

St Bridget's, West Kirby with Caldy Church

Seeking to follow Jesus with open hearts, open minds and open hands

Advent Sunday 29th November

8am Holy Communion (traditional language)

livestreamed from St Bridget's

10am Holy Communion via Zoom

Storytellers will join the main service at the beginning and then move into their own

'breakout' groups.



Lectionary readings this Sunday

Isaiah 64.1-9 Psalm 80.1-8, 18-20 1 Corinthians 1.3-9 Mark 13.24-end

Prayer for the Week

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Books of Remembrance (29th November – 5th December)

St Bridget: David Utley, Margaret Russell Leslie Cook, John Vincent Shamus Murphy, Eric Philipps, Norman Frederick Ellison, Audrey Lightfoot, Stewart Jasper Marston, Jane Susan Bartlett, Iris Mary Scudamore, Ethel Kathleen Furmston, John Ernest Frederick Watt.

Caldy: Mary Coleran, Donald John Mitchell, Angelica Kathleen Kelly, Bryn Alwyn Jones,

Rosemary Kidman, Timothy Cyril Sturla.

RIP: Margaret Joyce Coles.

If you know of any parishioners who might need support because of illness, or bereavement, or any other reason, please let us know via the Parish Office on office@stbridgetschurch.org.uk or tel. 0151 625 2739.



The December edition of the Parish Magazine is out now in print and can also be read on the parish website at https://www.stbridgetschurch.org.uk/news/parish-magazine

DAILY PRAYER AT HOME



During lockdown we invite you to join us for Morning Prayer as we pray for our nation every weekday at **9am**.

Monday and Wednesday livestreamed on Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/StBridgetsChurchWestKirby

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday via Zoom

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnWftoWF4MhN7V-mgGGajnQ

Night prayer is livestreamed on Facebook at 9pm on Wednesday

There are prayer resources at: https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches/call-prayer-nation. We are asked to pray for the following particular needs

Monday especially praying for schools, colleges, children and young people

Tuesday especially praying for the elderly, isolated and vulnerable

Wednesday especially praying for businesses, the work place and economic wellbeing

Thursday especially praying for the NHS and other key workers

Friday especially praying for national and local government

PRAYER IN CHURCH

St Bridget's will continue to be open for prayer on Tuesdays and Fridays 2.30 – 3.30pm Caldy Church will be open for prayer on Sundays 11.30am – 12.30pm

APPS ON YOUR PHONE

Why not give an App a try for daily prayer? Here are three suggestions:

Pray As You Go

This is one you listen to, although the text is given if you want it. It lasts about ten minutes and is not a 'Thought for the Day', a sermon or a bible-study, but rather a framework for your own prayer. It combines music, scripture and some questions for reflection. There are numerous other helps offered on this App which are accessed from top left of the Home page.

Sacred Space

This is one you read. There can be background music if you prefer. It gives you something to read and pray through each day based upon a daily Bible passage. It's all done very nicely with short prompts on each 'page' that you move on from when you are ready.

Lectio 365

This is an App that you listen to (although the script of what is said can be easily brought up on screen) and follows a weekly theme based on scripture. Prayers and prompts are offered.

LIVESTREAMING!

Using livestreaming enables you to participate in worship from afar. We are trialling two ways of doing this. One is via our Facebook page, the other, on YouTube.

To watch on Facebook simply use this link https://www.facebook.com/StBridgetsChurchWestKirby And for YouTube use this link https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnWftoWF4MhN7V-mgGGajnQ 'Livestreamed' services can be accessed via Facebook or YouTube, not only as they happen but any time afterwards. This is something new for all of us, so please be patient!

ZOOM

The link for ALL parish Zoom events (worship, bible study and social events) is https://zoom.us/j/8301824880?pwd=SC9vRVNOZU5RVGdOcm56NDBCWmxNUT09

Meeting ID: 830 182 4880 Password: 0N9H4q If you are not online, you can still join in with the Zoom Communion service at 10am on your phone. To access a Zoom session via their landline phone please do the following:

Dial one of these numbers: 0203 481 5237 - 0203 481 5240 - 0203 901 7895 - 0330 088 5830 - 0131 460 1196 - 0208 080 6591 - 0208 080 6592

- When prompted for the meeting ID, dial 830 182 4880 followed by #
- When prompted for a participant ID press #
- When prompted for the passcode: dial 861382 followed by #.
- This will give you audio access. Although you won't see other people you will be able to hear the conversation and contribute verbally.

For further help please contact John Smith on 678 6201.

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH 2020??

Well you have guessed it – we can't offer this lunch in 2020, because of Covid restrictions ... BUT we do want to keep in touch with the many people who have come in the past and those who might have been looking forward to doing so this year. We are busy making plans to find different ways of keeping in touch and offering company. Please look out for more news in the parish magazine and next week's newsletter. In the meantime, if you want to know more or to offer your help or ideas then please contact Sally Cashen on jonesy@overcross.co.uk

A HOST OF HEAVENLY ANGELS

Can you help us fill our church with a host of heavenly angels? We have some angel templates which we would like anyone and everyone in our community to decorate and return to St Bridget's church so that we can create a heavenly host of angels which will go on to bear messages of hope in the new year when we distribute them. Angel templates will be available in the back of our churches from next week. Call or email us if you want to find out more.

RESUMING SERVICES IN CHURCH

As lockdown ends we are being advised that collective worship will be allowed again. At this stage we do not know about any additional restrictions. We have planned to resume services in church from next Sunday (6th December) at our usual times: 8am and 10am at St Bridget's and 10am at Caldy.

The Link Café Sales Table

We still exist. Thus far almost £2900 has been raised for the Enhancement Fund. Carole and John Steel are happy to help you overcome boredom by delivering to you second hand paperback books and jigsaw puzzles....for you to buy!!! We also have a very few beautifully made lined shopping bags. Every now and again Sally makes lovely cakes. If you would like to know when she has baked please contact us and we'll put you on the waiting list! Carole and John 625 1115.

Our thought for this week comes from John Smith – ADVENT HOPE!

This week we start a new year in the Christian church's calendar. It's that moment in the year to look back and to look forward. It's been a tumultuous few months for all of us, and none of us will emerge unchanged. Whatever these past few months have brought you, I hope you can share in the signs of hope for the year ahead. Our Christian faith is founded on the person of Jesus Christ, who brought hope, the promise of reconciliation and God's love to us all through his life, his death and his resurrection.

The Covid 19 pandemic has forced us all to change the way we relate to each other and how we do things together. Forced out of our church buildings for weeks at a time we have had to find new ways to worship and to support each other. We are so thankful to have the range of technologies now available to us. One of the challenges and signs of great hope in the months ahead will be 'taming' those technologies to help us to spread God's Good News.

We also have the great blessing of the arrival of our new Rector, Alex, to help us with new ideas, insights, experience and knowledge. She has already brought us live streaming, shared daily prayer, and an obviously warm and welcoming personality. Let us indeed move forward into the new year for the church full of hope, as we prepare to celebrate Christmas again, but no doubt very differently to how we have experienced it before.

Thank you John!

CONTACTS

Rector: The Rev'd Alex Williams 625 1052 <u>rectorwestkirby@gmail.com</u>

Assistant Priest: The Rev'd David Chester 625 8004

Churchwardens: David Wright 625 2389 and Gregory Buckridge 625 1636

The Parish Office in St Bridget's Centre is attended weekday mornings: 9.30am – 12.30pm

Monday to Friday. Messages can be left on tel. 625 2739.

Material for the website can be sent to: editor@stbridgetschurch.org.uk

We are committed to following Government and Church of England guidelines on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Our Parish Safeguarding Officer is Bethan Halpenny 07837 755214 bethanhc@live.co.uk

Website: www.stbridgetschurch.org.uk www.caldychurch.org.uk

Facebook: @ StBridgetsChurchWestKirby

Twitter: @StBandCaldy