



## ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, HAMSTALL RIDWARE

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4451/>

**December 19<sup>th</sup> 2021 : 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent**

### PARISH NOTICES

**Please note** that St Michael's will be open on more days than usual over the Festive Season. It was noticeable last year that many people wanted to visit both church and graves in the churchyard at a difficult time. We are now in the middle of another similar spike in coronavirus case and so it seems a good idea to respond appropriately. The dates are as follows:

Friday December 17<sup>th</sup>, Saturday December 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday December 19<sup>th</sup>.

Wednesday December 22<sup>nd</sup>, Thursday December 23<sup>rd</sup>, Friday December 24<sup>th</sup> and Christmas Day

Sunday December 26<sup>th</sup>, Monday December 27<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday December 28<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday December 29<sup>th</sup>,

Friday December 31<sup>st</sup> and Saturday January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Sunday January 2<sup>nd</sup> and Monday January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

On these days – subject to any unforeseen circumstances – the various gates and the church itself will be open between 10 am and 4 pm.

**Rugeley Food Bank.** Please do remember those who depend on Food Banks. They are needed now just as ever. If you wish to donate directly to Rugeley Foodbank at Rugeley Community Centre the Centre is open everyday to receive contributions. Alternatively, the Rugeley Food Bank welcomes financial contributions – see <https://rugeley.foodbank.org.uk>

Gifts can also be brought to church when there is a service or left in the porch at 17, Lichfield Road, Hamstall Ridware WS15 3QG. All gifts welcome and will be taken to the Rugeley Foodbank each Tuesday.

<b>UNITED BENEFICE SERVICE ROTA</b>				
	<b>Hamstall Ridware</b> St Michael and All Angels	<b>Kings Bromley</b> All Saints	<b>Mavesyn Ridware</b> St Nicholas	<b>Yoxall</b> St Peter
<b>December 19<sup>th</sup></b> <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>4 pm</b> <b>Carol Service</b>	<b>9.00 am</b> Holy Communion	<b>5 pm</b> Carol Service	<b>7 pm</b> Carol Service
<b>December 24<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Christmas Eve</b>		<b>4.30 pm</b> Crib Service	<b>8 pm</b> “Midnight Mass”	<b>3 and 6 pm</b> Crib Services <b>11.30 pm</b> Midnight Mass
<b>December 25<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Christmas Day</b>		<b>10.00 am</b> Holy Communion		<b>10.00 am</b> Parish Eucharist
<b>December 26<sup>th</sup></b> <b>St Stephen</b>	<b>10.30am</b> United Benefice Holy Communion St Michael and All Angels, <b>Hamstall Ridware</b>			
<b>January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2022</b> <b>Epiphany</b>	<b>10.30am</b> United Benefice Holy Communion All Saints, <b>Kings Bromley</b>			
<b>January 9<sup>th</sup> 2022</b> <b>Baptism of Christ</b>		<b>10.30am</b> Parish Eucharist	<b>9.00 am</b> Said Communion	<b>10.30am</b> Parish Eucharist

Epiphany 1			
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**CAROLS  
BY CANDLELIGHT**

ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH  
HAMSTALL RIDWARE

SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021, 4PM

Come and join our celebration

- ◊ Carols and readings in church from 4pm
- ◊ Carols in the churchyard (Shepherds' story) – approx. 4.30pm
- ◊ Carols round the crib at the church gate (story of the Wise Men) – approx. 4.45pm

Followed by mulled wine & mince pies at the pub from 5pm. Face coverings to be worn in church – bring a torch!

**New Coronavirus Regulations** are in force and it is a legal requirement that face coverings be worn at all times in churches – unless you are exempted.

We are hoping that this will not interfere too much with our Carol Service and it is certainly the intention at the moment to go ahead with our service on Sunday December 19<sup>th</sup>. All those concerned with the governance of the church will be keeping things under review to make sure that everyone is as safe as possible.

We are hoping for a repeat of last year's fine weather which will allow us to have as much as possible of the service out of doors so that everyone can feel safe.

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**United Benefice Service at Hamstall Ridware – 10.30 am St Stephen's Day, Sunday 26th December.**

Come and find out why we celebrate the first Christian martyr straight after the birth of Jesus.

Don't wear your best clothes: wear your warmest clothes.

Please feel free to bring blankets and hot water bottles if you want.

I will have hand-warmers tucked in all my pockets!

Everyone is welcome, *Deborah*

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**Revd Deborah would like to wish everyone in the parishes a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a hopeful New Year.**

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**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

*The families of all those who have died recently* in their grief and sorrow at a time of great loss to them which will be enhanced as we approach the great Christian festival of Christmas.

*Those who are sick:* Mary Mycock, Barbara Smith, Kathleen Leawood, Brenda, Angela Perkin, Doug, David and Barbara Rudge, May Windley and Pam Payne.

*Those who live and work* in the Nursing, Care and Retirement homes in the villages both in and near the parishes of the United Benefice.

*For a proper and considered response by all to the recent emergence of the Omicron Variant* so that all may face the winter with a degree of security

*For us all* as we prepare to welcome Christ into our lives afresh at this Christmas time

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**From the Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary:**

*'In this Advent time of heartfelt expectation, may we be reminded that the Incarnate God comes to us in our lostness, bringing joy and hope in the midst of darkness.'*

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup>:**

We pray for Lichfield Deanery, for Rural Dean Revd Janet Waterfield, Assistant, Revd Lynn McKeon, and for all those in positions of leadership within the deanery; giving thanks for the Shaping for Mission Team, for their time, vision, commitment and discernment; that the churches in the Deanery may engage in all aspects of the churches' mission to proclaim the good news of Jesus. We pray for those parishes in interregna: Christ Church Burntwood, St John the Baptist Hammerwich, St Giles Whittington, St Mary's Weeford, St Bartholomew Hints, and St Michael's Lichfield, praying especially for those who have taken on additional responsibility within their churches. We pray that our churches may be effective witnesses during this Christmastide, that people may encounter God in new ways, inviting Him into their hearts.

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*Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. If you have any concerns please speak in complete confidence to the Parish Safeguarding Officer Dr Paul Carter 01889 504347 or the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser Mr Neil Spiring 01543 306030.*