

*T*here's no doubt that Christmas is worth celebrating - the time of year when we remember that our heavenly father sent His Son Jesus into the world to make a difference to our lives. However, the true meaning of our Christmas celebrations can often be lost in the busyness of life. So, can we encourage you to fix a date in your diary and not miss out on the greatest gift of all?

*M*ay we invite you, and your family and friends, to celebrate Christmas with us this year? As you can see, we have something to suit every age group and every taste.

*W*e wish you a wonderful Christmas and pray God's richest blessing upon you, and your family, this festive season. May the Joy of the Angels, the Eagerness of the Shepherds, the Perseverance of the Wise Men, the Obedience of Joseph and Mary and the Peace of Jesus fill your hearts and lives this Christmas and in the year to come.

From the church family at Emmanuel.

*And his name will be called
Wonderful
Counsellor
Mighty God
Everlasting Father
Prince of Peace*

Isaiah 9:6

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Emmanuel is situated opposite Billericay Fire Station

We are part of the Billericay & Little Burstead Team Ministry
and members of Churches Together in Billericay.



*Celebrate Christmas
at Emmanuel, Billericay*

Sunday 3 December

Annual Toy Service

at 10.30 am

We collect toys for Basildon Women's Aid at this service. Please bring along a new unwrapped toy (gifts for teenagers especially welcome) to be placed under our Christmas tree.

Sunday 10 December

Community Carol Service by Candlelight

at 7.00 pm

Our annual Community Carol Service with **Nine Readings and Carols** with Harmony Brass Ensemble. Sherry and Mince Pies served afterwards.

Sunday 17 December

Family 'Pop-Up' Nativity

at 10.00 am

A 'spontaneous' Nativity for children of all ages and perfect for our Messy Church families. Organised chaos at times, but always great fun!

The Pantaloons - 'A Christmas Carol'

at 5.00 pm

We're delighted to welcome back the critically-acclaimed Pantaloons Theatre Company to perform Charles Dickens' festive fable in their own inimitable and hilarious style with absolutely no humbug! Tickets are **£12 | Child £6 & Fees (Door £14/8)** available from wegottickets.com/event/412811 or from paul@billericaychurches.org. Proceeds from this event will go to Emmanuel.

Wednesday 20 December

Lunchtime Carol Service

at 12.30 pm

at Saint Mary Magdalen The Church in the High Street

A service designed with busy shoppers and sales staff in mind - although everyone is invited! Guaranteed to last 45 mins. Share in a festive buffet lunch before, or after, you enjoy your favourite Carols.

Christmas Eve

Communion (Said)

at 8.30 am

For those who prefer something a little quieter and contemplative to begin our Christmas celebrations.

Christingle Service

at 4.00 pm

An opportunity for the family to spend time together before the excitement of Christmas night. This service always has a lovely atmosphere - with a Christingle orange for children of all ages!

Late Night Communion by Candlelight

at 11.15 pm

After the busyness of a hectic festive season, enjoy the quiet of the first Communion of Christmas. Sherry and Mince Pies served afterwards.

Christmas Day

Family Communion

at 10.00 am

A relaxed and fun Christmas celebration for family members of all ages. Be sure to bring a Christmas present with you to 'show and tell'!

New Years Eve

Family Communion

at 10.00 am

This is our regular fifth Sunday joint service with churches in the Billericay & Little Burstead Team Ministry and takes place at Christ Church, Perry Street.

Offerings from our Christmas services will be shared between the following three organisations, all of whom are working with vulnerable children:

Communitas Care Providing Education, Food and Housing for Children in Uganda
Operation Christmas Child Distributing shoeboxes to children in Eastern Europe and Africa
Purple Community Fund Supporting children in UK and Asia through social enterprise