

Dear Friends,

It has been a tremendous privilege to share in the life of the parish in the past few weeks, during what I often call 'the season of remembrance', with the All Souls service and our Civic Remembrance service each reminding us of the importance of remembering.

As Advent rapidly approaches, there is a temptation to leap straight to Christmas, the decorations and the chocolates are already on the shop shelves, the cards need to be sent, the presents sorted, but I'd like to encourage us to be a congregation that remembers the importance of Advent as a time of waiting, preparation, and to delay the incredible celebrations that mark the birth of the saviour of the world... Rev Dan



Spread the word.....

Christmas Fair

in St John's Church & Hall

Saturday 1st December

10am - 12noon

*A weekend
of candles!*

Candle crafts, children's games
cakes, raffle, bottle stall and lots more
A celebration of everything.... "Candle"!

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

SUNDAY 2ND DECEMBER

5PM

*Everyone is welcome
Come along and receive your Christingle
And support the Children's Society this Christmas*



**CALLING ALL
KNITTERS.....**

It's not long now

Have you got your candle knitting pattern?..... we need hundreds of candles by the end of Nov, ready for distribution before the Christmas Fair!! Patterns available from church, hall and office.

Please bring your knitted candles to church very soon or drop them off at the parish office during open hours

Weds 8am-2pm Thurs 8am-10am
Fri 8am -noon

Please ring in advance

**Please take and
display posters for
the Christmas Fair**

COLLECTS AND READINGS

18th November: Second before Advent Readings: Dan 12:1-3, Heb 10:11-4, 19-25, Mark 13:1-8

Collect: 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.

Post Communion: Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to the fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

25th November: Sunday next before Advent Christ the King

Readings: Dan 7.9-10, 13-14; Rev 1.4b-8; John 18.33-37

Collect: God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory.

Post Communion: Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Pastoral Prayers



To include somebody on this prayer list please let Shirley in the office know by lunchtime on Thursday, making sure the person you wish to be included wants their name in print.

Baptisms: We pray for parents, godparents and those preparing to be baptised.

Those in need of our prayers:

Margaret Moyle, Hazel, Betty Montgomery, Stevie, Betty Player, Christine Marston

For those who have died: We pray for those who have recently died and their loved ones who grieve their loss.

Anne Cross

Those whose anniversary falls this week:

James Picton, Olwyn Draper

PRAYER FOCUS

Sunday:

Take a moment to be still and know that God is God!

Monday:

For our Bishop's, Peter and Ruth and our Archdeacon Anne

Tuesday:

For all who are involved in safeguarding across our Diocese

Wednesday:

For all volunteers and clients of the foodbank in our community

Thursday:

For our neighbours and all who live on our street

Friday:

For the Fish Pie Lunch – all who are organising and all who will attend

Saturday:

For our upcoming weekend of candles – that Jesus the light of the world may be made known

Fish Pie Lunch

Saturday 24th November

at 1.30pm in the hall.

Fish Pie followed by Apple Crumble

Tickets are £6 each, under 5's free.
You can get your tickets from Ian & Olga Chedzey. *(Or leave a message on the parish answer phone 01278 780633)*

Tea and coffee included, but please bring other drinks if you would like to.

A great lunch full of chatter, laughter, and great food. A really good daytime event to invite your friends.

Moose International

All welcome to attend the meeting on Tuesday 28th November 1.30-4pm in the church hall, where Churchfield choir will be performing. Refreshments included in the £2 ticket – proceeds to Weston Hospice.

Christmas Choir

Fancy joining our Occasional choir this Christmas?

The choir will lead the traditional carol service on 16th December at 5pm..... and perform one or two short simple pieces.

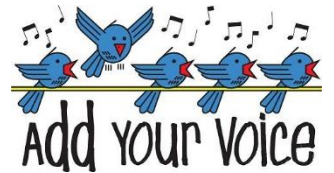
Members are asked to attend at least one rehearsal plus the main one at 3pm on 16th Dec

Tues 27th Nov 7.30pm

Sat 1st Dec 12.30pm

Sun 9th Dec 11am

Sun 16th Dec 3pm



Safeguarding Training

Vicky Christophers from the Diocese of Bath and Wells is coming to lead Safeguarding training THIS Tuesday in the hall. Vicky is an excellent trainer, and this is a very important evening for all involved in work with children, young people or vulnerable adults. All are welcome, but please let Rev Sharon know in advance.



For every day of Advent,

Stephen Cottrell provides short, practical steps to help us slow down, take time out - and enjoy Christmas without piling on the pressure. This eye-catching book is perfect if you need to slow down over Advent.

Normally sold at around £7- you can have one for just £5. Speak to Rev Dan.

With a get together on Thursday 10th January at 2pm & 7.45pm in The Vicarage to discuss the book and share our thoughts *(just for an hour or so)*.

CALENDAR

Who's Who at St John's:

Vicar: Rev'd Preb Sharon Crossman 789290

Associate Priest: Rev'd Tonya Nixon 793950

Training Curate: Rev'd Dan Crouch 325194

Churchwarden: Chris Perry 783753

- Sun 18th** 9am Said Communion 3pm Shorter Communion, followed by tea
- Mon 19th Shoeboxes being collected this morning
- Tues 20th 10am Toddler Group in hall
6.30pm Safeguarding training in hall (*anyone can come – please let Rev Sharon know in advance*)
- Wed 21st 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall
- Thurs 22nd 10.30am Little Angels in hall
- Sat 24th 1.30pm Parish Lunch in hall
- Sun 25th** 8am Said Communion 9.30am Sung Communion 3pm Baptism
- Tues 27th 10am Toddler Group in hall
7.30pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal (Church)
- Wed 28th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall
- Thurs 29th 10.30am Little Angels in hall
- Sat 1st December 10am - noon CHRISTMAS FAIR - Hall & Church**
12.30pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal
- Sun 2nd Dec 8am Said Communion 9.30am Sung Communion 5pm Christingle**
- Tues 4th 10am Toddler Group in hall
- Wed 5th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall
- Thurs 6th 10.30am Little Angels in hall
- Sat 8th 7pm King Alfred band concert
- Sun 9th Dec 8am Said Communion 9.30am Sung Communion 11am Christmas choir rehearsal**

CHRISTMAS FAIR HELPERS.....

*Please speak to Rev Sharon, Rev Dan, Pat, Ian, Lorna,
Liz or Shirley to offer your help for this years
Christmas Fair.....*

**To submit an article for the Signpost Weekly please e-mail
office@stjohnshighbridge.org.uk or leave a message on 01278 780633**

Parish office opening hours:

Weds 8am-2pm Thurs 8am-10am Fri 8am -noon

Please ring in advance