

TATTENHALL, HANDLEY
& BURWARDSLEY
PARISH NEWS
December/January 2026



A Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year

An Advent Appeal from Father Lameck

Dear Parishioners,

Give St Alban's Church a Christmas Gift

Christmas blessings and heartfelt good wishes for a peaceful and festive season.

This Christmas, please remember St Alban's- its heritage, its pastoral care and community work in your gift list.

In order to survive we need your generosity. Our church needs repairs, our villagers need help and our community needs comfort. St Alban's Church needs your donations to keep it open and to provide support for all of our community. As our village faces changing times please make a donation this Advent to ensure St Alban's future as the spiritual heart of Tattenhall. Our Church's future is in our hands and together we can keep the lights on.



To help it last, please put St Alban's first.



To Give Something This Christmas

Account name: Tattenhall PCC

Bank sort code: 40-44-03

Account number: 91110624

"Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go. for to you I entrust my life"(Psalm 143:8)



A Festive Message from Father Kameck



Dear Beloved Parish Family,

As we gather to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, may our hearts be filled with awe and gratitude for the greatest gift ever given which was God's love made flesh in the humble manger of Bethlehem.

Christmas reminds us that the light shines brightest in the darkness. In a world often clouded by worry and division, Christ comes again to bring hope, peace, and joy. His love calls us to draw nearer to one another in order that we forgive, serve and share His goodness with all. May your homes be filled with laughter, warmth, and the presence of Christ this Christmas.

As we enter this blessed Christmas season, our hearts are drawn once more to the humble stable in Bethlehem, where God's eternal love took on human form in the birth of Jesus Christ. In the stillness of that holy night, heaven touched earth, and hope was born for all people. Christmas is a time to rejoice, to give thanks, and to renew our faith in

God's promise. It reminds us that even in the midst of life's challenges, the light

of Christ shines with unwavering brightness.



His coming brings peace where there is turmoil, joy where there is sorrow, and love where there is division. As a parish family, may we open our hearts to that same light and share it generously with our families, our neighbours, and those in need. Let us be bearers of Christ's love in every word and deed, reflecting the true meaning of Christmas beyond this season.

On behalf of the churchwardens and myself, I wish each of you and your loved ones a holy, joyful, and peaceful Christmas. May the year ahead be filled with God's abundant blessings, and may Christ dwell ever more deeply in our hearts and in our community.

Merry Christmas to you all and a Happy New Year.



Tattenhall Advent Trail



Wednesday 24th December

A new Advent Window will be revealed around the High Street every day through December.

On Christmas Eve let's walk the Trail together.

Everyone is invited to meet at the Mill Field (by The Barbour Institute) at 4:00pm to walk the Trail, ending at the church for The Blessing of the Crib Service at 4:30pm.

Don't forget your Nativity costumes, festive jumpers, lanterns, torches and cosy coats for a festive walk.

CAROLS at the Letters

*with St Alban's Church on
Thursday 18th December
from 7:30pm*

*Father Lameck cordially invites you to join us
from 7:30 pm at the Letters Inn
for Carol singing.*

*It's just singing with the voice that God has given
you - you don't have to be a chorister!*



search 'tattenhall church' for full details of our Services, events and how we can help you.

tattparish.news@hotmail.com

FINANCIAL PROBLEMS?



Have you got enough money to pay for everything you need this month?

Are you worried about how much you owe on your electricity bill?

Are you wondering how you can get that school sweater and pay for the school trip?

CONTACT TATTENHALL CARES – WE CAN HELP

Call 01829 770482 or email

tattenhall.cares@gmail.com

All applications and transactions are strictly confidential



with The Tattenhall Singers

ST ALBAN'S CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Everyone is welcome to join us for an evening of readings, carols and Christmas Spirit, and then join us for mince pies and mulled wine after the service

Sunday 21st December at 6:30 pm

search 'tattenhall church' for full details of our Services, events and how we can help you.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

The Churches of Tattenhall, Handley and Burwardsley

Churches without Walls

Rector: Rev. Canon Lameck Mutete, The Rectory, Tattenhall 770245

Churchwardens Tattenhall

George Richards

770482

Ruth Morgan

771841

Handley

Christine Walley 771976

Alison Carter

Burwardsley

Barbara Sculthorpe 770418

Debbie Spencer

DIOCEASAN NEWS

Licenced Lay Ministers Training (LLM)

The Diocese of Chester is looking for people who feel called to lay ministry. But what is this all about? Licensed Lay Ministers (LLMs) are voluntary lay people who are theologically and practically trained to work alongside ordained and associate ministers as a valuable resource for the Church. They are licensed by the bishop, usually to specific parishes, and are accountable to both the bishop and their incumbent (or equivalent) to equip the church in their context for ministry, mission and discipleship. LLMs are a vital part of the ministry and life of local churches across the diocese. If you are interested in this course, please get in touch with the rector.



THREE CHURCHES TOGETHER



Please note that Father Lameck will be on leave from 4th January to 2nd February. For funerals and any services, please get in touch with the churchwardens.

For any church related matters including services, funeral, baptisms and funerals, contact:

Tattenhall George Richards 01829 770482

or Ruth Morgan

07753673334

Handley Chris Whaley

07840808898

or Alison Carter

07828098859

Burwardsley Pam Moyle

07483226448

Sunday Services

St Alban's Tattenhall 8.00am

Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer

10.30 am

Holy Communion according to Common Worship

10.00 am

Every Wednesday Communion Worship Service

N.B. First Sunday of the month

Family Service with new structure

Songs of praise with shortened Communion.

Sunday School for children.

tattparish.news@hotmail.com

All Saints Handley	9.15am	First Sunday of the month Family Service—no Communion
	9.15am	Third Sunday Holy Communion according to Common Worship
Burwardsley	4.30pm	Second Sunday of the month only Songs of Praise

Please see notices for details of services over the Christmas period.

ST. ALBAN'S, TATTENHALL

18th December- 7.30 pm Christmas Carol Singing at the Letters Inn



Please come and join us at the Letters Inn which is a 'Traditional Village Pub in the heart of Cheshire'. There will also be some raffle tickets sale in aid of our local church in Tattenhall. The raffle is also in memory of our dear late friend Glyn who always championed this fundraising activity. This will be an evening of fun and

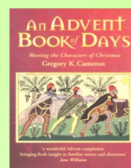
laughter with the Ragtag Band. Please come and join us as we sing together all the memorable carols and do not miss this exciting moment to come and sing your favourite carol.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY 2025



The Advent Bible study starts on 19th November- 10th December

"An Advent Book of Days" (book by Bishop Gregory Cameron).



During the Advent season, we will be studying the above book written by Bishop Gregory Cameron. An Advent Book of Days tells the stories of all the characters and creatures that make up the Christmas story, with daily prayers and reflections based on their experiences. Fully illustrated in colour, this rich seasonal companion combines the bible, history, art and legend to explore the story of the incarnation. For each day of Advent, we meet a character caught up in the drama of the nativity, from the archangel Gabriel to the ox and ass in the stable. We discover what their portrayal in scripture reveals about them, how they have been understood in history, what folk legends have accrued around them, and what their stories offer for faith and devotion today. This is a book to engage all the senses and the imagination, to be enjoyed slowly and to shed new light on the most famous and familiar story of all.

St Alban's Diary Dates for December 2025

December 18 th	7.30pm	Carols at The letters
December 21 st	6.30pm	Christmas Carol Service
December 24 th	4.00pm	Advent Trail from the Barbour Institute
	4.30pm	Nativity Service and Blessing of the Crib
December 24 th	11.30pm	Communion Service (Common Worship)
December 25 th	8.00am	Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
	10.30am	Communion (Common Worship)

THE LOSS CAFÉ AT St. Albans
There will be no Loss Café in December.
It will return on on Friday 27th February 2026.

Venue The Community Room Time 10 am -11.30 am



*Have you experienced a loss so profound that it feels like a part of you is missing? A relative, friend, pet, job, a major part of your life – gone, leaving loneliness, emptiness, despair. YOU ARE NOT ALONE! We know how it feels; we share your pain. Come to St Alban's and join us in a non-religious, small group setting. A qualified bereavement counsellor will explain the 7 stages of grief and how we may become 'stuck' at any stage. We learn to move forward by listening and sharing our experiences. Sometimes we have music, we laugh and it's okay to cry. We share coping strategies and support one another. We can't replace who or what you have lost, Everyone is warmly welcomed. For more information, contact the Rector on 01829 770245.
Please be aware that what we share within the group is confidential.*

From the Registers

Marriage

20th September

Tobiaz Marut and Faye Louise Durrant

Baptism

5th October

Hamish William Michael Carson

Funerals in Church

10th September

Sheila Chapman

15th September

Lesley (Les) Norman Evans

27th October

Heather Aspinall

Church Service and Burial

23rd September

Keith Henry Harding

Burial of Remains

28th October

Noel Frances

Obituary

Sheila Mary Chapman 1950-2025

It is doubtful that you would find a more fierce advocate for Tattenhall than Sheila who over many years gave so much of herself over to the community that she loved. Being instrumental in having the first playground on the park built to serve for over 30 years on the parish council, her fundraising efforts took her from running tombolas, organising jumble sales and what she is probably most remembered for, setting herself up in the High Street to sell raffle tickets to passersby. In recognition of these activities Sheila has been posthumously awarded the Freedom of the Borough of Cheshire West and Chester. Her almost encyclopedic knowledge of music from the 60's, 70's and 80's will be much missed, especially by her fellow quizzer that she loved to attend. Sheila is survived by her husband John, her son Ben and her two beautiful granddaughters Matilda and Rosalie. May her soul rest in peace eternally and rise in glory.

Keith Henry Harding (87yrs))

A true character.

Born 3rd August 1938, Wyche lane, Bunbury. Sadly, he passed away on 5th September 2025 with loved ones near. Keith led a fulfilled life full of the things he loved, leaving a legacy and a huge hole in our lives. Husband to the late Pam. Much loved father to Robin, father in law to Helen, grandfather to Chloe, Hannah, John and Eleanor, great grandfather to Ivy, Holly and Cameron. An admired farmer and thoughtful friend. Greatly missed from Elm farm and Harding Avenue by many, those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always there. In our thoughts and forever in our hearts. Rest in peace. We thank you all kindly for your generous donations with £592.10 raised for The Hospice of the Good Shepherd.

St Alban's Church Confirmation Service

Date: 14th December 2025

Time 10.30 am

By Bishop Mark

There will be a confirmations service at St Alban's Church on the above date. If there is anyone from our parish who would like to be confirmed, please get in touch with the rector. The deadline is 1st December.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, HANDLEY

21st December Christmas Carol Service

4.30pm

It is that time of the year when the church invites all those who live in our community and beyond to come and be part of our Carol Service. Please invite your friends and relatives this year and celebrate the coming of the Messiah; Jesus Christ. See you then!!



December 25th Common Worship Eucharist Service 9.15am

The Churchwardens and all members of the P.C.C. wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

ST JOHN'S CHURCH, BURWARDSLEY

Father Lameck and team would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and peaceful 2026.

St John's held their first rock concert on September 19th much to the delight of Burwardsley residents. It was an evening to remember and enjoyed by everyone. There was much music and dancing and indeed our own Father Lameck was tempted to join the dance. Many thanks to Jon Jacks and his band The Devoted for such a fantastic fundraising night and we look forward to the next one.

St John's harvest festival was very well attended and was followed by a harvest supper of beef hotpot, crusty bread, apple crumble and custard. A very welcome bar was provided by Jon Jacks. The evening was very much enjoyed and helped to raise funds for St John's roof repair. Thanks go Mike and Beryl Lea, Jon Jacks, Sheryl from Poffee and to all that worked to make it such a successful evening..

Everyone is welcome to join Father Lameck for **Carols at The Pheasant**, Burwardsley



on Friday 12th December at 7pm. This is an informal and enjoyable fundraising evening. Thank you to The Pheasant for their support and hospitality.

St Johns Carol Service will be held on Sunday 14th December at 4-30pm. There will be light refreshments and drinks to follow. As this will be our final service of the year, it would be lovely to welcome you all to join us for this special service.

Once again we are appealing to you to consider making a regular monthly donation by standing order if you wish to see St John's remain open. Alternatively you might consider the Legacy Pot Scheme by collecting 12 of the small yellow Legacy Pot envelopes at the back of the church and donating a small amount each month.

For those happy to donate via standing order our bank details are:

Nat West Bank Sort Code 60 40 08

Account No 03377741

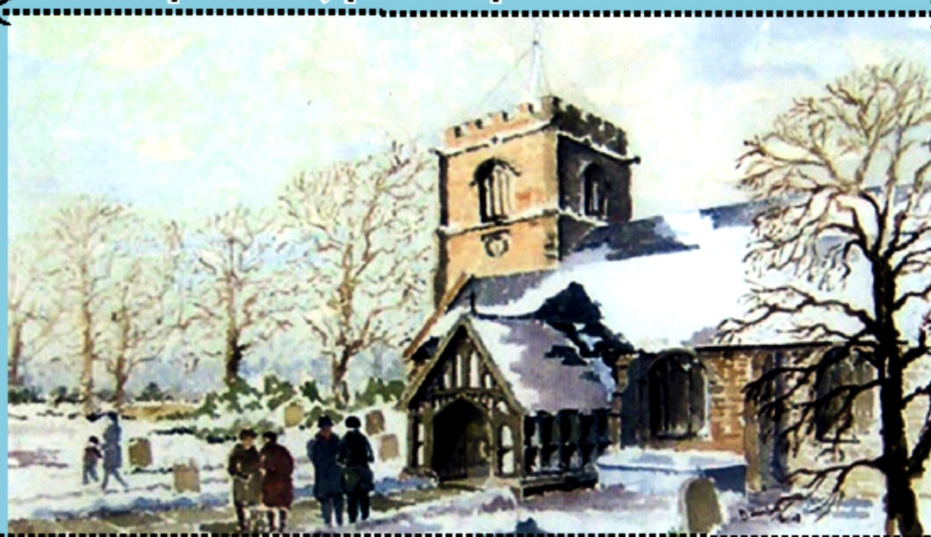
Account Name: Burwardsley Parochial Church Council

From the Editor:

Thank you to all the volunteers who give up their time throughout the year to deliver the Parish News across all three parishes. Their help is very much appreciated.

St Alban's Tattenhall Advent Appeal 2025

This Christmas, please support the maintenance and work of the church in the community with the gift of a donation. Funds are needed to keep St Alban's as the thriving heart of our village. To help it last, please put St Alban's first.



To Donate

Account name: Tattenhall PCC

Bank sort code: 40-44-03

Account number: 91110624

TATTENHALL and DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL



tattenhallpc.co.uk



Parish Clerk: Ann Wright, 62 Well Street, Malpas, SY14 8QH
Telephone: 01948 861035 Email: clerk@tattenhallpc.co.uk

Snowman Trail

The snowman trail is back again this year, find the 8 snowmen each of which will have a letter hidden somewhere on them. Collect all 8 letters and work out the magical Christmas word and pick up your Christmas treat from Morton's Spar!!

The trail will run from Friday 28th November until 24th December.



Letters to Father Christmas

Father Christmas has asked his elves to set up the magic letter box to the North Pole again. Remember to include your name and address in your letter so he can send a reply!

The post box will be on the Sleigh outside Olympus house.

Last Post 4pm Thursday 18th December

Councillors

At our November meeting the Council co-opted 3 new councillors; **Carol Dzelzainis, Lesley Morris and Kirsty Williams.**

We still have 1 vacancy to fill contact the clerk to find out more or to apply!

Neighbourhood Plan Review - Want to be kept informed?

Work is progressing on the Neighbourhood Plan Review and there are a number of ways you can be kept informed about all things Parish Council including the Neighbourhood Plan review, planning and other matters:

- Join our email distribution list by emailing clerk@tattenhallpc.co.uk
- Follow us on Facebook [@Tattenhall&DistrictParishCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/Tattenhall&DistrictParishCouncil)
- Visit our website www.tattenhallpc.co.uk
- Check out our noticeboard on the High Street.

Tattenhall & District Parish Council has 1 Councillor vacancy



*We need people to speak up....
People who care about their community....
& Who want to get involved....
....the question is, **is it you?***

To apply please send your contact details plus a short explanation as to why you would like to join the Council to the Clerk to the Council.

For more information or to apply contact the Clerk:
Ann Wright, 62 Well Street, Malpas, Cheshire, SY14 8QH.
☎: 01948 861 035 Email: clerk@tattenhallpc.co.uk

tattparish.news@hotmail.com



*Barbour Institute
Christmas, Craft Fair*

Sunday 7th December

1-4.00pm

*Wide variety of goods on
sale—shop locally for your
Christmas, presents!*

200 CLUB

There's still time to join!
Pick up an application form
from the front hall of the
Barbour Institute, download

it at barbourinstitute.co.uk or contact the office.

Remember—you have to be in it to win it!

Just £5 per month gives you the chance to win a
monthly prize and to go into both the half year draw
for £500 and the October Grand Draw for £1500.
The funds raised from the 200 Club help the Trustees keep the
Barbour Institute open for everyone to use.

Meditation in the Church



Every Tuesday
6.15pm - 7.00pm

**Come and join us for 30 minutes
without words in the tranquil
surroundings of our church.
Feel free to bring along any
downloaded meditations/aids on
devices with headphones.
Warm clothing is advised as the
nights draw in!
Donations for the upkeep of the
church are always welcome.**

What is missing from St Alban's great team of

VOL NTEE S

Can you spare some time to help us...

Look after the grounds?

Meet & greet at events?



Arrange flowers?



Keep the church tidy?

Do a bit of maintenance?



Read a lesson?



All volunteers help to
keep the church alive!



Perhaps an hour or two each
week whatever the task?

Visit www.tattenhallchurch.co.uk for full details of how you can help us at St Alban's.

Your church is open every day

from 10:00am to 5:00pm

Enjoy the peace and quiet

Experience a Church service

Join us in a social event

Absorb the history of the building

Appreciate the floral displays



You are always welcome

Visit www.tattenhallchurch.co.uk for full details
of our Services, events and how we can help you.

tattparish.news@hotmail.com

Blessing of the Crib
at St Alban's
Wednesday 24th December
at 4:30pm



All your family are welcome to join us for a half-hour service to see the Church in all its Christmas splendour, to bless the Crib and remember the real Christmas story



**Do come in your
Christmas jumper or
Nativity costume!**



search 'tattenhall church' for full details of our Services, events and how we can help you.



West Cheshire Rural u3a does not have a monthly meeting in December. At our January meeting the speaker will be Tullis Matson, Founder and Chair of Nature's SAF. Tullis is a pioneering expert in cryopreservation who is expanding his work to include conservation efforts for endangered species

Join us at the Barbour Institute Tattenhall from 2pm. For more information on u3a membership contact our membership secretary at membershipwcru3a@gmail.com



TATTENHALL OVER FIFTIES (TOFS)

It has been a busy year for Tattenhall Over Fifties (TOF's).

Our speakers have told us about tax and wills and a day at Buckingham Palace; demonstrated CPR and how a defibrillator works and made lovely soap and bubble bath. We have had several singers, a summer party, a quiz and a couple of afternoons of bingo.

Coach trips this Summer have taken us to town, country and seaside and the last one took us Christmas shopping at Boundary Mill.

We are already planning the programme for next year which will start with a quiz on Thursday 8th January (1 week later than usual) and a talk from Blood Bikes on Thursday 5th February.

But before that we will end 2025 with our Christmas lunch. This will be

provided by Alisons Country Kitchen, there will be entertainment from LeeAnn James and it all takes place on Thursday 4th December at the Barbour Institute at **1pm**

As the festive season approaches Tattenhall Over Fifties (TOF's) would like to say a huge thank you to every person and organisation that has supported us over the last 12 months. **We would also like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous 2026.**

TOF's meetings take place on the first Thursday of every month in the main hall of the Barbour Institute between 2 and 4 pm and new members are always welcome.

The Village Surgeries Group

**The surgery will be
open in December
and January and
closed on
3rd February 2026
from 1.00pm.**

**Phone lines will
switch to NHS 111 at
1.00pm on training
afternoons.**

POLICE CONTACT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY calls ONLY: Ring 999

INCIDENT calls: Ring 101

Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111

**Articles for the magazine can be sent to
tattparish.news@hotmail.com**



Tattenhall Music Society

Brass is back in Tattenhall

Tattenhall Music Society welcome 2026

on Sunday, January 11th 2026

with the BBC Brass Quintet

led by Gwyn Owen



Concert starts at 6.30pm, doors open 5.45pm

Tickets £14 (under 18 years are free) and can be purchased on the door cash or card payment

Any enquiries Anne McGrath 01829 770932

m McGrath.prickleygreen@btopenworld.com



"TRICK OR TREAT" – what was that all about?

Basically, it's an Americanisation of the traditional All Souls night, where the children of the parish would sing at each homestead in exchange for a treat from the lady of the house on the eve of "All Hallows" or "All Souls" day when all the souls of dearly departed friends and family would be hallowed (revered) - hence the name Halloween" corrupted from "Hallow evening".

The song I used to sing in my childhood days was

"Souler, Souler, souler cake
Please, good Missus, a souler cake,
Apple or pear, plum or cherry –
Any good thing to make us merry.
If you've not got a penny a ha'penny will do.
If you haven't a ha'penny then God bless you."

A soul cake, also known as a soulmass-cake, is a small round cake with sweet spices, which resembles a shortbread biscuit.

The song had variations throughout the county although there were verses too, we sang just the chorus (less time at each house!) Fancy dress was optional, but most made an effort with old bed-sheets for ghostly attire or some of Mum's make-up for a ghoulish look.

**BROWN KNOWL
METHODIST CHAPEL
Rev. Donna Broadbent-Kelly
01948 664369**

You are welcome to join us for worship on Sunday Mornings at 10.45am followed by Coffee and biscuits.
For any further information please phone or see our website. Details below or contact 01244 535231 for general information.
Website: www.browknowlmethodist.com



***Tattenhall Bridge
Club
THURSDAY
AFTERNOONS***

We meet on a Thursday in the Community Room of St Alban's Church from 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. to play duplicate bridge. We promise a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Not suitable for beginners but a good first duplicate club for those familiar with rubber / Chicago play. If interested please contact: Val Meeks
Email: Val.Meeks@Yahoo.co.uk
Phone: 01829 770781
***Val Meeks
Club Secretary***

PARISH NEWS DEADLINES 2024

Please remember that if you miss the deadline your item may not be published.

**The Parish News is published every
second month.**

Deadlines for 2026:

**9th January; 13th March; 15th May;
10th July; 11th September;
13th November**

This Newsletter is published by St. Alban's Parochial Church Council. **The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Council or the Editor.**

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Application for the inclusion of adverts has to be approved by the Editorial Board, such requests being directed to Steve Robinson:email deezel2206@sky.com.

Loss Café at St Alban's



The Loss Café is not a religious group. It is for all people from all walks of life who would like to share their moments of despair and how they are managing their respective situations. Loss is not always about death but anything that adds value to your life. Please let us know if you would like to join the Loss Café either as:

- a. A volunteer just to make tea/coffee for others
- b. A member of the loss Café willing to come and share, listen or teach

If you fall into one of the above categories, please get in touch with:
Father Lameck-01829 770245/07903951541

N.B. We only meet once a month on the last Friday in the morning.

Don't be Alone! Just come and share

Come along to the loss café where you can get a cup of tea and cake in a friendly environment while talking, listening or sharing your journey with like-minded people. We offer all kinds of advice/positive solutions/counselling/advice on hobbies/home visits/guest speakers.



Last Will and Testament

Have you written yours?

Have you considered writing one but haven't got round to it yet?

Have you considered leaving something to St Alban's Church?

ST ALBAN'S CHURCH welcomes all gifts left in Wills – large or small. Our policy is to use the gift wisely and it would almost certainly go towards maintaining the fabric of the church building thus ensuring it will remain in a stable and safe condition for generations to come. YOUR WILL is of course a very private matter and you do not need to disclose anything about what you leave or to whom. There are plenty of Solicitors who can guide and help you write it.

If you would like a general no obligation chat with us before deciding or would like information about what will happen to your gift should you leave one, please contact the Rector (Lameck Mutute 770345).

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

at St Alban's

Sunday 21st December
Christmas Carol Service
6:30pm

Wednesday 24th December
Blessing of the Crib
4:30pm

Wednesday 24th December
Midnight Mass
11:30pm

Thursday 25th December
Christmas Morning

8:00am Holy Communion - Book of Common Prayer
10:30am Common Worship - Eucharist

search 'tattenhall church' for full details of our Services, events and how we can help you.