

**St. Mary's Church Woughton on the Green**  
Part of the Woughton Ecumenical Partnership  
[www.woughton.org](http://www.woughton.org)

**Christmas Services at St. Mary's**

**December 18**

10.00 am Word and Worship with Christingle  
6.00 pm Carol Service

**December 24**

11.30 pm Christmas Eve Holy Communion

**December 25**

10.00 am Christmas Day Holy Communion

**2023**

**January 1**

10.00 am New Year's Day Holy Communion



*Christmas Greetings  
to you all  
from  
St Mary's Church  
Woughton on the Green*



*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given  
Isaiah 9 vs. 6*

Dear Friends

It seems a long time ago since we sent out our last newsletter, when Covid disrupted life somewhat. But we are back and we are progressing. A few things have changed, mainly the times and formats of the services.

Time away from the church helped us to experiment on different ways to worship and Zoom very much helped us to maintain regular services and meetings. Whilst the last two to three years have been a challenge it has given us an opportunity to re-assess the needs and wishes of the church and congregation.

We have reduced our 8.30am service to one a month. This has had a very positive result in that the 8.30am and 9.45am congregations worship together and share fellowship at the new time of 10.00am on most Sundays in the month.

I am very pleased to say that attendance has grown. We have welcomed several new families and six candidates recently received Confirmation. Importantly, Junior Church has made a welcome return during the 10.00am service and we hope that more children and their families will join us.

Please come and worship with us on a Sunday morning either for traditional Holy Communion at 8.30am on the first Sunday of every month or at 10.00am every Sunday for either Holy Communion or a modern worship service.

We look forward to seeing you for our Christmas services. The dates and times are on the back page of this newsletter.

A very Happy Christmas to you all.

Rev Paul Norris

[Paul@woughton.org](mailto:Paul@woughton.org)

## **St. Mary's Church Events and activities 2022 to date**

**June:** The church was open to visitors and help was given to Old Woughton Parish Council at the Platinum Jubilee celebration in the Hotel grounds

**July:** Afternoon Cream Tea was held with support from the local community. Proceeds went to the church audio/visual equipment fund

**October:** A serious water mains pipe leak in the churchyard was repaired by Anglian Water. Final tidying up of the very wet site has been delayed.

Coffee morning held in aid of Macmillan Cancer.

**November:** Inspection and remedial work carried out on the large cedar tree following the fall of several branches. Permission from Milton Keynes Council is required for more safety work to be done.

Electrical fittings have been replaced in the kitchen and bulbs changed to LED.

New service books were produced in house and have been in use since Easter.

Walking for Health Groups are welcomed regularly for post walk refreshments.

**Winter Welcome:** A joyful event led by the Woughton Community and supported by and held in the church. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet up with friends old and new. There was plenty to amuse and delight those who came. The magnificent sum of over £1,200 was raised for the Audio/visual Fund.

**Junior Church:** Takes place at 10.00 every Sunday in church. The programme includes Bible stories, games, quizzes, prizes and craft activities.

**Bell ringing;** Regular service ringing continues. Bells were rung to mark the Proclamation of King Charles III. They were also rung half muffled for the Queen's funeral and the Remembrance Sunday service held at the war memorial.

**Churchyard:** The churchyard is now in hibernation for the winter. 2022 has seen a definite move towards creating a balance of 'wild' areas and the regular shorter cut areas around the church and Garden of Remembrance.

**Our sincere thanks to all who have contributed in any way to these varied and successful activities.**