

CHRISTMAS COMMUNION: If you are going away this Christmas I strongly encourage you to find a nearby Church in which to make your Christmas Communion. You might find this site helpful: www.achurchnearyou.co.uk

CHRISTMAS MORNING SERMON: To help the Vicar with his sermon please would you bring a Christmas present, that you have opened, with you for the Vicar to use to tell the Christmas Story.

INTINCTION OR DIPPING AT COMMUNION: You may well have read an article in *The Times* recently as to this practice whereby the host (bread) is dipped into the wine at communion by the recipient. This practice potentially spreads more germs than simply receiving the chalice. To help minimise the spread of germs – especially during the cold and flu season – please would those who instinct/dip refrain from this practice. If you don't want to receive the common cup that is fine, you do not have to. You have fully received of Christ in one kind.

NEXT SUNDAY: 16 DECEMBER – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Services at St John's:	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30am	Parish Eucharist
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer with Hymns
Service at St Stephen's:	11.15am	Holy Communion
Services at St Francis:	10.00am	Sung Mass

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NEWSLETTER ITEMS for next Sunday's newsletter (in writing please) to Annie Mitchell **by Tuesday please** (maximum length 4 lines of A5). If separate flyers are to be produced, please let her know. **Items for inclusion should now be emailed to:** newsletter@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk

Newsletter by email. You can receive a copy of this Newsletter every week by email. Send your email address to stjohnchurchnews@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk and you will be added to the distribution list.

PARISH MAGAZINE: Please note that the deadline for articles for the **February 2019** magazine, including Questions for the Ministry Team and News from the Clubs, is **Sunday 6 January**. You can email direct to magazine@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk (A5 format please), or leave in pigeonhole in church or deliver direct to 27 Beechfield Road. Sally-Anne Bates, Editor. Tel: 266912.

Please take this Newsletter home with you as a reminder of those who have asked for your prayers and events you may wish to attend

Parish Office: 01442 260299 www.stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk

SAINT
JOHNS
BOXMOOR
With
St Stephens
Chaulden &
St Francis
Hammerfield

NEWSLETTER

No. 3729

9 December 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Services at St John's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am Parish Eucharist

Hymns: 27, 24, 470, 391

Yellow book: 39

Antem: Light an Advent Candle – arr. Beniston

6.30pm Evening Prayer with Hymns

Service at St Stephen's, Chaulden

11.15am Holy Communion

Service at St Francis, Hammerfield

10.00am Sung Mass

THIS WEEK AT ST JOHN'S: 10-15 December

Daily: 8.45am Morning Prayer 5.00pm Evening Prayer (not Saturday)
said in Quire all week

MONDAY	7.30am	Christmas Trees brought into church
	2.15pm	Poetry Group (53 Beechfield Road)
	7.00pm	Hemel Hempstead School Christmas Carol Service
	7.30pm	Holy Communion (St Francis')
TUESDAY	9.30am	Tiny Tots stay & play and & service (Hall & Church)
	6.30pm	Office Hour - CANCELLED
	7.00pm	Lockers Park School Christmas Carol Service
WEDNESDAY	9am-7pm	Trees decorated for Festival
	10.30am	Holy Communion (St Francis')
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer (St Francis')
THURSDAY	9.30am	Holy Communion (St Stephen's)
	10.00am	Pixies Hill School Christmas Carol Service
	3.30pm	Friendship Tea – All welcome (Hall)
	7.00pm	Westbrook Hay School Christmas Carol Service
FRIDAY	10am-6pm	Christmas Tree Festival
	7.00pm	Choir Practice (Hall 1)
SATURDAY	10am-6pm	Christmas Tree Festival
	2.00pm	Carol Singing round the Trees

Details of next Sunday Services are on the back of the Newsletter

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead: The Seventh Day Adventist Church

those who are ill: John Hutton, Samuel and James Lockyer, Pauline Webb, Beryl King, Ivan Martin, Janet Hislop, Godfrey Rock, Lynsey Abbott;

those with ongoing needs: Sheila Charge, Angela Green, Jean Harries, Pam Hart, Beryl Taylor, David Stevens, Jean Stevens, Christine Wilson, Rory Wilson, Steve Hanwell, Jayne Taylor, Jim Taylor, Brian Laidlaw, Anne Hosier, Ruth Merry, Ian Williams;

Prayers for others with ongoing needs are offered at our weekday services.

If you wish to be remembered at Morning and Evening Prayer only, please contact the vicar.

those who have died:

Years mind (9-15 Dec):

June Steele (9.12.17), Harry Downer (9.12.14), Barry Neave (10.12.13), Barbara Turnbull (11.12.14), Patricia Gamble (12.12.16), Deirdre Watson (13.12.14), Jana Pick (14.12.17), Doreen Reeves (14.12.15), Barbara Smith (15.12.16).

TODAY

Copies of today's readings (including large print) are available at the back of each church.

JUNIOR CHURCH: This term children will be invited to remain in Junior Church until just before we receive Communion. As usual they will go to Junior Church after the first hymn.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL PREPARATIONS: Please help with getting the church ready for the Festival. Many hands make light work!

TONIGHT'S EVENING SERVICE: Evening Prayer with Hymns – 6.30pm, in Quire, St John's.

THIS WEEK

TOGETHER ON MONDAY: Christmas Lunch on Monday 10 December at Little Hay Golf Club. 12.30pm for 1.00pm for those who have booked.

CAROLS ROUND THE TREES: As part of the Christmas Tree Festival we shall have Carol Singing, in St John's, on Saturday 15 December at 2pm. All are welcome. If he is not otherwise engaged, Father Christmas has promised to make an appearance.

FRIENDSHIP TEAS are for everyone and are an opportunity to meet in a relaxed setting, and share friendship with people who may otherwise be on their own. Share some Christmas Joy, with the first turkey sandwich of the season, on Thursday (13th), from 3.30 to 5.00pm, in the hall. However, if the weather is bad, please check ☎256216.

ADVENT CHALLENGE: We all like to receive a gift at Christmas but sadly not everyone will, or if they do exchange gifts other things will go by the by. Can you help? Instead of taking something out of your Advent Calendar everyday can you put something into an Advent box that can be of help and use to a family with nothing like toys, clothes, nappies, or someone in need of food and hygiene products? All gifts will then be sorted and given to DENS and Dacorum Safe Haven (women's and children's refuge).

HELP, HELP, HELP: Is there anyone who would be prepared to supervise the children's activity at the Christmas Tree Festival, especially on the Saturday and Sunday. Everything is arranged and materials have been bought but adult supervision/help is needed. Please speak to Lorraine or Di.

STEWARDS and REFRESHMENT HELPERS: are required to help in church during the Christmas Tree Festival. Please volunteer by putting your name down on the rotas at the back of church. Thank you.

NEXT WEEK

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT: Tuesday 18 December, 6.00pm, at St Francis. Donations in aid of The Hospice of St Francis. A Service of Readings and Carols for Christmas. Music from the Vicar and the Lea Rig Band Ensemble. Mince pies and Mulled wine to follow.

FESTIVAL OF 9 LESSONS AND CAROLS: Sunday 23 December, 6.30pm. Traditional Carol Service of Readings and Music enhanced this year by The St John's Ensemble. Everyone welcome. Followed by Mince Pies and Mulled wine.

PARISH NOTICES

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY: The Christmas Cards for delivery throughout the parish are now ready at the back of St John's church by the font. **Please volunteer to take a bundle or 2 to deliver.** Sign in the blue folder, so we know who has taken each walk. Any questions please see Alan Munford. Many thanks.

CHRISTMAS CARDS: Only a few packs of Christmas Cards remain. Get yours before it is too late and you run out of time to write them. See Chris Angell at the back of church to buy some. All proceeds to the Parish.

DACORUM COMMUNITY CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Thursday 20 December, 6pm, at St John's. Come along to this concert of carols and festive music with poems and readings on a Christmas theme. Children are welcome free of charge, concessions £7.50. Adult tickets are £10 on the door or £7.50 in advance from 07976 792490 or choir members. There will be a collection with all proceeds going to the Motor Neurone Disease Association. Refreshments are included and available after the concert.

PARISH WEBSITE: Our new parish website is now live: www.stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk. After 3 years in the making, and countless technical faults, this is now ready to be used. The old site is still available but will soon be redirected to the new site. Sincere thanks to working group for this endeavour, but in particular to Stacey Barton and Ian Packe for their technical knowledge and dogged determination to get this launched.

KEN FARMBOROUGH: would like to inform everyone that Reg's ashes will be interred at 2.00pm on Monday 17 December. Ken would also like to invite people to join him afterwards at the Three Blackbirds for refreshment.

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE & LICENCING: Thank you to our Director of Music and the Choir for the fabulous evening service they led last week. Top quality music worthy of any Cathedral. A super way to welcome Ruth into her new role among us again.

TINY TOTS: Tuesday will be our last Tiny Tots of this term. Tickets are now available from Annie Mitchell for our **PARTY on 8th January** in the Hall, **11.30-1pm**. Please get them early to help us with planning and catering!