

### Contact Details

#### Clergy

**Vicar:** Revd Catherine Wilson: 01234 825665  
[vicar@bromhambenefice.org](mailto:vicar@bromhambenefice.org)

**Associate Minister:** Revd Petra Yates: 07504 118405  
[revpetra@bromhambenefice.org](mailto:revpetra@bromhambenefice.org)

**Priest:** Revd Di Harpham: 01234 417237  
[diharpham@gmail.com](mailto:diharpham@gmail.com)

#### Benefice Administrator Office

**Office Closed 24<sup>th</sup> Dec – 4<sup>th</sup> Jan (inclusive)**

Sarah Smale: 07494 069540

[administrator@bromhambenefice.org](mailto:administrator@bromhambenefice.org)

Working hours: Mon Tues & Thurs 9.00 – 12.00

#### Benefice Safeguarding Officer

Judith Denyer 07981 928522

[safeguarding@bromhambenefice.org](mailto:safeguarding@bromhambenefice.org)

#### Churchwardens

Bromham: Tessa Woodcock 07766 118258

Oakley: Graham Palmer 07710 462535

Hilarie Worley 01234 262166

Stagsden: VACANT

#### Benefice Website [www.bromhambenefice.org](http://www.bromhambenefice.org)

Info for website to [administrator@bromhambenefice.org](mailto:administrator@bromhambenefice.org)

Follow this link for [Facebook](#)

Follow this link for [Instagram](#)

#### Home Communion

If you are unable to come to church for communion and would like to receive it at home, please phone Petra or Di to make arrangements.

Healing Ministry is part of the ministry of this Church. If you would like prayers, or a visit, please speak to a Churchwarden or contact one of the clergy.

#### Looking ahead - Sunday Services:

|                      | 9am     | 10.30am | 3.30pm                |
|----------------------|---------|---------|-----------------------|
| 4th Jan              | Oakley  | Bromham |                       |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan | Bromham | OMC     | Stagsden Village Hall |

#### Zoom services

Join the service by clicking on the link (sent by email or on the benefice website), or call one of these numbers and enter

10.30am 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> Dec ID number: 848 0690 8170

Carol Service 21<sup>st</sup> Dec ID number: 859 7205 7358

0131 460 1196

0203 481 5240

0203 901 7895

0203 481 5237

0208 080 6592

Hymns for Dec 21<sup>st</sup> 10.30am: 75, 85, 4251, 408, 264

Hymns for Dec 28<sup>th</sup> 10.30am: 59, 62, 88, 68, 71

In Emergency: When calling the emergency services give the what3words location reference below:

St. Owen's Church – fencing.sedative.gobbles

St. Mary's Church – insolvent.correct.grin

St Leonard's Church – squeezed.mainframe.tanked

Items for next week's pew leaflet to **Catherine Wilson** by Wednesday lunchtime (Jan 1<sup>st</sup>).

# Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas 1



St. Owen, Bromham  
St. Mary, Oakley  
St. Leonard, Stagsden  
21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> December 2024

## Happy Christmas!

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

### Readings

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec | Isaiah 7.10- 16<br>Romans 1.1- 7<br>Matthew 1.18- end    |
| Christmas Eve            | Isaiah 52.7- 10<br>Hebrews 1.1- 4<br>John 1.1- 14        |
| Christmas Day            | Isaiah 9.2- 7<br>Titus 2.11- 14<br>Luke 2.1- 14          |
| Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> Dec | Isaiah 63.7- 9<br>Hebrews 2.10- end<br>Matthew 2.13- end |

### Collect for 21<sup>st</sup> December

God our redeemer,  
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of your Son:  
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,  
so we may be ready to greet him  
when he comes again as our judge;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever, Amen.

### Collect for Christmas Day

Almighty God, you have given us  
your only-begotten Son  
to take our nature upon him  
and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:  
grant that we, who have been born again  
and made your children by adoption and grace may  
daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, Amen

### Collect for December 28<sup>th</sup>

Almighty God,  
who wonderfully created us in your own image  
and yet more wonderfully restored us  
through your Son Jesus Christ:  
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,  
so we may share the life of his divinity;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever, Amen.

### For Our Prayers

- Peace on earth – especially in Sudan, Ukraine, Gaza, the DRC, Ethiopia
- For the oppressed, refugees, victims of trafficking, the sad or lonely, to find comfort this Christmas
- The homeless, and the work of the SMART centre
- Bedford Refuge, and the families it shelters and cares for
- The Foodbank and those who need its help
- The NHS and especially those who work on Christmas day caring for the sick
- Those who live next door to you and in your road

Please pray faithfully for those who are sick or in need and those who have asked for our prayers, their families and those who care for them:

| Village: | Name:   |
|----------|---|
| Bromham  | Michelle, Angela, Bill, Jeffrey, Julie, Tony, Amy, Andrew, Keith, Terry, John, Karen and Carol, June, Barbara, Ann, Mary, Linda, Mary, Mike and Frances |
| Oakley   | Adele, Elin & Celeste, Theresa, Maureen, Alison, Tony, Richard, David & Ann, George, Donna, Margaret, Linda, Dave, Sally and Pat                        |
| Stagsden |   |

### In Memoriam

**BROMHAM** Roy Horner (21.12.09), Kathleen Archer (23.12.08), Philip Deardon (25.12.17), Caron Judge (25.12.19), Barbara Ashworth (28.12.15), Paul Stapleton (29.12.20), Anne Cowsill (30.12.24), Ian Redman (02.01.87), Lily Ripley (02.01.96)

**OAKLEY** Judith Ayres (21.12.20), Elizabeth Lathem (27.12.97), Joan Skevington (27.12.18), Joanne Smith (30.12.08), Roger Young (30.12.11)

### **STAGSDEN**

**We pray for the family & friends of those who have recently died**

**Leannah Robinson** (Bromham) Burial of Ashes Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2pm St Owen's

**Nigel Bailey** (Bromham) Burial of Ashes Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Jan St Owen's

### Reflection

Two names are recorded in Matthew ch 1 for Mary's baby son – the angel told Joseph to call him Jesus, which means 'God saves', and the words of Isaiah are quoted 'they shall name him Emmanuel' which means 'God is with us'. These names bring together the focus of our celebrations at Christmas, as we remember that God came to earth as a human, to live among us. And he did this so he could save us from the rule of sin in our lives and bring us back to him. What a wonderful gift for us to receive!

### The "Living God's Love" Prayer

Living God, draw us deeper into your love:  
Jesus our Lord, send us to care and serve;  
Holy Spirit, make us heralds of good news;  
    stir us, strengthen us,  
teach and inspire us to live your love  
    with generosity and joy,  
    imagination and courage;  
    for the sake of your world  
and in the name of Jesus. Amen

### Notices

#### Christmas Services

**Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Dec:** 9.00am Bromham  
10.30am Bromham\*  
Carol Service 6.00pm Oakley\*

#### **Christmas Eve:**

Crib Services - 3pm & 4.30pm Bromham  
4.30pm Stagsden Village Hall  
4.30pm Oakley

#### Communion Services -

5.30pm Stagsden Village Hall  
11.00pm Bromham & Oakley

**Christmas Day:** 10.00am Oakley

**Sun 28<sup>th</sup> Dec:** 10.30am Bromham\*

\*Zoom Streamed

#### The Revds Catherine, Petra, Di & families

wish you all a joyful and blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Thank you to everyone for your love, support and fellowship during 2025.



**Booklets of reflections** for the 12 days of Christmas are available in our churches - £1. Please put the money in the box provided and not in the plate. Reflections also available by email: see [www.cofe.io/TheJoyOfChristmas](http://www.cofe.io/TheJoyOfChristmas)

**Decorating St Owens for Christmas** Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec from 10am. Anyone who would like to help will be most welcome. Donations for flowers will be gratefully received to Margaret Parrott, 18 Tudor Close.

**Christmas Cards:** why not send just one card to everyone in the congregation, put it on the board in church, & make a donation to SMART, which cares for the homeless in Bedford? See displays in church.

#### Regular Events

**Messy Church** St Owen's Mon 11.30am – 1.30pm; St Mary's Thurs 10 – 11.45am. Closed for holidays

**Messy Church for all** Next meeting in the New Year 3.30- 5.30pm Oakley Methodist Church.

**Morning Prayer on Mondays** 9 – 9.30am on Zoom, link on website

**Prayer Group** Thurs mornings 10.30am in the Fellowship Room at St Owen's. Closed for holidays.

**Sewing Group** on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Weds in St Owen's Fellowship Room 2-4pm. Next 14<sup>th</sup> Jan. Contact: Margaret Parrott on 824402

**Tuesday Holy Communion** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays in St Owen's Fellowship Room at 11.30am. Next service 6<sup>th</sup> Jan followed by a light lunch.

**Link Up** Next meeting is on Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2.30pm in the Fellowship Room at St Owen's Bromham. Contact Tessa for more information and to book a place.

**Fellowship Lunch** Next lunch is Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Jan in the Fellowship Room at St Owen's Bromham. Bring some food to share, and enjoy the company of others as we eat together. Contact: Vivien Butler 407351