

Prayer for the Persecuted Church

Eldos Satar Uluu, a 25-year-old believer from a Muslim background from Kyrgyzstan, has been beaten for refusing to deny his faith in Jesus. He was home alone when three men broke into his house. "They began hitting him and kicking him until he fell on the floor. They shouted at him that he is a 'kafir' (infidel), and that he had betrayed Islam. Then they kicked his head while on the floor, breaking several of his front teeth and his jaw-bone," a neighbour has said. Thankfully Eldos survived the attack, but is still in hospital following surgery. Shockingly, one of the attackers came to the hospital to try and persuade Eldos and his family to drop their complaint to the authorities about the attack. A relative said Eldos 'was threatened with death if he did not do this'.

As well as his physical injuries, Eldos has begun to have panic attacks following his beating and the ongoing threats against him. His family are also extremely distressed. Eldos' sister, who was six months pregnant, had a miscarriage due to the shock and stress.

Please pray for Eldos and his family. Eldos has said, "I am still alive because of the prayers of many people. I can feel it."

PLEASE PRAY:

- For complete healing for Eldos
- For comfort for him and his family, especially his sister
- For protection from further attacks and threats
- That God will change the hearts of Eldos' attackers and draw them to Himself.

Information provided by Open Doors



Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Volunteer to check shoeboxes from Kent for Operation Christmas Child, and send thousands of gift boxes to share God's love this Christmas with children in need worldwide.

2(+) sessions are being held until 8th December at Unit 5A-B, Cannon Bridge Industrial Estate, Cannon Lane, Tonbridge (opposite Mercedes

Trucks). For more info contact Julie Pinnell on juliepinnell@btconnect.com or 01892 863300.



Every week they gathered for Bible Study

Calligraphy



We need to update the "Gift Book" in which we record any special gifts or legacies we receive. Does anyone have calligraphy skill and would be willing to make a small number of entries in the Gift Book? If so, please contact Andrea in the Church Office.

Church Membership

If you would like to know more about St Mary's and increasing your commitment to our church community, please speak with Douglas or one of the Church Wardens, Edward Pinnell or Japs Kuhepa, about our home groups, helping with some of our many church activities, or about joining the Electoral Roll and our regular giving arrangements.

ST MARY'S CHURCH SPELDHURST

We welcome any visitors and friends to our worship today

18th November 2018

Second Sunday before Advent

10 am

Parish Communion (John Perkins & David King)

Readings: Acts 2: 42-47 (p.1094) (Jean-Claude Koechlin)

Mark 13:1-8 (p.1019) (Jo Eames)

Intercessions led by Sue Ogley

For other details see separate service sheet or powerpoint followed by refreshments at the back of church

6 pm

Evensong (David Lamey)

Readings: Acts 2: 42-47 (p.1094) (Jean Angus)

Mark 13:1-8 (p.1019) (Sandy Scott)

Hymns: A&M 49; SoF 43; A&M 374; A&M 239

Psalm 16



Collect for the Second Sunday before Advent

Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world's salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**NEXT
WEEK...**

25th November 2018

Sunday next before Advent

8 am

Holy Communion (1662) (Douglas Wren)

10 am

All-Age Toy Service (Jenny Fitzsimmons & Karol Leeves)



The family and friends of Tony Streeter as they prepare for his funeral this week;

and from St Mary's Prayer Cycle:

- 1) Ferbies and Dene Way
- 2) Ferbies Close
- 3) Diocesan and Deanery Synods
- 4) Other ministries (Bellringers, Flower Arrangers, Cleaners and Coffee Providers)

All items for inclusion in the next newsheet should reach the office by

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 30TH at 9 a.m.

01892 861187 or e-mail: speldhurst.church@btopenworld.com



Monday to Friday	8.30 am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday 20th	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice
Thursday 22nd	3 pm	Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Tony Streeter
Friday 23rd	7.30 pm	Community Choir practice 4
Saturday 24th	10 am - 12 noon	Bellringing Practice

SERVICES ELSEWHERE IN THE UNITED PARISH

25th November 2018

St Martin's, Ashurst 11 am Holy Communion (1662) (Douglas Wren)
No separate service at St John's, Groombridge

Tony Streeter

A Memorial Service for Tony Streeter will be held here at St Mary's on Thursday November 22nd at 3 pm to which all will be very welcome.



It's Posada time again ... sign up now!

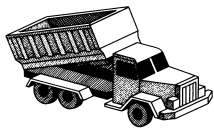
During the evenings leading up to Christmas Day, a 'nativity set' of Joseph and Mary travels around the village on a rota basis visiting a different family or place every night. Then on Christmas morning they are brought back into church to be placed in the crib. The night

Mary and Joseph 'stay' provides a great opportunity for you and your family to share together the true meaning of Christmas.
If you would like to offer a home for the night to the 'nativity set' sign the list on the noticeboard in the church porch. Still unsure? For more details contact Charlotte Clark - charlotteclark@hotmail.co.uk or 01892 263429.

ALL-AGE TOY SERVICE

AND CHURCH PARADE FOR THE UNIFORMED GROUPS

SUNDAY 25TH NOVEMBER AT 10 AM



This year we will again be collecting toys for the Mayor's Toy Appeal. This provides toys, books, games and gifts for children in need living in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells. The purpose of the appeal is to help and support families who are disadvantaged (permanently or temporarily) by providing suitable presents for their children at Christmas. Donations do not need to be wrapped. Please give generously.

Real Advent Calendars

There are a few remaining Real Advent Calendars that will be on sale at the back of the church after this morning's service.

The calendar is a fun way for parents, grandparents and Godparents to share the Christmas story. It comes with a 24-page Christmas story activity book designed to be used every day in Advent. The calendar is produced by The Meaningful Chocolate Company which is run by people who are passionate about ethical trading and faith. Money raised from this year's Real Advent Calendar will help The Funzi and Bodo Trust provide more than 600,000 eggs a year to feed children in Kenya, buy books for schools and supply medicines.

Features of the calendar



- 24-page Christmas story activity book
- Behind each of the 25 windows there is a line from the Christmas story with colourful matching picture
- Foiled for freshness
- 25 Festive chocolates made from a quality Fairtrade blend-35% cocoa
- Palm oil free Charitable donation
- Recyclable box and tray Made, designed and produced in the UK

Price £4

You can also purchase a calendar by emailing sarahdecarle@btinternet.com and arrange delivery and payment direct.



Away Giving

As you will probably recall, each year we give away 10% of our income (about £12,200 this year) to mainly Christian based charities, with a focus on overseas organisations in developing countries as money tends to buy more in such areas. The team this year will be Paul Eames, Helen Coffin, Francesca Kamupira and Michael Rock, with a little continuing help from Janet Crisp. If you know of any charities which you feel the team should consider, please let Andrea in the Church Office have the details. Obviously, nothing should be said to raise expectations at this stage.

Martin Atkinson

A warm welcome to all new families to Speldhurst and St. Mary's Church. To help your children get to know others in our church and learn more about their faith, they can come to any of the church groups that run for all ages during the week, daytime or evening, and on Sundays.



A separate leaflet giving details can be found at the back of the church.

Groups running during the Sunday services are as follows:

- Crèche in the tower room - 0 to 4 year olds
- Sunday Club in the school hall - 2 ½ to Year 4
- Outback in the vestry - from Year 5

It is important that we keep to these age ranges as it helps children to make friends of their own age and leaders can prepare using age appropriate resources.

We look forward to seeing you and your children soon!