

# BULLETIN

Issued: 15 December 2023



**The Vacancy:** We are delighted to announce that Rev Leah Bates has been appointed as Rector of Fetcham, subject to DBS and medical clearance. She is currently Assistant Curate at Headley and Boxhill with Walton on the Hill and we are hoping that Leah and her family might be able to move at the beginning of April, just after Easter, but details are yet to be confirmed.

Leah writes: *"I am delighted to be joining the community at Fetcham with my husband Jonathan and our two teenage girls, Jocelyn and Zoë. Before training for ordination as a Priest, I was a musician, and still love making music and enabling others to do the same. Although we are moving from Headley, I grew up in Ashted, and we lived in Bookham for a few years when first married so we feel very fond of the locality. We are looking forward to making Fetcham our home, getting to know you all, and journeying together in faith and love."*

Please pray for Leah and her family as they prepare to join us.

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**Carols at The Bell – Sun 17 Dec, 6pm:** We are really excited to join the community in The Bell pub again this year for some good old fashioned carol singing. This was very well attended in the years before Covid, so be sure to arrive early to get a seat. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Crib Service – Sun 24 Dec, 4pm:** This is a lovely family-friendly service led by the St Mary's Families team and all ages are welcome to join us! We look forward to seeing you and joining together in worship.

**Midnight Service – Sun 24 Dec, 11.15pm:** Join us for our traditional Midnight Communion Service which starts at 11:15 pm and finishes on Christmas morning.

**Christmas Day Celebration – Mon 25 Dec, 10am:** All are welcome to join us on Christmas Day to celebrate Christmas!!! The service starts at 10am and will include Communion, the choir and informal worship.

**Youth Christmas Party – Mon 18 Dec, 7-9pm:** We're excited to have our Youth Christmas Party this coming Monday! It will be a super fun and festive evening with games, food, activities and lots of Christmas spirit! All are welcome in school years 7-13. Entry is £2 per person. Please sign your young person up via [www.stmarysfetcham.org.uk/youth](http://www.stmarysfetcham.org.uk/youth)

**Charity candlelit carol service -** What a joy it was to be able to highlight the important work of local charity, Sight for Surrey, sing carols together, listen to the Bishop of Dorking's Christmas reflection and enjoy good conversation and refreshments within the beautiful surroundings of Fetcham Park House. Our thanks go to everyone who made the evening so special.

**Heartfelt Thanks:** As another busy year at St Mary's comes to an end, we would like to send our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has served in some way in the life of our church. We wish you a happy and blessed Christmas and New Year and look forward to an exciting year ahead.



**Church Christmas Card:** It's not too late to sign the church Christmas card which you'll find in the church hall throughout the week. Why worry about which of your St Mary's friends you should send a card to? Sign the St Mary's Church Family Christmas Card instead. Featured is Byron, an apprentice mechanic from Nairobi's slums. St Mary's is the main contributor to the Apprenticeship Scheme run by Centre for Urban Mission. We want everyone at St Mary's to sign the card. If you want to, you can put in a few pounds to help fund more apprentices and the Homework Clubs in Kibera and other Nairobi slums. Thank you.

**Christmas Gift Campaign 2023:** You really have come up trumps, with our biggest ever haul of presents. Thank you so much! 44 children, whose parents are [CAP Mole Valley](#) clients, will have the best ever Christmas with lots of beautiful presents. Just over 40 vulnerable teenagers, known to Surrey CC will be opening lovely gifts of tokens, chocolates, bobble hats or beanies and more. 56 clients from [The Meeting Room](#) will be given presents from St Mary's. Lisa and Gayle say 'Thank you for the amazing amount of

A festive poster for a Youth Christmas Party. The title 'Youth Christmas Party!' is in large, bold, black letters. Below it, the date and time 'Monday 18th Dec 7-9pm' are written in red, followed by 'St Mary's Church Hall' in black. A small blue circle with '£2' is in the top right corner. The poster features illustrations of a Christmas tree, a snowman, and a reindeer. Text on the poster includes 'For School years 7-13', 'We're kicking off the Christmas holidays with an awesome evening of festive fun!', and 'There will be festive party games, activities, prizes, cosy Christmas vibes and Festive food such as hot chocolate and epic Christmas dinner baps!'. At the bottom, it says 'Please sign up by contacting Nathan on youth@stmarysfetcham.org.uk or head to www.stmarysfetcham.org.uk/youth for booking info'.

work and love put into this. We are truly thankful'. [B@titude](#) will be able to give their clients almost £300 in supermarket gift vouchers. Thank you to every single person who went and bought a beautiful gift, or sent us wrapping paper and tape, or who came and spent many hours wrapping presents. The response has been incredible and humbling.



**Cleaner:** Our cleaner cleans the hall on Monday morning and the church on Thursday morning. She is taking a well-earned holiday immediately after Christmas, returning mid January, effectively three weeks. Could you help us out or could you recommend a cleaner who could provide cover? Please get in touch with Corinne, 800885 or [corinne@stmarysfetcham.org.uk](mailto:corinne@stmarysfetcham.org.uk)

**Messy Church:** Wow, we have had an amazing year at Messy Church, ending with a bumper Christmas Service. Thank you for all the support, to families coming to the sessions, volunteers planning and helping at the Service. It has been an absolute highlight. With this in mind I would love to expand our team. You could help by helping to set up, volunteering in the kitchen, helping at the services or coming along to the Community Coffee Shop on a Thursday morning to prepare some crafts. If you think this is something you would like to help with. please speak to Hannah or contact her on [hannah@stmarysfetcham.org.uk](mailto:hannah@stmarysfetcham.org.uk)

**School Christmas Services:** This Christmas time we have welcomed visits from Fetcham Village Preschool, Fetcham Village Infant School and Oakfield Junior School. It has been lovely to combine them sharing songs from their Christmas productions whilst re telling the Christmas Story.

**Homemade Stall:** Thank you to everyone who has kindly donated to the homemade stall over this past year, or bought something from it. This year we have already managed to send £2,148, with more to be confirmed from the CollectTin payments received and from the St Mary's Church Family Christmas Card. The money goes to the Centre for Urban Mission, supporting Homework Clubs and Apprenticeships in Nairobi's slums.

Don't forget the stall will be having a well-earned rest in January, but will be back again in February, where we will have more goodies, crafts, valentine cards, spring bulbs etc. We would be enormously grateful for your contributions. Maybe a New Year's resolution could be to make us something every couple of months, or whatever works for you. Without your contributions the Homemade Stall will fold! As usual we will have a

**Christmas present amnesty:** if you are given a new Christmas present that you just can't find a space for, do bring it along and someone might like to buy it. This is the only time of year you can donate something that is not homemade. New presents only please. See you then!

**Second-hand bookstall** is going well and having it available throughout the week has increased sales from around £300/year to over £1000/year. Jigsaw puzzles have been an excellent addition, but the recent donations of CDs/DVDs/Games will not be continuing next year.

**Repair Café:** This new community event is launching on Sat 6 Feb 2024, and then the first Sat each month, 10am-1pm. The response to help has been wonderful, and it's not too late to join the Repair Cafe team. You can complete this [form](#) or speak to Julie Partridge or Richard Furze about how to get involved.



**Thursday Coffee Shop closed for Christmas break:** The Community Coffee Shop runs during school term time, 9 - 11:00am in the John Rumble Room (the back hall) at Fetcham Village Hall. It's a relaxed place to go for a hot drink and something sweet. Meet friends for a chat and make new ones. There's a small play area for babies and toddlers. We'll be back on Thurs 5 Jan and look forward to seeing you then.



**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity– 18-25 Jan 2024:**

Churches Together in Bookham are marking the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity by providing a daily opportunity to meet together for Bible reading and prayer. Meeting at 8.30am each morning for about half an hour, except on

Saturday when they will have prayers at 9am followed by croissants and coffee.

- +Thursday 18 Jan led by St Nicolas Church
- +Friday 19 Jan led by Bookham Baptist Church
- +Saturday 20 Jan. **9am** led by Eastwick Road Church
- +Monday 22 Jan **led by St Mary's Church Fetcham**
- +Tuesday 23 Jan led by St Nicolas Church
- +Wednesday 24 Jan led by Our Lady of Sorrows, Effingham
- +Thursday 25 Jan led by Bookham Baptist Church

Flyers are available at the back of church and church hall, or visit <https://stmarysfetcham.org.uk/whats-on/>

**Community Fridge and Coffee Shop closed on Mon 25 Dec and Mon 1 Jan:** Running every week (except Bank Holidays), 9 - 11:30am throughout the year, we will not be open on Mon 25 Dec and Mon 1 Jan, but will open again on Mon 8 Jan 2024.

## Other News

**Christians Against Poverty:** Do you know CAP Mole Valley is ten years old? St Mary's has been involved since the beginning, giving regular financial support. Jennie is manager of CAP Mole Valley and Sarah is our representative on the Steering Committee. Last Saturday we had a wonderful Christmas party, celebrating the ten years, with clients, past and present, befrienders, debt coaches, managers and the Steering Group. Some facts about CAP Mole Valley: Over £800,000 debt has been cleared in the 10 years. 58 clients have become debt-free. CAP Mole Valley has seen 248 referrals in that time and 12 people have responded to Jesus. There are currently 38 active accounts open. Jennie and Richard, (debt coach) have had full appointment books for 6 months and already have client appointments booked for next year. They also run the CAP Money Coaching Plus Course. Interested in getting involved? Do have a word with Jennie or Sarah.

**Midday Supervisor Fetcham Village Infant School:** Opportunity for a local person to look after the children at lunchtime. Hours of work are 12.15pm to 1.30pm daily. Term time only (38 weeks per year). Starting pro-rata salary and days to be worked to be discussed at interview. More info click [here](#)



**Brick appeal:** Fetcham Residents are offering a unique opportunity to have your family name engraved on a brick paver and laid in Fetcham's new Commemorative Gardens. Orders must be received by Sun 17 Dec 2023 so don't delay. To find out more visit :

<https://www.fetchamresidents.co.uk/news/commemorative-gardens-engraved-paver-order-form/>



Thank you to everyone who has donated food over the year. This week Foodbank wish list is as follows:

Tinned meat, Beans with meat, Instant mash,  
Instant coffee, Mayonnaise, Ladies deodorant,  
Shaving gel/foam, Sanitary pads, Hair conditioner

## Prayers

*We welcome you to join us at St Mary's for:*

**Monday Morning Prayers** : 8:00-8:30am

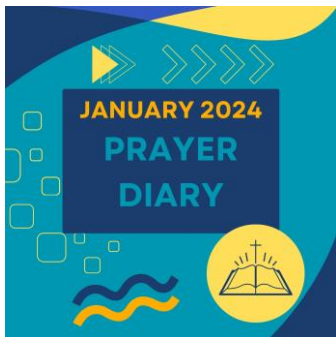
**Private Prayer in Church** : Monday to Saturday 9am -3pm

**Please pray for our new Rector** and her family as they begin plans to move to Fetcham.

**Guildford Diocesan Calendar of Prayer for December.** This month we pray for Farnham and Godalming Deaneries.

**We continue to pray for those who are unwell:** Chris Rickard, Henk Potts, Angela Potts, Barbara Grant, Dean Hammond, Matthew Aldrich, Fay Burroughs, Vera Cameron, Gillian Mills. John Cooper, Anais Featherstone and Elaine Mead.

**And those in residential care:** Sheila Bramwell, Jill Gray and June Williams.



### **Bible Reading Plan 2024:**

The Prayer Diary and Bible Reading Plan for January 2024 is available. To find the resources online go to <https://stmarysfetcham.org.uk/bible-reading-plan/>, or contact the Parish Office if you would like to receive the monthly plan with prayer diary, either by email or on paper. You are welcome to suggest topics for prayer to be included in the Prayer Diary. Please send suggestions to [office@stmarysfetcham.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarysfetcham.org.uk)

## Sunday Services

**8am Communion Service** : said Book of Common Prayer

**9:30am Communion Service** : sung Common Worship

**11:15am Worship Service** : informal with worship band

**Also, 10am Thursday** : Communion Service (monthly 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday)

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## Diary Dates

Sun 17 Dec – Carols in The Bell, 6pm  
Mon 18 Dec – Youth Christmas Party  
Thurs 21 Dec – Thursday 10am Communion & Christmas lunch (prebook)  
Sun 24 Dec – Crib Service, 4pm  
Sun 24 Dec – Midnight Service, 11.15pm  
Mon 25 Dec – Christmas Celebration, 10am  
Sun 31 Dec – Holy Communion Unsung, 9.30am: **(no 8am or 11.15am)**

## **2024**

Mon 1 Jan – No community Fridge/Coffee Shop  
Wed 3 Jan – Bereavement Café, 10:00 – 11.30am  
Sun 6 Jan – no homemade stall  
Fri 12 Jan – Messy Church, 3:30-5:30pm  
18-25 Jan 2024 – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity **(Mon 22<sup>nd</sup>, St Mary's)**  
Sat 20 Jan – Who Let The Dads Out?, 9-11:30am  
Sat 27 Jan – Afternoon Tea, 3-4:30pm  
Thurs 18 Jan – Thursday 10am Communion & Coffee Morning + Hear Hear  
*Thurs 25 July 2024, 2pm – St Mary's Golf Day – contact Brian Egles*

## **Weekly Regulars**

Monday – Community Fridge 10-11am (not open on Bank Holidays)  
Monday – Community Coffee Shop 10-11.30am (not open on Bank Holidays)

## **Running in Term Time**

Monday - The Drop-In (School Yrs 7-13) 4-5.30pm  
Tuesday – Youth Night (School Yrs 7-13) 7.30-9pm  
Thursday – Community Coffee Stop @ Fetcham Village Hall 9-11am  
Friday - Footprints Baby & Toddlers 10-11.30am  
Friday – Messy Church (all the family) 2<sup>nd</sup> of the month 3.30-5.30pm  
Sunday – Activ8 for under 11s and Sunday Youth for 11+ during 11.15 service





**St MARY'S**  
FETCHAM

## Christmas Services

<b>Sun 3 Dec</b>	<b>Christingle 4pm</b>
<b>Fri 8 Dec</b>	<b>Messy Church 3.30pm</b>
<b>Sun 10 Dec</b>	<b>Candlelit Carol Service 6.30pm</b>
<b>Thurs 14 Dec</b>	<b>Charity Carol Service 6.30pm</b>
<b>Sun 17 Dec</b>	<b>Carols in The Bell Pub 6pm</b>
<b>Sun 24 Dec</b>	<b>Crib Service 4pm</b> <b>Midnight Service 11.15pm</b>
<b>Mon 25 Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Celebration 10am</b>
<b>Sun 31 Dec</b>	<b>Communion Service 9.30am</b>



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### Keep up to date with St Marys:

Website: [www.stmarysfetcham.org.uk](http://www.stmarysfetcham.org.uk)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stmaryschurchfetcham/>  
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/stmarysfetcham/>  
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/StMarysFetcham>  
My ChurchSuite: [Log in](#)

**Hearing Aid Supplies:** contact Jacky on 01372 602092 or [family.breadmore@gmail.com](mailto:family.breadmore@gmail.com)

**Recycling – Milk Bottle Tops only** - Please do not leave plastic bags or crisp packets to be recycled. The people who used to collect them stopped taking at the start of Covid.

**Parish Office :** [office@stmarysfetcham.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarysfetcham.org.uk) 01372 375000 (Mon-Fri 9-12)

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