

# Prayer & Worship

## 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Christmas Eve



**Theme:** Advent Book:  
The Meaning is in the Waiting by Paula Gooder

**Topic:** Mary - A lifetime of waiting

**Readings:** Romans 16:25-end; Luke 1:26-38

**Collect:** Almighty God, as we prepare with joy to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child, embrace the earth with your glory and be for us a living hope in Jesus Christ our Lord.

8.00am Early Communion

5.00pm Crib Service: Dress as your favourite nativity character!

11.30pm Midnight Mass, Traditional midnight Choral Eucharist.

### FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

**Our World:** Please pray for all those affected by the continuing conflict in the Middle East and the ongoing war in Ukraine.

**Church:** The Episcopal Church in the Philippines.

**Our Parish:** Thank you to Simon Quincy and everyone involved with the Basics Bank.

**Please pray for those who live and work in** Sarum Walk, Saxon Place, School Lane and Seaton Close.

**Departed:** Althea Swann; Michela Wreyford

### WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

#### Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December CHRISTMAS DAY

9.00am No Zoom Morning Prayer today  
[Click here for direct link to meeting](#)

Or from a landline phone: 0203 481 5240  
Meeting ID: 895 2990 2640 Passcode: 2020

10.30am Christmas Communion -STC  
12noon Christmas Day Lunch - STH  
By invitation only

9.00am Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> December  
Zoom Morning Prayer

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December  
Parish Office Closed  
9.00am Zoom Morning Prayer  
10.00am Poetry Corner - STC  
11.00am Holy Communion - STC

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> December  
9.00am Zoom Morning Prayer  
No Vistas Café today

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> December  
9.00am Zoom Morning Prayer  
10.00am Friday Fellowship Group

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> December  
9.00am Prayers for the parish: All are welcome to join the small group for a short time to pray for events and concerns of the parish.

### NEXT SUNDAY 31<sup>st</sup> December New Year's Eve

**Theme:** Advent Book: The Meaning is in the Waiting by Paula Gooder

**Readings:** Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Luke 2:15-21

8.00am Early Communion

9.15am Choral Communion

Refreshments from Church  
society

11.00am Life & Soul Informal Service

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January, 7pm: Nova Foresta Classical Players present "Cry of the Forest" and featuring Music of the Movies. Tickets available online from:  
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/nova-foresta-classical-players/cry-of-the-forest-music-from-the-movies/e-ormvby>

# News

## 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023

[www.lymingtonchurch.org](http://www.lymingtonchurch.org)

**Christmas Eve, 24<sup>th</sup> December:** Please note that there will be the usual service at 8am but no services at 9.15am or 11am. Join us for the **Crib Service at 5pm** or **Midnight Mass at 11.30pm**.

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December, 10.30am:** Christmas Communion; We gather to celebrate Christmas Day.

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December, 12.00 noon:** Christmas Day Lunch – by invitation only - STH.

**Foundation Governor Required:** Lymington CofE Infant School has two forthcoming vacancies on the governing body. This is a wonderful and rewarding way to contribute to the flourishing of children in our parish. If you are interested and would like to learn more about the role, please contact our vicar Lee Thompson for further details.

**Parish Office:** Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December.

**Advent:** Our chosen book for Advent is “The Meaning is in the Waiting” by Paula Gooder. Please consider buying through local or independent bookshops where possible. Also available on Amazon.

**Town Clock:** You may have noticed that the town clock is silent. The chimes are in need of repair and it will take some time to get them restored.

**Christmas Collections** will be distributed as follows:  
Crib Service, Christmas Eve: to the Bible Society  
Midnight Service, Christmas Eve: 50% to New Forest for Ukraine  
Christmas Day morning service: 50% to The Children’s Society

**Monday Lunch Club** returns on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January.

**Vistas Café** will be closed for two weeks over Christmas, reopening on Thursday January 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Pilates Class in the Hall** starting Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January. For further details contact Stephanie on 07949 183140.

**Free Saturday Club at St Barbe Museum and Art Gallery:** Open to 13 to 16 year-olds of all abilities, the Club starts on 6<sup>th</sup> January and runs every Saturday until 20<sup>th</sup> July from 10.00am -1.00pm. Details on the notice board.

### ***Christmas Appeals for the Holy Land:***

***Friends of the Holy Land***, an ecumenical Christian charity seeking to secure a resilient and enduring Christian community in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan, have launched a Christmas appeal – *Don’t Let Their Light Go Out*.  
<https://t.ly/ekiA8>

***Christian Aid*** has launched a Middle East Crisis Appeal here <https://t.ly/tBm7Q>

***Embrace the Middle East Gaza Crisis Appeal*** can be found here <https://t.ly/ljpR2>



Take a break from all the busy-ness to be outdoors and see wildlife. Soak up the seasonal sights on our doorstep – we’re spoilt for choice.

**Parish Office 01590 676194**  
**Open 9.30am to 11.30am**  
**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday**  
[office@lymingtonchurch.org](mailto:office@lymingtonchurch.org)  
**Revd Lee Thompson:**  
[vicar@lymingtonchurch.org](mailto:vicar@lymingtonchurch.org)