

Please pray for

...all those who help with music and sing in the choir at **St Matthias**
...Fr. Jamil Khadir and the Anglican congregations in **Nablus** in the West Bank
...Christ's School and their students


...the sick and those in need - Ron Bond, Toby Vickers, Prem Barmi, Suné Hull, Kathryn Kirkland-Handley, Eileen Vickers, Nick von Berg, Frances Irwin

...the departed, may they rest in peace - Mary James

Please let us know if you would like to add someone to the prayer list - usually added for 4 weeks. Contact admin@richmondteamministry.org

Christmas Services cards are now available at the back of church—please take one for yourself and a street or two to distribute. Thank you.

Please note that **the Parish Office will be closed** from 5.00pm on Thursday 20 December to 9.00am on Wednesday 2 January 2019.

 **Today & this week**

Morning Prayer at St Mary Magdalene, 8.30am, Mondays to Fridays to start your day. **There will be no Morning Prayer from Monday 24 December to Tuesday 1 January inclusive.**

Evening Prayer at St John the Divine on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 4.30pm to end the day with quiet reflection. **There will be no Evening Prayer from Monday 24 December to Monday 31 December inclusive.**

We will be reading meditations by theologians and spiritual writers at our midweek Eucharists during Advent. This week's will be *A Disturbing & Disruptive Figure* by Michael Mayne. Each meditation will be followed by a short time of quiet reflection.

There will be no 11.00am service at St Matthias this Thursday, 20 December—The Vineyard School will be holding their Christmas Service at that time.

At the next meeting of the Book Club on Thursday, 20 December, 7.30pm we will discuss Baroness Orczy: *The Scarlet Pimpernel*

and Penelope Fitzgerald: *Offshore*. For more information please contact Cedric Lee - cedric.lee180@gmail.com

Festive Film Fun for children and young people – Saturday 22 December, 5.30-8.00pm in the Vicarage Basement. Pizza, popcorn, prayer, festive jumpers, games and Christmas Film. Names to Helen beforehand please.

 **Coming Up**

Posada – The knitted Holy Family is now making its way around the Parish. May they be a blessing to all the homes who host them and all the people it brings together.

Please note that there will be no **midweek Eucharist services** from 6.30pm on Tuesday 25 December to Tuesday 1 January inclusive.

 **Pre-school/adult groups**

Our pre-school/carer and toddler group **Eaglets** meets on **Tuesdays 2-4pm**, St John's. The last session of Eaglets before the Christmas break will be this Tuesday, 18 December, returning on 18 January.

The **ABC Group** for Adults, Babies and children is now taking a break.

  **Various** 

Can you help with Christingle making after the 9.30am services on Sunday 23 December at St Mary's and St Matthias—please stay for half an hour to help.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

A services card is available at the back of church

St John the Divine

Sunday 16 December, 4.00pm: Children's Nativity & Christingle*
Monday 17 December, 7.00pm: 'Blue' Christmas
Saturday 22 December, 4.00pm: Carol Service: Words and Music for Christmas*
Christmas Eve, 11.00pm: Midnight Mass
Christmas Day, 10.30am: Christmas Morning Eucharist

St Mary Magdalene

Sunday 16 December, 6.30pm: Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols by Candlelight
Christmas Eve, 3.00pm: Christingle Service; 5.00pm: Christingle Service; 11.30pm: Midnight Mass
Christmas Day, 8.00am: Holy Communion; 10.00am: All Age Eucharist with Carols

St Matthias

Sunday, 16 December, 6.30pm: Carols by Candlelight*
Christmas Eve, 4.00pm: Christingle Service; 11.30pm: Midnight Mass
Christmas Day, 8.00am: Holy Communion; 10.00am: Christmas Morning Eucharist

* *Festive refreshments following service*

Please pray for all the staff and students of our local schools that visit our churches for their Christmas services: Kings House School; Deer Park School; Old Vicarage School; Falcons School; Vineyard School.

Thanks to the SevenUp children who prepared five gift boxes for Glass Door guests. We used donations and shoeboxes provided by the congregations (**thank YOU!**). It was really helpful to do our own anonymous giving for those in need, especially in the light of St Nicholas, whose story we shared!

Although **Revd Anne Crawford's** recovery from knee surgery is progressing well, unfortunately she has picked up a virus and will not be back for a few more weeks. In the meantime contact Revd Wilma Roest or the St Matthias Churchwardens.

The Christian Meditation Group is now taking a break—more details in due course.

Glass Door - new volunteers are always welcome. Please contact Alex Millbrook for more information and to sign up—

alexandramillbrook@gmail.com

Emergency Food Box at St Mary Magdalene—for those in urgent need of food we have a box at the back of church. If you would like to donate food, please feel free to do so. Items should be non-perishable and easily consumed without the need for a tin opener or cooking equipment. Thank you.

The Vineyard Foodbank urgently need to replenish their food stocks and need the following (in order of need): UHT milk (1 litre); Long life fruit juice; Sugar; Mashed potato (packet); Rice; Tinned fruit/puddings (400gms); Tinned meat; Coffee; Jam/marmalade; Breakfast Cereals. These can be dropped off at the Vineyard (M-F 8.30-11.00am) or in the boxes at Waitrose (Sheen Rd) / Sainsburys (Friars Style Rd). Thank you

Thank you to everyone who donated shoeboxes and their contents for Glass Door guests. We've been delighted by your generosity. A special thank you to those who have spent their time packing and checking each of the boxes.