

*First Reading*      **Hebrews 1: 1 – 4**

<sup>1</sup> In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. <sup>3</sup> The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. <sup>4</sup> So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

*Second Reading*      **John 1: 1 - 14**

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has 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 concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – <sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. <sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

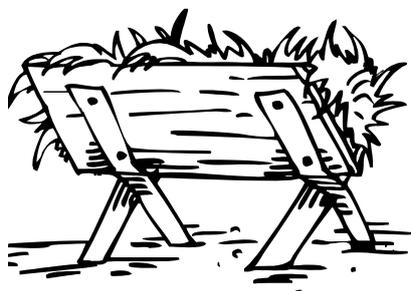
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**Safeguarding Officers**

Sara Grier is our nominated Safeguarding Officer and is the nominated person responsible for vulnerable adults. Jo Parker is the nominated Safeguarding person responsible for children. Their photos are on the Church noticeboard in the porch, together with photos of the Vicar, Revd David Gill, and your Churchwardens, Andy King and Susanne Burnett.

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**Happy Christmas from all at St. Mary's**



*First Reading*      **Titus 2: 11 – 14**

<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. <sup>12</sup> It teaches us to say 'No' to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, <sup>13</sup> while we wait for the blessed hope – the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

*Second Reading*      **Luke 2: 1 - 14**

<sup>1</sup> In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. <sup>2</sup> (This was the first census that took place while[a] Quirinius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup> And everyone went to their own town to register. <sup>4</sup> So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. <sup>5</sup> He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</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 guest room available for them. <sup>8</sup> And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to 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. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' <sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.'

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**Love South West**

A united weekend of worship, service and invitation from 7th – 9th June 2019.

Kingdom Come – A night of unhindered worship and prayer in Plymouth Pavilions on Friday 7th June at 7.30pm.

Serve Day - A day of local social action projects. Various locations throughout the South West. Saturday 8th June.

#TryChurch – Inviting the South west to try Church. Various local Churches throughout the South West on Sunday 9th June.

For tickets, information and how to get involved visit [www.lovesouthwest.org.uk](http://www.lovesouthwest.org.uk)

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**No Christ – No Christmas**

**Know Christ – Know Christmas**