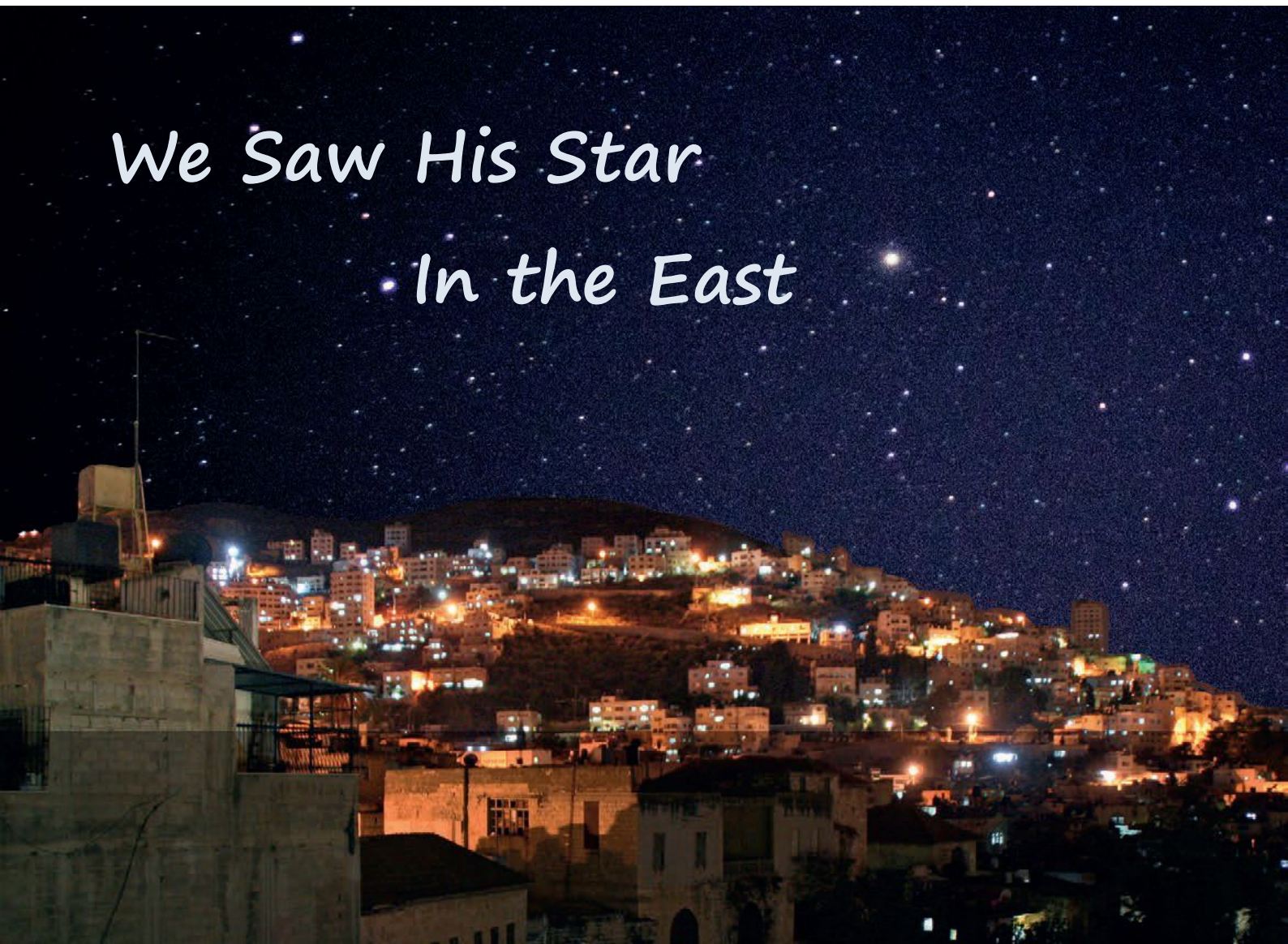


# Churches Together in Kingswood

*Bringing the love of Christ into our community*

## CHRISTMAS 2021 Events and Services

*We Saw His Star  
In the East*



Original photo of Nablus (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0): Dr. Michael Loadenthal

*Please note that all the events are subject to cancellation due to changes in government guidelines. For more details please see the Church Notice Boards or*

[kingswoodcongregational.org.uk](http://kingswoodcongregational.org.uk)  
[stmaryskingswood.org.uk](http://stmaryskingswood.org.uk)



## Reverse Advent Calendar

Boxes will be available to collect from the porch at St Mary's from the 29th November. Just add an item of food every day, then leave the box in the porch at St Mary's between **10:00-16:00 on 23rd or 24th December**

The Foodbank are also collecting presents for children. If you would like to buy a gift for a child leave it unwrapped at St Mary's between 10:00 – 16:00 Tuesdays & Saturdays before Tuesday 7th December



## Christingle

To help reduce the risk of spreading COVID we have decided not to hold our usual Christingle service. Instead we have invited **Kingswood Primary School** to bring all their children to St Mary's to receive a **Christingle** and hear a little about the work of the **Children's Society**.



If you would like to support the work of the Children's Society please donate online using [www.childrenssociety.org.uk/how-you-can-help/donate](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/how-you-can-help/donate)

*Families with children not at the village school are invited to make your own Christingle and bring it to a special service on Sunday 12th Dec at 6pm. Packs will be available to collect from the porch at St Mary's during the week before the service. For more details contact Val Abbott 01453 842029*



**Messy Church** packs will be delivered to all our Messy Church families at the start of December, with lots of crafts and puzzles to do.

Please share the results on our Facebook group page **Messy Church Kingswood**

*If you would like to receive a pack please email Sam Ponting at [messychurchkingswood@gmail.com](mailto:messychurchkingswood@gmail.com)*

## Gift Service

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December 10:30 Congregational Church**

Please buy a gift for a child and bring it along to our Gift Service. All the gifts are donated to the Foodbank, and need to be unwrapped so that the parents can choose and wrap something they know their children will love.



# Hey – I Bring You News of Great Joy!

The thing is, there hasn't been an awful lot of good news lately has there. Even the common cold has become super powered and there may not be enough turkeys for the main event on the 25th. People tell us things will get better but we can't see it. Imagine then, someone appearing from nowhere telling us that he brings us good news. Well that actually happened many years ago and the man said it was news of great joy and that it was for everyone. Christ was born and the good part of it was that he would enable everybody to live and not be condemned by the way that we live. All we have to do is believe that Jesus the Christ is God's son and ask him to help us be with him. Now consider this. Out of all of the myriad of so-called gods, Jesus is the only one who came back from the dead – just as he said he would. Now that is good news and worth putting trust in him. So forget Christmas is cancelled because there is no turkey. If Christ were taken out of Christmas all that we are left with is a party. A momentary event. Whereas Christ is forever. Celebrate this Christmas by asking Jesus into your life and put the meaning back into Christmas.



**Bob Hart**

## Christmas Services and Carols

### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> **CAROL SERVICES**

**3:00pm Christmas Readings And Carols**

*Congregational Church*

**6:00pm Carol Service – St Mary's**

*Traditional readings, choir and carols*

*with the newly restored Sweetland Organ.*

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm**

### **CAROLS ON THE CHIPPING**

*Collecting money and food for the Foodbank*

### **CHRISTMAS EVE**

**6:00pm Crib Service St Mary's**

**11:30pm Midnight Mass St Mary's**

### **CHRISTMAS MORNING**

**10:00am Congregational Church**

**10:30am St Mary's**





# We Saw His Star in the East

**Week of prayer for Christian Unity 18<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> January**

*This year the text has been chosen by the churches of the Middle East, the history of which was, and still is, characterized by conflict and strife, tainted with blood and darkened by injustice and oppression.*

**Join us online at 7pm**

**Led by members of both churches**

## ***How to join us for worship.***

*All are welcome to join us in church or online. In the Congregational Church the same service is available in church and online. At St Mary's the in church and online services are different.*

**Online** Use a phone, tablet or computer with access to the internet. Links are sent weekly. Email [robbyh1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:robbyh1@hotmail.co.uk) (Congregational) or [news@stmaryskingswood.org.uk](mailto:news@stmaryskingswood.org.uk) (St Mary's) to get the links sent to you.

<b>Sunday Service</b>	09:00 St Mary's	10:30 Congregational
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<b>Wednesday – Morning Prayer</b>	09:00 St Mary's	
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**In Church** When attending please use **Face Masks** until you are seated, and sanitise hands on entry and exit.

<b>Sundays</b>	10:30 St Mary's	10:30 Congregational (weekly)
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**By Phone** Every **Monday** at 10am. Psalms, readings, prayer and a message. For details of how to join email [news@stmaryskingswood.org.uk](mailto:news@stmaryskingswood.org.uk)

Additionally **St Mary's** is open 10:00–16:00 Tuesdays & Saturdays for individual prayer (donations for the food bank can be left at these times), the **Congregational Church** is open Wednesday 12:00-13:00 for prayer. Also join us for a **Coffee and Chat** Wednesdays 9:30-11:00 Lower School Room

*If you are in financial crisis call **0808 2082138** for free (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm) to talk confidentially with a trained Citizens Advice adviser. They can help address your crises and provide support to maximise your income, help you navigate the benefits system, and identify any additional grants you could be entitled to. If needed, they'll issue you with a voucher so you can get an emergency food parcel delivered by the food bank.*