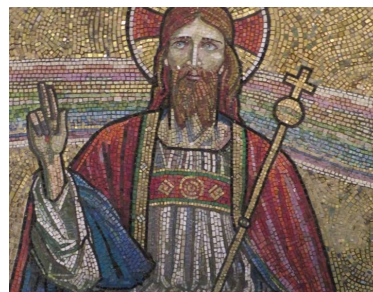

Wilton Parish News



WINTER 2019



Welcome to the last edition of 2019! Inside you will find times of all our Christmas services.

The beginning of December is also the beginning of the Church's year and of Advent - with four Sundays of preparation before Christmas.

Advent is a season of hope - of expecting and longing for God's love and truth to break into our lives and show us the way forward to something more.

Whatever your faith, may you be blessed with hope - this Advent, this Christmas and beyond.

Contacts:

*Rector: The Revd Mark Wood,
Tel. 01722 742571 (not Saturdays)
Email: rectorwilton@gmail.com*

*Parish Secretary:
Mrs. Christine Matthews
Tel. 01722 742393
Email: wiltonpcc@btinternet.com
Mondays 11-12:
Wednesdays and Fridays 10-12*

ADVENT SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER

Services at:
8.00 & 10.45 - Parish Church
9.30 - St Catherine's

CAROL SERVICES: Wednesday 18th DECEMBER

7.30pm - Parish Church

Sunday 22nd DECEMBER

6.00pm St. Catherine's

CHRISTMAS EVE: 24th DECEMBER

Services at:
4pm & 11.30pm - Parish Church

CHRISTMAS DAY: 25th DECEMBER

Services at:
8.00 & 10.45 - Parish Church
9.30 - St Catherine's

THE EPIPHANY: 5th JANUARY

Services at:
8.00 & 10.45 - Parish Church
9.30 - St Catherine's

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Ramblings from the Rectory

This Christmas, in common with churches up and down the country, our congregations at Wilton and Netherhampton will be swelled by many who worship with us only occasionally - visitors staying with family or friends, and many who come just to "re-connect" with the traditions and "story" of Christmas.

And, it seems, no matter how certain or sceptical our beliefs may be, there is an enduring power in this story of the Christ-child - the story of the God who loved (and loves) his creation so much that he chose to become part of it; to bring new meaning to a world of senseless violence and greed; to bring fresh direction to a world confused by power struggles and competing visions of the future; to bring about the regeneration of the world, not by the spectacular antics of some "Marvel Superhero", but by the gradual transformation of individual hearts and minds, from suspicion and distrust of others to understanding and acceptance, from fatalistic despair to trust in the ultimate goodness of God's purposes, from the darkness of deception to the light of truth.

In many ways this seems as much a story for our times as it was for those who encountered Jesus in the flesh, 2000 years ago.

I invite you, then, to **come and engage with this story again** during our Christmas celebrations. Perhaps join us for one of our **Carol Services** - to hear the story afresh, in words and music; perhaps the simplicity of our **Christingle service** on the afternoon of Christmas Eve (suitable for young and old alike); or soak up the "atmosphere" of beauty and holiness at **Midnight Mass** - as Christmas Eve turns to Christmas Day.

However you choose to do so, you are welcome to come and explore the message of Christmas with us.

Mark Won

The Bible Book Club

*"Love books? Love book clubs?
Welcome to Bible Book Club!"*

"Engaging with the story" is very much the aim of this new venture. Meeting in small groups, many of us will be reading John's Gospel, during December, and then coming together to talk about the things that we've discovered along the way.

If you might like to take part please get in touch for details of times/locations available.

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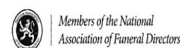
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What's on?

Something new for you?

As well as our new "Bible Book Club", with monthly meetings beginning in December, we can offer a number of opportunities to get involved:

- in our **Parish Choir** (adults) - Thursday evening rehearsals;
- in our team of **Altar servers** (adults and young people age 8+);
- in our team of **Ringers** - Monday evening practices;
- in our team of **Sidespersons** - ensuring our services run smoothly;
- in our team of **Church Guides** - welcoming our many visitors;
- in our **Churchyard teams** - meeting periodically to tame excessive growth!

For information on any of these, please enquire via the Parish Office.

Confirmation 2020

'Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?'

Preparation (for young people and adults begins in January. If you think it might be time for you to follow through the promises made, in hope, at your baptism, and to affirm your own place within Christ's Church, then do consider going forward for Confirmation (whatever your age). For more information please contact , Rev. Mark Wood (tel. 742571).



Services at St. Peter's

Thursdays 11.00am

Holy Communion

12th December

16th January

13th and 27th February

Young at Heart!

Our "Seniors' group" meets on some Fridays at Wilton Community Centre, from 2.30 – 4.00pm

6 December

17 January

7 February

21 February

*Tea, cake and good company!!
A variety of topics and activities.*



CHRISTMAS 2019 TRADITIONAL SERVICES

**ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH,
NETHERHAMPTON**

Sunday 22nd December

6pm – Carol Service

A traditional service of "Lessons and Carols"

**WILTON PARISH CHURCH,
WEST STREET, WILTON**

Wednesday 18th December

7.30pm—Carol Service

With Choir, organ and orchestra.

Followed by seasonal refreshments

CHRISTMAS EVE: Tuesday 24th December

11.30pm MIDNIGHT MASS

Atmospheric First Eucharist of Christmas,

timed so that we receive Communion

just as Christmas day begins.

Formal service with robed choir and servers.

Candles and Incense are used at this service.

CHRISTMAS DAY: Wednesday 25th December

8.00am – HOLY COMMUNION



CHRISTMAS 2019 FOR ALL THE FAMILY

WILTON PARISH CHURCH



CHRISTMAS EVE: Tuesday 24th December
4pm – Christingle Service

*An informal start to our Christmas celebrations -
with Christmas Carols and songs for all ages.*

CHRISTMAS DAY: Wednesday 25th December
10.45am – Christmas Eucharist

*An “all-age” celebration of Holy Communion.
Children (and “big kids”) are invited to
bring a present to show us!*



ST CATHERINE’S, NETHERHAMPTON

Wednesday 25th December
9.30am – HOLY COMMUNION

*A “Prayer-Book” celebration of
Holy Communion, with Carols.*



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2020 Vision!



2020 marks the 175th anniversary of our Parish Church!

During the year there will be a variety of celebrations, including a large number of concerts - featuring local music groups, such as the Salisbury Chamber Choir; returning favourites, such as the Cambridge Renaissance Voices; rising young professionals, including "The Haydn Collective"; Salisbury Festival Events and many more! Details to follow...

It will also provide a useful "springboard" for our thoughts as we consider how the building can best meet the needs of worshippers, the wider community and its many visitors today.

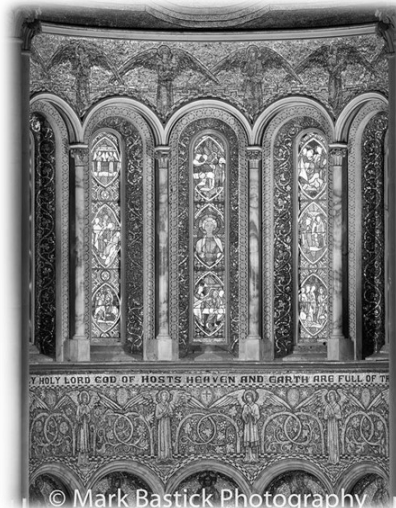


And so, a little history! Known formally as The Parish Church of St. Mary and St. Nicholas, Wilton - and informally as the "Italianate Church" - the building was designed in the Romanesque style, derived from Tuscany.

The inspiration and funding came from the Hon. Sidney Herbert and his mother, Ekaterina Woronzow, Dowager Countess of Pembroke. The church reflects their eclectic tastes and contains many fine, salvaged pieces from across Europe.

Built between 1841 and 1845, the architects were T. H. Wyatt and D. Brandon. Even now, it is an unusual building for an English market town - even more so in 1845! Recognised as a "Major Parish Church", due to its historic and architectural significance, it is attracting an increasing number of tourists to our town.

The mosaics, among the most striking features, were in fact later additions - added between 1908 and 1946 by Gertrude Martin, whose work can also be seen in Westminster RC Cathedral and the Houses of Parliament!.





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Church Services

St. Mary & St. Nicholas, West Street, Wilton

Sundays

8.00 am Holy Communion

(1st Sunday of the month at St. John's Priory)

10.45 am Sung Eucharist

Monday - Saturday

9.30am Morning Prayer

St. Catherine's, Netherhampton

First and Third Sunday of the month:

9.30 am Sung Matins

Second and Fourth Sunday of the month:

9.30 am Holy Communion

St. Peter's, Fugglestone

As advertised:

Holy Communion - some Thursdays at 11.00am

Evensong - some Sundays at 6.00pm

St. John's Priory Chapel, Shaftesbury Road

Wednesday, 10.30 am Holy Communion *(followed by coffee)*

First Sundays only - 8.00am Holy Communion



*Whether you visit us as a pilgrim or tourist,
whether you are confident in your faith,
curious to know more, or just plain sceptical -
you will always be welcome in our churches.*



EVENTS



Friday 6th December
(St. Nicholas' Day)
TREELIGHTING & NATIVITY
Wilton Market Square
6.30pm

*Switch on of Christmas lights,
by Councillor Ivan Seviour,
followed by the "Nativity" with
children from Wilton CE Primary School
and singing led by Wilton Town Band.*

Saturday 14th December
CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA!
Wilton Parish Church
2.00-5.00pm

*A selection of Craft Stalls
and refreshments on sale.
Live music while you browse!*

***Come and find that last minute gift
- or treat yourself!***



Sunday 5th January 2020
EPIPHANY PROCESSION
& SUNG EUCHARIST
10.45am

*A service of celebration and
re-dedication for the New Year*

***'After the birth of Jesus, magi from the east came to find him
and, entering the house, they opened their treasure chests
and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.'***

