

## Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>

Remember **our clergy, leaders and staff** today. Mark, Ben, Nat, Chris, Sara, Leanne and David. It's not easy to juggle the needs of family and the church. Pray that they won't get stressed but that they can enjoy the run-up to Christmas even though it's busy. Thank God for them and ask the Lord to bless their family times too.

## Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>

**St Margaret's Primary School is looking for** a new Governor. In this day and age when so few children are exposed to the Christian message it's important that someone with an interest in education, a strong faith in Christ and willing to make a real contribution to the development of this school be appointed. Pray that the Lord will call such a person and be open to God because that person could be you!

## Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>

It's Christmas Eve! At the **Nativity Services** people of all ages (0-99) are invited to come in the costume of their favourite Nativity character. As shepherds, Inn keepers and wise men mingle, ask the Lord to help everyone celebrate the good news.

At **Midnight** there will be a **Communion** service to usher in Christmas Day and celebrate the birth of Christ. Pray people will grasp the true meaning of Christmas and that they will see the peace that is possible with Christ.

## Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>



**Christmas Day** begins in a quiet traditional service of prayer and reflection using the Book of Common Prayer. Ask the Lord that those seeking a still and sacred start to the day will feel His Presence. At 10am as we celebrate **Christmas Day** with a service of full of fun, songs and a talk. Pray that anyone tuning in on YouTube will be truly blessed too.

## Friday 26<sup>th</sup>

After our recent Gift Sunday, we realised all the hard work the **Finance team** put into keeping a check on our expenses as a church. Thank God for such dedicated people. Ask God to bless them and pray that the Lord will continue to guide them in their decision-making.

## Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>

It's over for another year but some will have overreached themselves to make sure they had a good time. Pray for organisations like **CAP (Christians Against Poverty)** that they will be ready for an influx of desperate people in the months ahead.

## Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>

As we gather to worship God and our Saviour Jesus Christ, pray that the Lord will give all of us boldness to share the good news with others in the coming year. Don't think you can do it? Read Matthew 10v.19....*do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say...*



## Monday 29<sup>th</sup>

*'Herod gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem...'* Matthew 2v. 16,17. Some things never change. History is tainted by people or organizations that have attempted to wipe out large groups of people. This month, December 9<sup>th</sup> was the **International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide**. Pray particularly for the Christians in Nigeria who face genocide, and pray that nations will find a way to stop this from happening.

## Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup>

**Next month the Sussex Gospel Partnership Annual conference will be held on January 31<sup>st</sup> at All Saints Crowborough. The key speaker is** Graham (Danno) Daniels from Christians In Sport. Pray that the Lord will give Danno a clear message and that the Spirit of God will fan a flame which will ignite the whole of the county.

## Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup>

**New Year's Eve:** Can you believe it? 2025 is almost gone. Some may be glad to see it gone while for others it's been a year to remember. Spend a few moments thinking about your year. Maybe you can thank God for something good, or simply that He was always there with you in the difficult times. As we look towards the dawn of a New Year, ask the Lord for his guidance and pray that in this broken world, He will keep you from falling.

***This is our monthly diary of the ministries and events in the life of St Margaret's with some ideas for prayer. Thank you for praying - we want to make a difference!***

*It would be helpful if requests for inclusion in the January diary could be sent to Sara in the Church Office by 15th December.*

# DECEMBER 2025



*And she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for him in the inn. Luke 2v.7*

Our focus this month will be collection of items for **St Peter & Paul Pantry.**

## Monday 1<sup>st</sup>

As a church we have been helping **St Peter & St Paul Rustington's Pantry**. As we think of people who will struggle to enjoy the niceties of Christmas, pray that the pantry team's idea for people to donate toiletries and a/or a Christmas treat would help fill the gap.

## Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>

Stephen has been travelling with **Tearfund**. He's already been to Thailand and Bangladesh and is now in Lebanon. Ask the Lord for safe travels for those coming to the Church and Community Mobilisation training in Beirut, especially those from Pakistan and Syria. Pray for deepening relationships that will testify to John 13:35, helping the church to be a light where people are antagonistic to Jesus' followers.

## Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Creating Company** meet for their Christmas celebration this afternoon. Ask the Lord to fill their hearts with the joy of the season and that everyone has someone to be with at Christmas.

How would you like to be part of an organisation or be a person with a lot of influence, power or energy? As we ask, seek and knock at the **Church Prayer Meeting** tonight, ask the Lord to show us that's just what we are!



#### Thursday 4<sup>th</sup>

The **Bereavement Journey Course** is still running with a final session called Moving Forward. Bereavement doesn't stop for Christmas and can sometimes be exacerbated. Pray that people will be comforted and have peace of mind.

The **Women Together Christmas Craft Evening** has been fully booked. Upwards of 80 people will be coming, many of whom have never been to St Margaret's before. Ask the Lord to help everyone to know the REAL meaning of Christmas and pray that they will accept God's very special gift which lasts a lifetime and for all eternity.

Also please pray for Ben who will be at the **Ham Manor Golf Club's Carol Service**.

#### Friday 5<sup>th</sup>

Today we shall be opening up the church for **Angmering @ Christmas**. Ask the Lord that the village community will receive a warm welcome and give us chances to share the peace that comes at Christmas.

As the **Bell ringers** herald the start of Christmas ask the Lord to use their gift and skill to remind the people of Angmering that 2,000 years ago a very special baby was born in Bethlehem. Pray that memories stirred might lead to action being taken.

#### Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>

A number of our congregation use a quarterly publication as part of their **daily quiet times**. Copies of Explore; Encounter with God and Daily Bread are available for the asking and there are many others on the market. Pray that every church member will find a constructive way to add to their Biblical knowledge and get into the habit of meeting with the Saviour every day.

#### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>



Today the **Sunday Roast** team will be serving Christmas dinner. As it may be the only one some will enjoy, pray that it will be a special time for them. Also ask for God's blessing on the team.

Nat will be leading two **Christingle Services** today. Ask our Father to bring families and the wider community together to celebrate the coming of Jesus and that they will grasp the real meaning of Christmas.



#### Monday 8<sup>th</sup>

Children & Youth Leaders have a **Training Evening** today. Thank God for them and please pray that as they gather they will be inspired ahead of the New Year.

#### Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>

How wonderful it is when a child comes to Jesus. Ask Our Lord to speak into the hearts of the children of **St Margaret's School** who will be coming to the Christmas Services in church today. May they go home with the gift of Christ as Saviour.

#### Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>

The toddlers and carers have two Christmas **Cameo** sessions today. 9.30-11 & 11-12. Ask the Lord to bless their gathering and that the Christmas message will speak to all.

There's a special **Christmas event** at the school for the community. Please pray for Ben as he shares something of the hope of Christmas with those who are there.

#### Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>

The final part of the **Bereavement Journey Course** is today with an optional session called Faith Questions. Pray that those who have shared their grief story in a safe and supportive environment, will befriend the God of All Comfort. Thank Our Lord and Saviour for Sue, Rosemary and Liz who have given their time to help them.

#### Friday 12<sup>th</sup>

**Our singers, musicians, the worship team and the choir** have spent many hours practicing for the Christmas services. When you do something many times, it's easy to 'switch off'. Ask the Lord that they will enjoy their music and that they will receive a blessing, as we are blessed by them.

#### Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>

*'And she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the Inn.'* Luke 2v.7 In all the business of your **own personal Christmas preparations**, ask the Lord to help you find 'room' for Jesus.

#### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>

At the **Family Carol Service** this morning with a mix of modern and traditional carols, pray that the familiar truths of Christmas will bring freshness and joy. The **5pm** service will celebrate the wonder and meaning of Jesus' birth. Ask the Holy Spirit to help everyone at both services to be able to concentrate on the really important and that their minds will not wander.



#### Monday 15<sup>th</sup>

We have been asked to pray for **Helen Sheridan and all at Calvary Church**. This Christmas, pray that new people will have a personal invitation from church members, or that they will just come along to services.

#### Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>

*'This is my body which is for you... this cup is the new covenant in my blood...'*

1 Corinthians 11v. 24,25. It's always a joy to share **Holy Communion** and there's a chance to do that today. Pray that those who come to the table will meet with Jesus. Why not spend a moment thanking Him for all that He's done for you.

#### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>

**Evergreen** have their Christmas celebration today. Some members live alone, some are in Care Homes, others struggle with health issues at home. Ask the Lord to bless these folk and pray that their Christmas, whether with friends/family or on their own, will be a peaceful and blessed time.

#### Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>

**Daytime Fellowship** meets today. Ask the Lord to bless their Christmas celebration.

**Did you know that next month in Cuckfield Baptist Church, John Woods will be holding a Thursday Study Group** for those who have completed the two year Sussex Ministry Training Course (SMTTC)? It's the start of six sessions expounding the ancient book of Numbers for the 21st Century. Pray that there will be a good turnout and that much will be accomplished by the Lord through this teaching.

#### Friday 19<sup>th</sup>

There will be a lot of excited school children jumping for joy because **the school term** finishes today and Christmas is coming! It's not easy for parents who struggle to make ends meet every week, to find those extras we all enjoy. Bring the St Peter and Paul Pantry to the Lord today that they will have enough and to spare so that all their clients can have some Christmas goodies.

#### Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>

Everyone has an expectation for family Christmases but sometimes being together releases pent-up frustrations. Ask the Lord for His Peace for the families near where you live. And remember to pray for your own family and extended family too!

#### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>

There are two **Traditional Carol Services** today when the wonderful age old story will be told in the church lit by candlelight. Pray that the message of Christmas will stir a longing in people's hearts to know the Saviour in a personal way.

