



# ST MARGARET'S ILKLEY

**SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER**  
**Advent III**

**8.00 am – Low Mass**

*Fr Kenneth*

**9.15 am – Family Service**

*(Homily: Catherine Beaumont)*

**10.45 am – Sung Mass**

*Fr Kenneth*

**6.30 pm – Choral Evensong**

*Fr Alex*



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## IN OUR PRAYERS

Colin Banyard, Ann Bruun, Alan Calder, Anne Clarke, Roy Clarke, Margaret Cooke, Joyce Cross, Pam Monkman, Stephen Pilling, Philip Rowbottom, Edward Stretton, John Sunderland, Molly Sunderland, Shirley Thompson

**DEPARTED**      John Adriaanse, Pamela Banks

### YEARS' MIND

**Tuesday**      Elsie Lawson, Pamela Flanders

**Wednesday**      Leslie Hayes (pr), Lilian Waterhouse, Hilda Bennett

**Thursday**      Vera Padgett, Peter Waterhouse

**Friday**      Bill and Mary Partner, Mary Wilson

**Saturday**      Ethel Parks, Helen Johnstone

*Please continue to pray for the people of Sudan, whose Church is linked with our Diocese of Leeds*

## 8.00 am and 10.45 am – MASS TODAY

**SETTING**      *Antonio Lotti: Missa Brevis*

**HYMN**          5    *Hark! a herald voice is calling*

1. Hark! a herald voice is calling:  
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;  
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,  
O ye children of the day!'

2. Startled at the solemn warning,  
Let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,  
Shines upon the morning skies.

3. Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,  
Comes with pardon down from heaven;  
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
One and all to be forgiven;

4. So when next he comes in glory,  
And earth's final hour draws near,  
May he then as our defender  
On the clouds of heaven appear.

5. Honour, glory, virtue, merit,  
To the Father and the Son,  
With the co-eternal Spirit,  
While unending ages run. Amen.

### COLLECT

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### READING      **Zephaniah 3. 14 – end**

A reading from the book of the prophet Zephaniah.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

**8.00 am: PSALM** 146. 4 - end (*printed in the black Common Worship book*)

**10.45 am: GRADUAL** 6 *Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes*

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| 1. Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,<br>The Saviour promised long!<br>Let every heart prepare a throne,<br>And every voice a song. | 3. He comes the broken heart to bind,<br>The bleeding soul to cure,<br>And with the treasures of his grace<br>Enrich the humble poor. |
| 2. He comes the prisoners to release<br>In Satan's bondage held;<br>The gates of brass before him burst,<br>The iron fetters yield.      | 4. Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,<br>Thy welcome shall proclaim,<br>And heaven's eternal arches ring<br>With thy beloved name.   |

**ACCLAMATION**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight, and all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

**GOSPEL READING** Luke 3. 7 – 18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

**HYMN** (tune 320 (i)) *Hark what a sound, and too divine for hearing*

Hark what a sound, and too divine for hearing,  
Stirs on the earth and trembles in the air!  
Is it the thunder of the Lord's appearing?  
Is it the music of his people's prayer?

Surely he cometh, and a thousand voices  
Shout to the saints, and to the deaf are dumb;  
Surely he cometh, and the earth rejoices,  
Glad in his coming who hath sworn: I come!

This hath he done, and shall we not adore him?  
This shall he do, and can we still despair?  
Come, let us quickly fling ourselves before him,  
Cast at his feet the burden of our care.

Through life and death, through sorrow and through sinning,  
He shall suffice me, for he hath sufficed:  
Christ is the end, for Christ was the beginning,  
Christ the beginning, for the end is Christ.

*(Frederic W H Myers)*

**MOTET**      *Anonymous (attributed to John Redford): Rejoice in the Lord always*

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice. Let your softness be known unto all men. The Lord is e'en at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in all prayer and supplication, let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving of thanks. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesu. Amen. *(Philippians 4. 4 – 7)*

**HYMN**      499      *Thy kingdom come, O God*

1. Thy kingdom come, O God,  
Thy rule, O Christ, begin;  
Break with thy iron rod  
The tyrannies of sin.

2. Where is thy reign of peace  
And purity and love?  
When shall all hatred cease,  
As in the realms above?

3. When comes the promised time  
That war shall be no more,  
And lust, oppression, crime,  
Shall flee thy face before?

4. We pray thee, Lord, arise,  
And come in thy great might;  
Revive our longing eyes,  
Which languish for thy sight.

5. O'er lands both near and far  
Thick darkness broodeth yet:  
Arise, O morning Star,  
Arise, and never set.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

**HYMN**            7    *Hills of the North, rejoice*

1. Hills of the North, rejoice,  
    Echoing songs arise,  
    Hail with united voice  
    Him who made earth and skies:  
He comes in righteousness and love,  
He brings salvation from above.

2. Isles of the Southern seas,  
    Sing to the listening earth,  
    Carry on every breeze  
    Hope of a world's new birth:  
In Christ shall all be made anew,  
His word is sure, his promise true.

3. Lands of the East, arise,  
    He is your brightest morn,  
    Greet him with joyous eyes,  
    Praise shall his path adorn:  
The God whom you have longed to know  
In Christ draws near, and calls you now.

4. Shores of the utmost West,  
    Lands of the setting sun,  
    Welcome the heavenly guest  
    In whom the dawn has come;  
He brings a never-ending light  
Who triumphed o'er our darkest night.

5. Shout, as you journey on,  
    Songs be in every mouth,  
    Lo, from the North they come,  
    From East and West and South:  
In Jesus all shall find their rest,  
In him the sons of earth be blest.

**ORGAN**            *Johann Sebastian Bach: Nun komm der heiden Heiland (BWV 660)*

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**CHURCH DIARY**

*Morning Prayer in church, Monday to Friday, at 9.00 am. All welcome.*

Tuesday 17	6.00 pm	Rorate Mass	Fr Alex
Wednesday 18	2.00 pm	Straven Christmas Communion	Fr Alex
	4.00 pm	Abbeydale Christmas Communion	Fr Alex
Thursday 19	11.00 am	Low Mass <i>with social time</i>	Fr Alex
Friday 20	6.30 pm	Junior singers rehearsal	
	7.30 pm	Choir rehearsal	
Saturday 21	10.30 am	Carol singing on the Grove	
<b>Sunday 22</b>	<b>8.00 am</b>	<b>Low Mass</b>	Fr Alex
<i>Advent IV</i>	<b>9.15 am</b>	<b>Christingle Service</b>	Fr Alex
	<b>10.45 am</b>	<b>Sung Mass</b>	Fr Alex (H: Catherine G)
	<b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>Service of Lessons and Carols</b>	Fr Alex

<b>Tuesday 24</b>	<b>3.00 pm</b>	<b>Crib Service</b>	Fr Alex
		<i>* No Mass at 6.00 pm today *</i>	
	<b>10.00 pm</b>	<b>'Bethlehem' Midnight Mass</b>	Fr Alex
<b>Wednesday 25</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Mass of Christmas Day</b>	Fr Alex
Thursday 26	11.00 am	Low Mass ( <i>St Stephen</i> )	Fr Kenneth
Friday 27	6.00 pm	Contemplative Mass ( <i>St John</i> )	Fr Alex
Saturday 28	11.00 am	Low Mass ( <i>Holy Innocents</i> )	Fr Alex
<b>Sunday 29</b>	<b>8.00 am</b>	<b>Low Mass</b>	Fr Alex
<i>Christmas I</i>	<b>10.45 am</b>	<b>Sung Mass</b>	Fr Alex

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## CHURCH NOTICES

### Christmas Tree Festival – thank you

Last weekend's Christmas Tree Festival was a tremendous success, with nearly 2000 visitors over the two days, and lots of donations towards our Christmas Appeal. I want to express again my hearty thanks to everyone who played a part in organising or helping in any way. It was a wonderful advert for our church community. An enormous amount of work has gone into this event over many months, and we have to congratulate especially Joanne, Judith, Vickie, Anne, Philip, and lots of others who have made such an effort. *Thank you!!*

### Christmas Cards

Local churches have received advice from the police to limit the amount the combustible material in the building for the time being. We are therefore asking, please, not to leave Christmas cards in church for people to pick up this year, but rather hand them out personally. We are removing the majority of the paperwork from the church after each Sunday morning service. Thank you.

### Stewardship Renewal

Thank you to those of you who have already responded to our stewardship renewal. I would be grateful if forms could be returned to me with updated contact details and, where requested, Gift Aid declarations as soon as possible. If there is anything you are unsure of, please give me a call or drop me an email. Thank you. Alison Stretton (01943 430024 / [astretton1@virginmedia.com](mailto:astretton1@virginmedia.com))

### Weekly Envelopes for 2025

Boxes of weekly envelopes for 2025 are now available to pick up from the back of church. If you have any queries or would like to move to standing order, please contact our Stewardship Secretary, Alison Stretton.

**Care Home Christmas Masses**

**Wednesday 18 December**

Fr Alex will be celebrating Masses at local care homes on Wednesday 18 December, with carols and a short telling of the Christmas story led by Catherine Gibson. Members of our congregation are welcome to join us at Straven House (Queen's Road) at 2.00 pm and Abbeydale (97 Grove Road) at 4.00 pm.

**No Lunch Club in December**

A reminder that there is *not* a meeting of the Lunch Club this Thursday, owing to the busyness of the season. Thank you to all who have organised the lovely meals over the year, and all who have attended.

**No Playtime on Friday 20 December**

There is no Playtime on Friday 20 December. We look forward to returning on Friday 10 January.

**Christmas Carols on The Grove**

Members of St Margaret's choirs sing Christmas carols on The Grove (corner of Brook Street) between 10.30 am - 11.30 am on Saturday 21 December. Please do come to support us and join in with the carol singing (arrive at 10.20 am). The more the merrier!

**Christmas Service Dates**

**Sunday 22, 9.15 am** – Christingle Service. **Sunday 22, 6.30 pm** – Service of Lessons and Carols.  
**Christmas Eve, 3.00 pm** – Crib Service. **Christmas Eve, 10.00 pm** – 'Bethlehem' Midnight Mass.  
**Christmas Day, 10.00 am** – Mass of Christmas Day.

**Organ Recital**

**Friday 3 January 2025, 12.30 pm**

This recital will be a performance of the 'Messe pour les Paroisses' by Couperin 'le Grand', published in 1690, full of vivid writing and magical French Baroque organ sounds from 330 years ago. A complete Organ Mass from the time of Louis XIV, 'le Roi soleil' – the Sun King. Christopher.

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## GIVING

We rely on your generous donations to fund the work of our church, and to support the cost of ministry in the diocese. Please consider making a regular donation to St Margaret's. Thank you for your support.

**REGULAR GIVING** is via the Parish Giving Scheme: visit [www.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk) and search for 'Ilkley St Margaret;' or by bank standing order. Please contact Alison Stretton, Stewardship Secretary: [astretton1@virginmedia.com](mailto:astretton1@virginmedia.com) or on 01943 430024 for more details.

**ONE-OFF DONATIONS** can also be made via the Parish Giving Scheme online, the card reader by the entrance to the church, or by scanning the QR code on the right with your mobile phone. Cash donations can be put in the large safe opposite the welcomers' table. Please use Gift Aid where possible to allow us to increase the value of your gift at no cost to you. **THANK YOU.**



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## CONTACT DETAILS

**VICAR** Fr Alex Crawford: 07450 507956 [fatheralex crawford@icloud.com](mailto:fatheralex crawford@icloud.com)

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*Have you signed up to our weekly e-news? Contact Vickie in the Parish Office to add your email.*

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