

## **Notices:**

**PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS PRAYER GROUP:** Wednesdays at 2.30pm in the Addison Room. Please ask Pat for more info. Tel. 07814 316177 Iraq: Pray for Christian and Yezidi women and children who are being held captive for the pleasure of 16 men. Pray for their protection and for God to touch the hearts of their captors.

**CAROL SERVICE:** 6pm - Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Seasonal refreshments will be served afterwards. If you are able to bring mince pies or savoury nibbles these would be much appreciated. Thank you.

**MANNA HOUSE:** We are once again collecting for the Winter Shelter. Items requested are biscuits, coffee, flour, sugar, eggs, fresh or frozen vegetables and any other items that people wish to donate. We will deliver items to Manna House on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec so it would be appreciated if fresh items are brought into church on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec. Many thanks, Eileen & Pat.

**DECORATION OF CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS:** We will be decorating the church on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December from 9.30am. Please come along if you would like to help. Donations for flowers would be much appreciated, also holly and ivy. Thank you. Beatrice Wilson/Carole Hewitson.

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:** St. Mary's Christmas Hamper Raffle. Tickets £1 a strip now on sale from The Parish Office. Prizes range from £20 to £50 hampers (local suppliers) and afternoon tea for 2 at The Belsfield Hotel. To be drawn at the Carol Service on 18<sup>th</sup> December.

**LEPROSY MISSION BOXES:** Can these be handed in as soon as possible. Many thanks. Beatrice Wilson

**BOOKSTALL:** There is new selection of Books available in the North Aisle.

**CARD CHRISTMAS TREE – NORTH AISLE:** There is a Christmas Tree in the North Aisle where you can add a message and make a donation (blue box on the window sill) in lieu of the price of sending everyone at Church a Christmas card, if you so wish.

**From our Book of Remembrance: *This week we remember:***

Dorothy Millburn, Bruce Hewitt, Margaret Oversby, Thomas Douglas, Ruby Hogarth, Winifred James, Muriel Hellier, Jessie Swainson, Brian Rothera, Elsie Connell and John Bibby Cooper

**This week you are invited to pray for:**

- Those who live in Brow Crescent
- Those for whom Christmas preparations means stress and debt.
- The staff and children and Windermere School.

## **Next Sunday: 18<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

### **Third Sunday of Advent**

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
11.00am Sunday Celebration  
6.00pm Christmas Carol Service

## ***The Word... ...This Week***

### **Welcome:**

11<sup>th</sup> December 2016

### **Third Sunday of Advent**

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
11.00am Sunday Celebration  
4.00pm Windermere School at Jesus Church

### **Today's Music:**

Introit	259	Hail to the Lord's anointed
Gradual	527	On Jordan's bank
Offertory	221	God is working his purpose out
Communion	420	Lord thy word abideth
Recessional	405	Lo he comes
Organist		Denis Aldersea

**If you are a visitor to Windermere or this is the first time you have worshipped with us, do make yourself known to one of the Sidesmen. We hope you will find this worship helpful and enjoyable and that you will join us again. You are warmly invited to join us for Coffee etc. after the 11.00am Service.**

Gluten Free Wafers are available – please see Wardens & Sidesmen if this would be helpful.

**[www.stmaryswindermere.co.uk](http://www.stmaryswindermere.co.uk)**

[www.christianity.org.uk](http://www.christianity.org.uk)

***Our Purpose:***

We are here to help everyone to know and grow in the love of God through prayer, worship, teaching and service.

***Our Vision:***

A thriving, growing Christian community.



## The First Reading **Isaiah 35:1-10** page 8

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus <sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

<sup>3</sup> Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

<sup>4</sup> Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.'

<sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

<sup>6</sup> then the lame shall leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

<sup>7</sup> the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs

of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,

the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

<sup>8</sup> A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people;

no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.

<sup>9</sup> No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.

<sup>10</sup> And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

## The Second Reading **James 5.7-10** page 10

*A Reading from the Letter of James.*

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup> You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. <sup>9</sup> Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! <sup>10</sup> As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

## The Gospel Reading **Matthew 11:2-11** page 11

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.*

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' <sup>7</sup> As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." <sup>11</sup>Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

## **This Week: Enquiries: (Tel: 44596)**

The Parish Office is open Monday to Thursday 9.00am-3.30pm

E-Mail: [office@stmaryswindermere.co.uk](mailto:office@stmaryswindermere.co.uk)

**MORNING PRAYER:** This week will be at 8.00am

Monday–Thursday. A quiet and helpful way to begin the day.

<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30am	Finance/Management Mtg. Addison Rm
	10.00am	A.E. Continuation Italian – Upper Rm
	4.30pm	Rainbows/Brownies/Guides-H` Son Rm
	7.00pm	Christmas Carol Singing at The Grey Walls Hotel, Windermere
<b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	5.30pm	Quiet Space
	7.00pm	Jesus Church Christmas Meal
<b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am	Holy Communion & Coffee Time
	2.30pm	Persecuted Christians Prayer Group
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	FUNERAL: Beryl Walker RIP
	1.45pm	School Christmas Service in Church
	7.00pm	St. Mary's Christmas Meal at The Belsfield Hotel