

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

- 16.00 Christingle and Crib Service [S]
- 16.00 Christmas Eve Meditation [LB-URC]
- 23.30 'Midnight Mass' [LB]
- 23.30 'Midnight Mass' [S]

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

- 08.00 Holy Communion [S]
- 10.00 Carols around the Crib [S]
- 10.00 Carols around the Crib [LB] followed by a said Holy Communion

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>

**NEW YEAR'S DAY**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas**

- 10.00 Parish Eucharist [S]
- 10.00 Morning Prayer [LB]

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

- 09.00 Celtic Morning Prayer [St Andrew's Chapel, North Hill Little Baddow]

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>**

- 09.15 Holy Communion [S]

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>**

- 10.00 House Communion [St Andrew's Chapel, North Hill Little Baddow]

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>**

- 14.0 Wedding [LB]
- 15.0

Please note the change to the midweek service at St Andrew's Sandon from the new year

**Prayers at St Mary's**

*If you wish to ask for prayer, for yourself or a dear one, there is now a place to write a request.*

*You will find a prayer table near the lectern and you may light a candle too.*

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**Pints of View**

**Men's pub night**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

**from 8pm in the bar at The Crown, Sandon**

I would *really* like some support in trying to start a men's fellowship group (so sorry ladies), which could possibly be called '*Pints of View*', or '*Pub Night*'. I would like as many men as possible to meet on a Monday night once a month from 20:00 onwards, for a pint, fellowship plus the option of food (peanuts)! There would be no hidden agenda but a chance to discuss, moralise, 'philosophise' (umm and ahh) express yourself a little over a glass, on a given subject e.g. if you could start the world again, what rules would there need to be? If you're interested please drop him an email to either say you're coming on the 9th or that you'll be coming to a night later in the new year or that your Mother won't let you out!

Hope you're free to come.

Clive +

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**Parish Churches of  
St. Andrew, Sandon  
and  
St Mary the Virgin,  
Little Baddow**

*part of the Chelmer Crouch  
Group Ministry*

**24<sup>th</sup> /25<sup>th</sup> December 2011  
Christmas Eve and  
Christmas Day**

The journey of Christmas is the story of new life. It is also the story of all creation, as the first words of Genesis are echoed in the Gospel of St John – "in the beginning" was the Word.

**A warm welcome is extended to  
all visitors.**

*Coffee, tea and squash are normally served after the 10am Service [in Church at St Mary's Church and in The St Andrew's Room at St Andrew's Church].*

**Please stay and meet people**

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**If you are here attending a 'Holy Communion' or 'Eucharist' and normally receive the Sacraments**

of bread and wine, you are welcome to receive them here too. **If you do not normally receive Communion** you are very welcome to come and kneel at the Altar rail and receive a blessing (please carry a service book or hymn book with you) you will not be alone.

**For 5 minutes before the Service begins PLEASE allow others to keep a time of prayerful quiet in preparation to worship our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you.**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**COLLECT and READINGS**

Eternal God,  
in the stillness of this night  
you sent your almighty Word  
to pierce the world's darkness with  
the light of salvation:  
give to the earth the peace that we  
long for and fill our hearts with the joy  
of heaven through our Saviour, Jesus  
Christ.  
**Amen.**

**First Reading Isaiah 52:7-10**

<sup>7</sup> How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who  
announces peace,  
who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'  
<sup>8</sup> Listen! Your sentinels lift up  
their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see  
the return of the LORD to Zion.  
<sup>9</sup> Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the LORD has comforted his people,

he has redeemed Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup> The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

**Second Reading** Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

**Gospel** John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to

what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> 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.

### **CHRISTMAS DAY COLLECT and READINGS**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
your birth at Bethlehem  
draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven  
touching earth:  
accept our heartfelt praise  
as we worship you,  
our Saviour and our eternal God.

**First Reading** Isaiah 62.6-end

<sup>6</sup> Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,  
I have posted sentinels;  
all day and all night  
they shall never be silent.  
You who remind the LORD,  
take no rest,  
<sup>7</sup> and give him no rest  
until he establishes Jerusalem  
and makes it renowned throughout  
the earth.  
<sup>8</sup> The LORD has sworn by his right hand  
and by his mighty arm:  
I will not again give your grain  
to be food for your enemies,  
and foreigners shall not drink the wine  
for which you have laboured;  
<sup>9</sup> but those who garner it shall eat it  
and praise the LORD,  
and those who gather it shall drink it  
in my holy courts.

<sup>10</sup> Go through, go through the gates,  
prepare the way for the people;  
build up, build up the highway,  
clear it of stones,  
lift up an ensign over the peoples.

<sup>11</sup> The LORD has proclaimed  
to the end of the earth:  
Say to daughter Zion,  
'See, your salvation comes;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.'

<sup>12</sup> They shall be called, 'The  
Holy People,  
The Redeemed of the LORD';  
and you shall be called, 'Sought Out,  
A City Not Forsaken.'

**Gospel** Luke 2.1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup> In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel

said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> 'Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those  
whom he favours!'

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

## **Pastoral Care Training Course**

*'Care and Share'*

*commences on*

*11<sup>th</sup> January – What is pastoral care?*

*18<sup>th</sup> January – Visiting and Listening*

*25<sup>th</sup> January – Making Contact*

*1<sup>st</sup> February – Dealing with Loss*

*15<sup>th</sup> February – Confidentiality and  
getting organised*

*The venue on the 11<sup>th</sup> will be St Mary's*