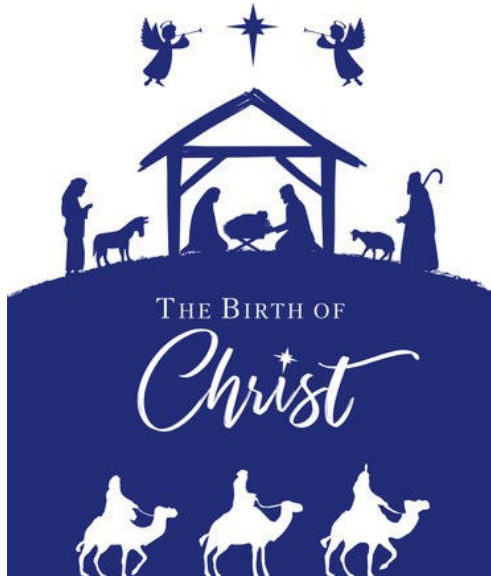




Where all find a welcome and are nurtured in their journey with Christ.

# Christmas Day Eucharist



“This will be a sign for you.”

# Welcome to St Mary's

## Support our work

St Mary's is a charity which receives no funding from the government and is entirely dependent on donations and fees to keep its doors open, continue its work in the community, and maintain its buildings and outdoor spaces.

If you would like to donate to support us you can give during the service as giving plates are passed around. Alternatively, you can place your offering on the plate by the door as you leave or tap your contactless card or device.

You can also donate online by card or directly from your bank by scanning this QR Code with your phone's camera or by visiting [wkrk.uk/donate](https://wkrk.uk/donate).



If you'd like to give in some other way, find out more about planned giving, or learn how we use donations then please ask a member of our team.

## Hearing loop available

Our church is fitted with an inductive loop system which can be picked up by setting hearing aids to the "T" position.

## Follow the instructions of our stewards

Please follow all instructions from our stewards, especially during communion.

## Please sanitise your hands

Please clean your hands using the provided hand sanitiser when entering and leaving the building.

## Digital order of service available

If you prefer, you can follow our order of service on your own phone or tablet. Just visit [wkrk.uk/oos](http://wkrk.uk/oos) on your browser or scan this QR Code.



## Communion is your choice

Communion is available as both bread and wine, but if you wish to only receive the bread please do so and then return to your seat. Receiving only the bread is still considered to be full communion by the Church of England.

## Children welcome

We love having children at our services and we want them – and their families – to love being here. If your children need to move around or make noise during the service, please don't feel uncomfortable. We are glad to hear and see them: they are the future of the church!

Toys and activities are provided in our Family Corner just inside the main door and children are welcome to make use of these either in this area or in their pew. Please note that this area is not supervised; children must be supervised by a responsible adult at all times.

## Safeguarding

Our Parish Safeguarding team can be contacted at any time. You can talk to Rev'd Claire or to Janet Blenkinsop, our Parish Safeguarding Officer, you can email [safeguarding@whitkirkchurch.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@whitkirkchurch.org.uk), or you can find more information and contact details at [wkrk.uk/safe](http://wkrk.uk/safe).

# **Upcoming services**

**Sung Eucharist for the first Sunday of Christmas**

Sunday 29 December at 10.00 am

**Please note that there is no midweek**

**Eucharist on New Year's Day**

# BC:AD

*U.A. Fanthorpe*

This was the moment when Before  
Turned into After, and the future's  
Uninvented timekeepers presented arms.

This was the moment when nothing  
Happened. Only dull peace  
Sprawled boringly over the earth.

This was the moment when even energetic Romans  
Could find nothing better to do  
Than counting heads in remote provinces.

And this was the moment  
When a few farm workers and three  
Members of an obscure Persian sect  
Walked haphazard by starlight straight  
Into the kingdom of heaven.



# The Gathering

*Please stand at the sound of the bell as the sacred ministers enter, during which a hymn is sung.*

**While shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down,  
and glory shone around.**

**'Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind);  
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to you and all mankind.**

**'To you in David's town this day  
is born of David's line  
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord,  
and this shall be the sign:**

**'The heav'nly Babe you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,  
and in a manger laid.'**

**Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith  
appeared a shining throng  
of angels praising God, who thus  
addressed their joyful song.**

**‘All glory be to God on high,  
and to the earth be peace;  
goodwill henceforth from heav’n to men  
begin and never cease.’**

*Words: Nahum Tate (1652-1715)*

*Music: from ‘Thomas Este’s Psalter’ (1592)*

*Hymn Tune: WINCHESTER OLD*

‘Do I not fill heaven and earth?’ says the Lord.

**Now the Word is made flesh  
and laid in a narrow manger.**

From eternity to eternity you are God,  
**and now we see you as a new-born child.**

## **The Greeting**

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you  
**and also with you.**



# Words of Welcome

## Prayers of Penitence

The sun of righteousness has dawned  
with healing in his wings.

Let us come to the light of Christ,  
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*cf Malachi 4.2*

*Silence is kept.*

God our Father,  
you sent your Son full of grace and truth:  
forgive our failure to receive him.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus our Saviour,  
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:  
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit of Love, your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:  
forgive the hardness of our hearts.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness  
draw you to himself  
and cleanse you from all your sins,  
that you may behold the glory of his Son,  
the Word made flesh,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

**Glory to God, we give you thanks and praise;  
of heav'nly joy and earthly peace we sing;  
we worship you, to you our hearts we raise,  
Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,  
you bore for us the load of this world's sin.  
O Lamb of God, your glorious vict'ry won,  
receive our pray'r, grant us your peace within.**

**Alone, O Christ, you only are the Lord,  
at God's right hand in majesty most high:  
who with the Spirit worshipped and adored;  
with all the heav'nly host we glorify.**

# The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration that our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever.'*

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,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

# The Liturgy of the Word

*Please sit.*

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy

at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

*Isaiah 9.2-7*

This is the word of the Lord.

### **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as the gradual hymn is sung. During the hymn a procession will make its way to the centre of the nave from where the Gospel for the day is read. To symbolise our desire to turn to Christ in our daily lives, at the end of the hymn we remain standing and turn to face the place where the Gospel is proclaimed.*

**See amid the winter's snow,  
born for us on earth below;  
see the tender Lamb appears,  
promised from eternal years:  
*Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!*  
*Hail, redemption's happy dawn!*  
*Sing through all Jerusalem,*  
*Christ is born in Bethlehem.***

**Lo, within a manger lies  
he who built the starry skies;  
he who, throned in height sublime,  
sits amid the cherubim:  
*Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!*  
*Hail, redemption's happy dawn!*  
*Sing through all Jerusalem,*  
*Christ is born in Bethlehem.***

**Say, ye holy shepherds, say  
what your joyful news today;  
wherefore have ye left your sheep  
on the lonely mountain steep?  
*Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!*  
*Hail, redemption's happy dawn!*  
*Sing through all Jerusalem,*  
*Christ is born in Bethlehem.***

**'As we watched at dead of night,  
lo, we saw a wondrous light;  
angels singing "Peace on earth"  
told us of the Saviour's birth.'**

***Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.***

**Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,  
by thy face so meek and mild,  
teach us to resemble thee,  
in thy sweet humility:**

***Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.***

*Words: Edward Caswall (1814-1878)*

*Music: John Goss (1800-1880)*

*Hymn Tune: HUMILITY (OXFORD)*

## **Gospel Reading**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And

suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!’

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.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*Luke 2.1-20*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

*Please sit after the preacher leads us in prayer.*



# The Nicene Creed

*Please stand with the president.*

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the  
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*Following an invitation to pray from the intercessor we kneel or sit to pray.*

*The response to the bidding:*

Lord, in your mercy.

is

**Hear our prayer.**

*Then at the end:*

Merciful Father,

**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
Our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

*Please stand with the president.*

## The Peace

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace  
to all in whom he delights.

*Luke 2.14*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*This is usually a handshake shared with those near you.*

# Preparation of the Table

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

*A hymn is sung. During this hymn a collection, our financial offering in support of the work of the church both at St. Mary's and across our diocese, is taken.*

*You can place cash or giving envelopes on the collection plates as they are passed around. If you would prefer, or if you miss the plate, you can also give by scanning this QR code, or by tapping your contactless card or device on the card reader by the door as you leave.*



**Hark! the herald-angels sing  
glory to the new-born King;  
peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled:  
joyful all ye nations rise,  
join the triumph of the skies,  
with th'angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.  
*Hark! the herald-angels sing  
glory to the new-born King.***

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come  
offspring of a virgin's womb:  
veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
hail th'incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.**

***Hark! the herald-angels sing  
glory to the new-born King.***

**Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
ris'n with healing in his wings;  
mild he lays his glory by,  
born that man no more may die,  
born to raise the sons of earth,  
born to give them second birth.**

***Hark! the herald-angels sing  
glory to the new-born King.***

*Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

*Music: Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)*

*Verse 3 arranged by David Valentine Willcocks (1919-2015)*

*Hymn Tune: MENDELSSOHN*

## **Taking of the Bread and Wine**

Word made flesh, life of the world,  
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:  
by your Spirit may we share in your riches.

**Amen.**

*Please kneel or sit.*

## **The Eucharistic Prayer (A)**

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,  
and was born of the Virgin Mary  
by the power of your Spirit,  
and lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh  
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,  
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In him we see our God made visible  
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.



Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

*The **Agnus Dei** is sung as the bread is broken for distribution.*

**Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
grant us peace.**

## **Invitation to Communion**

Christ is the true bread  
which has come down from heaven.

**Lord, give us this bread always.**

*The president and people receive communion. All baptised Christians are welcome to receive the sacrament. Please follow the guidance offered by the stewards.*

*If you are not baptised, or would prefer to not receive, then do still come forward for a blessing bringing this book with you so the president knows your intention.*

*The sacrament is available in both kinds, however if you wish to only receive the bread please do so and then return to your place. Receiving in one kind is still considered to be full communion by the Church of England. Please do not dip bread in the wine (sometimes called 'intincting').*

*For those at home it might be helpful to use this prayer during the distribution.*

*God of rough hands  
and hardened feet,  
giving light to the daughters and sons of earth:  
in agony of birth  
and gentleness of new-born skin,  
may we discover your ordinary beauty  
in the heart of our longing world;  
through Jesus Christ, the Icon of the Unseen God.  
Amen.*

## **Anthem**

*Sung by the Choir.*

Silent night, holy night,  
all is calm, all is bright;  
round yon virgin mother and child,  
holy infant so tender and mild;  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,  
shepherds first saw the sight;  
glories stream from heav'n afar,  
heav'nly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ the Saviour is born,  
Christ the Saviour is born.

Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light;  
radiance beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace;  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

*Words: Joseph Franciscus Mohr (1792-1848)  
translated by John Freeman Young (1820-1885)  
Music: Franz Xaver Grüber (1787-1863)  
arranged by Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)*

*The following communion hymns may be sung during the distribution as time allows. Please remain seated.*

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.  
bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.**

*Words: 19<sup>th</sup> century (American)*

*Music: William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)*

*arranged by David Valentine Willcocks (1919-2015)*

*Hymn Tune: CRADLE SONG*

**Infant holy, infant lowly,  
for his bed a cattle stall;  
oxen lowing, little knowing  
Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging angels singing,  
nowells ringing, tidings bringing,  
Christ the babe is Lord of all,  
Christ the babe is Lord of all.**

**Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping  
vigil till the morning new,  
saw the glory, heard the story,  
tidings of a gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,  
praises voicing, greet the morrow,  
Christ the babe was born for you,  
Christ the babe was born for you.**

*Words: Translated from the Polish by*

*Edith Margaret Gellibrand Reed (1885-1933)*

*Music: Polish traditional melody arranged by Colin Hand (1929-2015)*

*Hymn Tune: WELOBIE LEZY*

# The Post Communion Prayers

*Please stand as the president introduces a time of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'.*

God our Father,  
whose Word has come among us  
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:  
may the light of faith illumine our hearts  
and shine in our words and deeds;  
through him who is Christ the Lord.

**Amen.**

**Merciful God,  
you have called us to your table  
and fed us with the bread of life.  
Draw us and all people to serve your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

*A hymn is sung.*

**O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him  
born the King of Angels:  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!**

**God of God,  
Light of light,  
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
very God,  
begotten, not created:  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!**

**Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
glory to God  
in the highest:  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!**



**Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning,  
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing:  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!**

*Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786)  
translated by Frederick Oakley (1802-1880) and others  
Music: John Francis Wade (1711-1786)  
arranged by David Valentine Willcocks (1919-2015)  
Hymn Tune: ADESTE FIDELES*

## **The Dismissal**

### **The Blessing**

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one  
things earthly and heavenly,  
fill you with peace and goodwill  
and make you partakers of the divine nature;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light.

**For to us a child is born  
to us a Son is given.**

His name will be called  
Wonderful Counsellor, mighty God,  
**the everlasting Father,  
the Prince of Peace.**

Glory to God in the highest  
**and peace to his people on earth.**

## **The Dismissal**

Go in peace.  
Proclaim the Word made flesh.

**Glory, thanks and praise to God.**



## Our regular services

- Sung Eucharist: Every Sunday at 10.00 am
- Said Eucharist: Every Wednesday at 10.00 am  
(Except New Year's Day)
- Choral Evensong: First Sunday of the month at 6.00 pm
- Compline: First Wednesday of the month at 8.30 pm  
Next on Wednesday 5 February  
(No Compline on New Year's Day)
- Daily Prayers: Tuesday to Saturday at 8.30am and 5.30pm

## Contact us

If you'd like to get in touch you can call us on **0113 264 5790**, send an email to **hello@whitkirkchurch.org.uk**, or find more details on our website at **whitkirkchurch.org.uk/contact**.

To help us reach net zero carbon emissions by 2030,  
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St Mary's Church, Whitkirk 390 Selby Road Leeds LS15 0AA

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