and my steadfast love shall be with him
and in my name shall his head be exalted.
"I will set his dominion upon the sea
and his right hand upon the rivers. **R**

"He shall call to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the rock of my salvation;'" **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 16:25-end

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

To God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was

kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith – to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

GOSPEL Luke 1:26-38

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end. Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

POST COMMUNION

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised
saviour;
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your
holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Tru - ly the Lord is our shield.

SIGNPOST

the weekly newsletter of
St George's, Tuffley with St Margaret's, Whaddon
Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering,
'Growing God's Kingdom'

Welcome to all

As we celebrate the Christ Child may God's
blessings be upon each of you.

Diary Dates from 24th to 31st December

Sun 24	ADVENT 4 CHRISTMAS EVE		
	9.00am	St M's	Parish Communion
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion Crucifer: Roger Readers: Dot / Derek Intercessions: Sylvia C Coffee:
	1.15pm	St G's	Baptism of Seren & Noah
	2.00pm	St G's	Chill out at Christmas
	11.30pm	St G's	Christmas Communion
Mon 25	10.00pm	St M's	Christmas Family Communion
Wed 27	8.15am	Zoom	Morning Prayer
	3.30pm	MH	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm
Thu 28	10.30am	St M's	Parish Communion
Sun 31	CHRISTMAS 1 NEW YEAR'S EVE		
	9.00am	St M's	Parish Communion
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion Crucifer: Sylvia C Readers: Susan / Stuart Intercessions: Linda Coffee: Sylvia / Dot

St G's = St George's, St M's = St Margaret's,
MH = Main Hall of Centre.

Mother's Union

The annual subscription for Mothers' Union is now due. It is £35.00 per member (includes Roundabout) and the Branch Report form has to be submitted by January 22nd so members' payments should be made before or by our next meeting which is our AGM on January 9th, 2024.

Payments to be made to our treasurer, Geraldine Norrington. Many thanks, Sylvia Chamberlain (Branch Leader).

Intercessions

We pray for...

Laura, Angela, Margaret & Mark, Johanna, James, Peter, Janet, Hans, George, Jenny.

Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Carol Tarbox 30th

Anniversaries of Death:

Peter Barber, Michael Mumby, William Barber (priest), Brian Woodruff.

Hymns at St George's:

1. Angels from the realms of glory	36
2. Angel voices ever singing	37
3. Ave Maria / O Little Town of Bethlehem	508
4. Hark the herald angels sing	266

FOODBANK

Keep bringing items for the Foodbank on a Sunday. Collection point is the tray at the back of the Church. The Foodbank are in **URGENT NEED OF LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE, TINNED MEAT, PACKET MASH, DEODORANT.** Thank you.

Coughs and Sneezes spread diseases.

We will miss you, but if you feel unwell, please stay at home and protect your friends in the congregation.

The next issue of **Crossroads** our church magazine is due out towards the end of January 2024 the price will remain at 60p per copy and there will be 11 issues during the year. The annual fee will be just £5.00 for 2024, you will pay £6.60 if you buy your magazines each month, just saying! See Darrell to pay your magazine annually. Or of course you can read in online on our website.

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There is an answer phone in use outside of office hours.

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Email messages are monitored outside of office hours.

The Administration office is open on Wednesday to Friday 9.30am until 11.30am.

We are part of the Church in Tuffley

