

Welcome to The Great Grimsby Team Ministry

Sunday 24th December 2017 Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve

2 Samuel 7.1-11,16 • Magnificat • Romans 16.25-end • Luke 1.26-38

8am	Holy Communion	President <i>Canon Andrew Dodd</i>
10.30am	Parish Eucharist	President & Preacher <i>Canon Andrew Dodd</i> Reader <i>Joan Date</i> • Intercessor <i>Chris Daniel</i>
3pm	Crib Service	Officiant <i>Canon Andrew Dodd</i>
11pm	Midnight Mass	President & Preacher <i>Reverend Katherine Farrell</i>

St Hugh 9.30am Eucharist	St Mark 9.30am Eucharist	St Martin 11.00am Eucharist
President <i>Rev Mark Hutson</i> Reader <i>John Foulds</i> Prayers <i>Sheila Harrop</i>	President <i>Rev Katherine Farrell</i> Hymns 580, 182, 137, 759.	President <i>Rev Katherine Farrell</i>

Monday 25th December Christmas Day

Isaiah 52.7-10 • Psalm 96 • Hebrews 1.1-4 • John 1.1-14

10am	Festival Eucharist (United Service)	President & Preacher <i>Canon Andrew Dodd</i> Reader <i>Rob Lockwood</i> • Intercessor <i>Chris Daniel</i>
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Next Sunday 31st December 2017 First Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 61.10-62.3 • Psalm 148 • Galations 4.4-7 • Luke 2.15-21

8am	Holy Communion	President <i>Rev Mark Hutson</i>
10.30am	United Parish Eucharist	President & Preacher <i>Rev Katherine Farrell</i> Reader <i>Margaret Ambler</i> • Intercessor <i>Ken Richardson</i>
6pm	Evening Prayer	

Forthcoming services in our churches

24 th December Christmas Eve	25 th December Christmas Day	31 st December Christmas 1	7 th January Epiphany
Minster As above	Minster As above	Minster 8am Holy Communion 10.30am United Eucharist	Minster 8am Holy Communion 10.30am Eucharist 6pm Choral Evensong
St Hugh's 6pm Crib Service	St Hugh's United Service Minster	St Hugh's United Service Minster	St Hugh's 9.30am Extended Communion
St Mark's 6pm Crib Service	St Mark's United Service Minster	St Mark's United Service Minster	St Mark's 9.30am Eucharist
St Martin's 6pm Crib Service	St Martin's United Service Minster	St Martin's United Service Minster	St Martin's 11am Eucharist

Thought for the week



President Trump reversed decades of American foreign policy when he recognised Jerusalem as capital of Israel, and announced plans to move the US Embassy there. Egypt proposed a motion in the UN Security Council condemning this action. It was carried 14-1 but the USA vetoed it. This is a reminder of the division that is still a reality in the Holy Land. It is news that was greeted with joy by the Israelis and with horror by the Palestinians. It is a reminder that what is

good news to one person is bad news to another. The holy land has for centuries been a place of conflict and Bethlehem continues to be place of tension and hostility. It is exactly into that situation that God comes to us, as Jesus, not in the comfort and warmth of our own home, but in a place which challenges our understanding of peace. It remains a challenge to discern what a Christian understanding of the peace process in the Middle East really is.

Every time you enter or leave your home this week, thank God for your home and pray for peace of Israel and Palestine.

Church Services & Parish Meetings this week

Tuesday 26th December *St Stephen, First Martyr* **Bank Holiday**

Wednesday 27th December *St John, Apostle and Evangelist* - **Church Closed**

Thursday 28th December *The Holy Innocents*

11am Holy Communion, Grimsby Minster (Lady Chapel)

Friday 29th December *Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury*, - **Church Closed**

Why not have a go at this week's Word search

A	B	Y	M	E	L	C	H	I	O	R	R	E
B	D	E	L	B	A	T	S	L	A	A	E	S
S	I	V	D	L	E	O	N	Z	T	R	H	N
A	S	R	E	J	O	S	A	S	T	E	R	E
N	G	G	C	N	O	H	O	S	P	E	T	C
T	N	Y	O	M	T	S	A	H	G	I	J	N
A	I	B	R	L	Y	M	E	N	T	E	R	I
C	K	A	A	S	T	R	A	P	S	A	C	K
L	A	B	T	S	D	M	R	U	H	T	O	N
A	B	R	I	G	H	O	S	H	O	L	Y	A
U	M	R	O	O	R	E	E	D	N	I	E	R
S	H	E	N	L	E	S	N	I	T	A	R	F
C	R	I	S	D	S	Y	R	A	M	I	N	G

CHRISTMAS TREE
DECORATIONS
HOLLY
REINDEER
TINSEL
MANGER
BABY
JOSEPH
JESUS
SHEPHERD
KINGS
STAR
STABLE
SANTA CLAUS

ADVENT
CAROLS
ANGEL
CRIB
HOLY
NOEL
MARY
BALTHAZAR
MELCHIOR
CASPAR
GOLD
FRANKINCENSE
MYRRH





Bishop Christopher's Christmas message

Each year Christmas brings us the classics in terms of music and movies. Some come back year after year, while of late it has become quite a thing for department stores, airports and chemists to produce their own Christmas adverts. There seems to be almost

a competition each year to present a view of the world, to tell a story that catches the magic of Christmas. The adverts can also help us to focus on the actual story of Christmas that is about hope rather than Christmas cheer.

The advert that caught my eye this year was from the House of Fraser. Set to the 1970s song from The Staple Singers, the words ask 'Who took the merry out of Christmas?' The slogan resonated with me because, with all the challenges we face as a nation and the issues some of us face at home or at work, Christmas can be a pretty grim time. For many there is no such thing as a picture perfect Christmas. There is little chance to be merry.

For example, the Jo Cox Commission on Loneliness reminded us recently that many people in our land suffer physical and mental symptoms from enforced loneliness. We could all take more notice of our neighbours, particularly if they live alone.

The advert encourages fun at Christmas and ends on an upbeat note by telling us to 'put the merry back into Christmas', and I want to endorse that.

For a Christian, the merriment of the season is not so much from the consumer goods that these adverts are designed to draw us towards. The merriment comes from a gift that is not found under the tree all wrapped up but rather comes from the love that God has for each one of us, expressed in the gift of his son, Jesus Christ. Through Jesus we have the beginning of our way back to a friendship with God and love for those around us. Secondly, through this gift we can begin to build a community at a local, national or international level that is marked by love, justice and peace. We are then able to have a genuinely merry Christmas.

So as you view the Christmas adverts that tell a story of Christmas, take time out from the consumer story to reflect on the gift that brings hope. God through Jesus comes to share our lives, which is not a few days of merriment but something that is much more profound.

I wish you a hopeful and a peaceful Christmas.



St Mark's, Laceby Rd
Sunday 24th December

9:30am Eucharist

6pm Family Crib Service



St Martin's, Sutcliffe Ave
Sunday 24th December

11am Eucharist

6pm Family Crib Service



St Hugh's, Haycroft St
Sunday 24th December

9:30am Eucharist

6pm Family Crib Service



#GOD with US

The Parish Office will be closed over the Christmas Holiday
and reopens on Wednesday 3rd January.

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