

## PRAYER BOARD

<b>Our churches</b>	Please continue to pray for the <b>Christmas Services and Carol Singing</b> our churches are involved in with our schools, pubs, shops and care homes. We pray that the message of your good news will be heard this Christmas across the benefice. Please pray also for <b>Noah Old</b> , being baptised this Sunday at StA and for our friends at <b>Trinity Methodists</b> in Elmstead, who StAL are joining in with worship this morning.
<b>Our Communities</b>	Please pray for <b>the children</b> in their busy run up to Christmas in school, for all their Nativity plays, Santa breakfasts and Christmas parties. Please pray also for <b>families</b> struggling in all sorts of ways this Christmas and for children who will not experience the loving family time we would hope for them.
<b>Our Deanery &amp; Wider Church</b>	From our Deanery Prayer Diary, please pray for <b>St Michael's, Thorpe-le-Soken</b> and their Vicar, Father Jeremy. Please give thanks to for <b>the appointment of Father Justin</b> as Vicar to St James' Clacton and St Christopher's Jaywick.
<b>Our World</b>	Please pray for <b>CAP</b> and the work they do in helping families in debt. Especially at this time of year we pray for all those feeling the pressure to spend money they haven't got.



**Looking the other way is not an option**

*The costs of running our three churches are met by the giving of the church members either by direct debit or by putting their contribution into the boxes/plate that are by the doors in each church. There will be no collection during the services. Guests are guests so please, if you are visiting today, do not feel you have to contribute, but if you would like to, then of course please do – and thank you!*

**Our vision: TO DRAW CLOSER TO GOD AND EACH OTHER SO THAT WE MAY MORE ABLY BRING HIS LOVE TO THE WORLD**

Rector: Rev Pauline Scott 823163 rector@alresfordchurch.net  
Curate: Rev Pauline Hart 826318 curate@alresfordchurch.net

Church Wardens:

StA	Mrs Wendy Wilson	825040
StMM	Mr John Jinks	255060
	Mrs Lynora Ramsey	250614
StAL	Prof. Andy Downton	250288



If you would like someone to pray for you at the end of the service, please ask one of the prayer ministers, who can be identified by the praying hands badges.



St Andrew's  
Alresford  
www.alresfordchurch.net

St Mary Magdalen  
Frating with Thorrington  
www.thorringtonchurch.net

St Anne & St Laurence  
Elmstead  
www.elmsteadparishchurch.org

## Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2017

StMM: John 1:6-8&19-28, StA on screen, StAL on sheet

- 9.30 am StMM Morning Prayer** (Pauline Scott)  
**10.30 am StAL Joint Service @ Trinity Methodists** (Pauline Hart)  
**11.00 am StA Morning Worship** (Pauline Scott)  
**3.00 pm StA Nativity Rehearsal**  
**5.00 pm StMM Carol Service** (Pauline Scott)  
**5.00 pm StAL Carol Service** (Pauline Hart)  
**6.30 pm StA Carol Service** (Pauline Scott)

### Mid-week diary (in church unless otherwise stated):

*Morning Prayer is at 9.00 am each day in StA Sanctuary*

- |     |                  |          |   |
|-----|------------------|----------|---|
| Mon | 18 <sup>th</sup> | 1.45 pm  | Scramblers (U5s & Carers) in StA Hub    |
|     |                  | 3.15 pm  | Razmatazz in StA Hub                    |
|     |                  | 7.30 pm  | Prayer for the McCanns in StA Sanctuary |
| Tue | 19 <sup>th</sup> | 10.00 am | Prayer Group in StA Sanctuary           |
|     |                  | 10.30 am | Bumps 'n' Babies in StA Hub             |
|     |                  | 2.00 pm  | Knit 'n' Natter in StA Hub              |
|     |                  | 7.30 pm  | Home Group in StA Sanctuary             |
| Wed | 20 <sup>th</sup> | 9.00 am  | Morning Prayer @ StMM                   |
|     |                  | 2.00 pm  | Pilgrim Group in StA Sanctuary          |
|     |                  | 7.30 pm  | Bell Ringing Practice @ StMM            |
|     |                  | 7.30 pm  | Home Group @ 22 Station Road            |
| Thu | 21 <sup>st</sup> | 9.00 am  | Communion in StA Sanctuary              |
|     |                  | 9.45 am  | Sing & Sign in StA Hub                  |
| Sat | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | 4.00 pm  | Nativity Rehearsal @ StA                |

## Next Sunday – Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2017

- 9.30 am StMM Morning Prayer** (Sarah Wright)  
**10.00 am StAL Morning Prayer** (John Harper)  
**11.00 am StA Morning Worship** (Sarah Wright)  
**3.30 pm StA Nativity** (Pauline Scott)  
**5.00 pm StMM Christingle** (Pauline Scott)  
**5.00 pm StAL Crib Service** (Pauline Hart)  
**10.00 pm StMM Holy Communion** (Pauline Scott)  
**11.30 pm StAL Holy Communion** (Pauline Scott)  
**11.30 pm StA Holy Communion** (Pauline Hart)

**Welcome!** If you are a visitor please make yourself known to the rector and/or sides persons. After the service **refreshments** are served - please do join us.



# NOTICE BOARD

## NOTICES FROM PAULINE SCOTT

### **Advent Candle Lighting Prayer for 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in ADVENT**

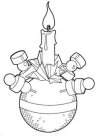
A candle burns, the sign of our faith.

**God of the prophets, Come to us again this Advent.**

**May your Word be a lamp to our feet And a light on our path.**

### **Carol Singing round the Pubs & Shops:**

Thanks to everyone who came along to support these! A very positive atmosphere all round.



**Last Christingle!** Christmas Eve 5pm at StMM – let's hope for better weather!

### **Carols by Candlelight Sunday December 17th**

St Mary Magdalen Thorrington at 5pm

St Anne & St Laurence Elmstead at 5pm

St Andrew's Alresford at 6.30pm

Please do invite friends & neighbours.

### **Carol Singing at the Care Homes:**

Thursday 21st December 11am at Silver Springs

Thursday December 21st 2pm at Quenby

Please do come along if you can to make these special events for the residents.

**Children's Nativity Christmas Eve 3.30pm at St Andrew's.** Rehearsals are on Sunday 17th at 3pm and Saturday 23rd at 4pm – both times for an hour. Can parents pick up scripts today please and help the children learn their parts? We'll work out costumes at the first rehearsal. If anyone has 'grown out of' costumes, please could we have them to add to our stock?

Cook needed for **MESSY CHURCH!** Simple food for variable numbers of adults & children once a month on a Friday at St Andrew's – food is served at 5.30pm. Please let me know if you're interested.

St Anne & St Laurence are replacing their **loose wooden pews** (not the box pews!) with upholstered chairs. If you'd be interested in buying a pew (more than one design) they are £250 – please let me know.

**Confirmation:** There will be a Confirmation Service at StA with Bishop Roger on Sunday June 10th 2018 at 10am. It is a wonderful opportunity to make the baptismal promises for yourself that were perhaps made for you as a child. Please let me know if you're interested or would like to know more.

**CAP Money Budgeting Course:** The next course will run Mondays evenings 22 and 29 Jan, then 12 Feb at 7.30pm in StA's Sanctuary. Please speak to Andrew Scott or myself if you want to know more or to book a place. Please also let friends & family know about this – the course is very much recommended for making the best and most responsible use of the money you have (and I've done the course!).

**Mid-week Morning Prayer & Communion at STA & STMM:** These are cancelled from 25th December & will restart on 2nd January.

## OTHER NOTICES

### **TOILET TWINNING FOR ST. MARY'S**

To celebrate the completion (or in anticipation of the completion) of the installation of a toilet at St Mary Magdalen we are hoping to twin our toilet with one in the third world. The offering at our Carol service will go to this cause. Toilet Twinning is run through Tearfund and their work includes community development work and education around personal hygiene. If you would like to help us celebrate our building work show our appreciation for our own new toilet please then all contributions would be welcome. *Pauline Hart*

### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES UPDATE**

111 filled shoeboxes (from church, school & village) are on their way to disadvantaged children in Europe, the first stop being the depot in Sudbury. Please pray for 'our' boxes and for the children who will receive them. Many thanks for making a difference in their lives. *Allan & Zanne Friston*

### **CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**

To all my church family, may you know his peace and joy at Christmas and throughout the coming year. *Derek South*

Wishing all our church family a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year. *Phil & Lyn Bull*

Pauline and Steve wish everyone in each of our church families much love and peace this Christmas. We will be making a donation to the Friends of Marsabit, one of our link dioceses in Kenya that I visited last year. *Pauline Hart*



Our churches are fitted with induction loops. Hearing aid users are advised to switch their aids to the "T" setting.

Items for the next Notice Sheet to **Phil Bull** by **6 p.m. on Thursday** at the latest please, either via the website or **phil@pcjbull.force9.co.uk**