#### Worship this Month in our churches:

St Paul's, Tadley:

| Date:                    | Sunday Services                           |
|--------------------------|---|
| Sun 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec | 10am - Benefice Holy Communion Service    |
| Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan  | 9am Holy Communion (Steve)                |
|                          | 10.15 Café Worship (Steve)                |
| Sun 14th                 | 10:00 Messy Christmas (Steve and MC team) |
| Sun 21st                 | 9:00 Holy Communion (Rob)                 |
|                          | 10:15 Morning Worship (Rob and Sally)     |
| Sun 28th                 | 9:00 Holy Communion (Steve)               |
|                          | 10.15 Holy Communion (Steve and Chris)    |

#### St Luke's, Pamber Heath:

| Wed 3rd  | 10:00 Holy Communion (Cathy) |
|----------|------------------------------|
| Wed 10th | 10:00 Holy Communion (Cathy) |
| Wed 17th | 10:00 Holy Communion (Cathy) |
| Wed 24th | 10:00 Holy Communion (Cathy) |
| Wed 31st | 10:00 Holy Communion (Cathy) |

#### St. Marys, Tadley:

| Date:                    | Sunday and Wednesday Services  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Sun 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec | 10am - Benefice Holy Communion Service                                     |
| Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan  | 10:00 Midweek Holy Communion (Charles)                                     |
| Sun 7th                  | 10:30 Worship for all (Chris)  |
| Wed 10th                 | 10:00 Midweek Holy Communion (Charles)                                     |
| Sun 14th                 | 10:30 Holy Communion (Cathy and Charles)                                   |
| Wed 17th                 | 10:00 Midweek Holy Communion (Charles)                                     |
| Sun 21st                 | 9:00 RISE (Chris, Steve and the RISE Team)<br>10:30 Holy Communion (Steve) |
| Wed 24th                 | 10:00 Midweek Holy Communion (Charles and Steve)                           |
| Sun 28th                 | 10:30 Holy Communion (Karen)   |
| Wed 31st                 | 10:00 Benefice Midweek Holy Communion (Charles, Steve & Paddy)             |

### St Mary the Virgin, Silchester:

| Sun 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec | 10am - Benefice Holy Communion Service                       |
|--------------------------|--|
| Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan  | 8:00 BCP (Karen)   |
|                          | 10:00 First Sunday Worship (Karen and Em)                    |
| Sun 14th                 | 10:30 Holy Communion (Karen)                                 |
|                          | 15:30 Stillness on Sunday (Eve)                              |
| Sun 21st                 | 10:00 Morning Prayer / Morning Worship (Karen, Colin and Em) |
| Sun 28th                 | 10:00 Holy Communion (Cathy)                                 |

Please keep this sheet for reference and check for updates via email. Like our Facebook pages: @St.Marys.Tadley | @stpaulstadley | @silchesterchurch or go to our websites: <u>https://st-marys-church-tadley.org.uk/</u> <u>https://www.stpaulstadley.org.uk/</u> https://www.silchesterchurch.co.uk/



# **January Newsletter**

## Our Clergy and LLMs

| Rev Steve McKay  | Tel: 07759 151576 revstevemckay@gmail.com      |
|------------------|--|
| Rev Karen West   | Tel: 07525 494025 <u>revkarenw24@gmail.com</u> |
| Rev Chris Knight | Tel: 07443 726962 revdchrisknight@outlook.com  |
| Rev Cathy Pynn   | <u>c.pynn@btinternet.com</u>                   |
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|                  |  |

For many of us, the new year signals a new start, and this year that includes our benefice. We have appointed Virge Routledge to be our new benefice Administrator from January 2024. More about this great appointment inside.

Firstly, we end December with a benefice service at St. Mary the Virgin in Silchester at 10am 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 where Rev Karen will be using the Wesley Covenant prayer. This is a powerful way of pledging ourselves in God's service. You may want to say it each day during January.

I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you, Praised for you or criticized for you. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and fully surrender all things To your glory and service. And now, O wonderful and holy God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, you are mine, and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, Let it also be made in heaven. Amen

You may also find yourself making a few New years resolutions. These are always easier to keep if you have friends around you to spur you on. Included in this newsletter are some great ways that you can get involved in Church life and our local community.

If you are trying to discern what God is calling you towards in 2024 do have a chat with any of the clergy or church leaders. There is a range of programmes run by the diocese to support lay and ordained ministries and lots of events in our churches and community that need your help. **Thank you** - to everyone who helped make our Christmas services so special. Thank you to the Christchurch Players cast and crew headed up by Mike and Tina Absolom for such a brilliant pantomime last month. Thank you to Esther Redpath, Sandy Phelps and all who spearheaded the first community get togethers at St. Paul's last month (another is scheduled on Jan 15<sup>th</sup>) Lastly thank you to Nancy Leyland whose knitting raised £150 for St, Mary's.

## Coming up:

**Benefice service** – ok this is actually the 31 December 23 – but it doesn't hurt to have a reminder just after Christmas! Join Rev Karen at St. Mary the Virgin, Silchester at 10am on 31<sup>st</sup> Dec as our parishes join together.

**St. Paul's Monthly get-together.** After a wonderful morning in December, the next morning takes place from 10am on 15<sup>th</sup> January. Everyone is welcome why not bring a friend or neighbour along for fellowship, food, and friendship. If you would like to help with the event speak to Esther Redpath or Steve

**CTAT Unity Service** – This will take place at 3pm on 21st Jan at St. Mary the Virgin, Silchester. Do come along and celebrate all the good that CTAT has done together over the past year.

**CTAT AGM –** Takes place on Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Feb at St. Paul's, Tadley 7pm for refreshments for 7:30pm start.

# Introducing our new Benefice Administrator

We are delighted to let you know that following interviews Virge Routledge has been appointed as our new Benefice Administrator. The role has been discussed for many years and will free up time for clergy to focus on mission rather than administration. Virge comes to us with a wealth of experience in many areas. She currently worships at St. Michael's in Basingstoke and as well as being a past Church Warden has led in many areas of church life. Virge will be with us for 15 hours a week on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday supporting all three of our parishes. Please don't use verge as an excuse to 'down tools.' Many of you already contribute in significant and valuable ways to our parishes. While we hope that Virge will pick up many aspects that help our churches run, 15 hours is not a lot of time to do this! To ensure Virge is working in areas that will grow our parishes and is not overloaded any tasks for Virge will initially be passed via Steve who will be monitoring her workload. This new appointment will take some adjustment for all of us, but we are excited by God's provision for us and give thanks that Virge is willing to step forwards and help us.

# Can you help? - As we kick off the new year is one of your resolutions to get more involved in our churches or our community.

**3Cs Café** - The popular 3Cs café that is run by CTAT and hosted by Tadley Common Methodist Church - Could you spare 2 hours one Thursday afternoon just once a month to help serve hot drinks and chat to those that come?

## Can you help? - Opportunities to get involved (Continued)

Would you like to be our benefice **Missions representative?** Over the years the Tadley Parish has partnered with the Church Mission Society to support and pray for missionaries who are called to work across the world, often in the poorest countries where Christians are oppressed. Our Current Mission Partners Tom and Verity are about to return to the UK, so this is a great time for someone to help PCCs choose new partners as a benefice. Could you the person who helps chose our new mission partners, prays for them, helps to raise money for them, and updates our congregations on their progress. This is a really rewarding role in which deep friendships can be formed across the world. Do speak to Steve if this interests you.

**Working with Schools** – Would you like to be trained as a reader or mentor? Could you help with assemblies once a month? Speak to Revs Steve, Chris or Karen if you would like to help out in any of our local schools.

Home groups - If you are interested in joining a homegroup see the list below

**Giving** - It costs over £90,000 per year to run each of our parishes. (That's more than £500 per person who attends) Giving has declined, but our costs have increased. To keep our buildings open we need your help! Please consider using January as a time to renew your giving to God and this community. The Parish Giving Scheme is a great tax-efficient way to give. There is information about this scheme in all our churches. Thank you to everyone who regularly gives back to God time, talents, and money.

## **Regular events and Home Groups:**

Mondays – Christian Medication Group (Eve Baker) Silchester St. Paul's monthly get together – next date Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Jan

Tuesdays – Home Group (Andrew Cobb) Pamber Heath Prayer Group (Myles Ridley) St. Pauls / Tadley

**Wednesdays -** Worship at either St. Luke's or St. Mary's, Tadley from 10am each Wednesday. St. Mary's also has a café that is open from 8:30. The Wednesday Weeders meet outside St. Mary's from 10am for good coffee, gardening, and friendship

Living Word – Online homegroup. (Andrew Thompson)

- Thursday St Luke's Coffee Morning from 10am Home Group (Myles Ridley) 7:30pm Tadley
- Friday St. Luke's Toddler Group St. Luke's from 10 11:30am term time Home Group (Cathy Pynn) 4pm Pamber Heath

Every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday from Midday – Pub lunch in the Pelican, Pamber Heath.

**Sunday - Stillness on Sunday** at St Mary the Virgin Silchester will run at 3:30pm on the second Sunday of January, February and March 2024. From April 2024 the service will revert to 6pm.