

NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 12 DECEMBER: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	<i>St John's</i>
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St John's</i>
		<i>A pre-recorded Eucharist is available on our website for those unable to attend in person</i>	
	10.00am	Mass – guest president: Fr Ben Weitzmann	<i>St Francis'</i>
	11.30am	Morning Worship	<i>St Stephen's</i>
<i>Daily</i>	<i>9.00-5.00</i>	<i>Church open for Private Prayer</i>	
	9.00am	Morning Prayer	<i>St John's</i>
<i>Monday</i>	8.00am	Christmas Trees delivered and installed	<i>St John's</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	9.30am	Tiny Tots: Stay & Play followed by Service	<i>St John's Hall</i>
	7.00pm	Lockers Park School Carol Service	<i>St John's</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	10.00am	BCP Holy Communion followed by coffee	<i>St John's</i>
	11.00am	Dressing the trees	<i>St John's</i>
	3.30pm	Christmas Friendship Tea – all welcome	<i>St John's Hall</i>
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St Francis'</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	10.30am	Heath Lane Nursery Nativity	<i>Heath Lane Nursery</i>
	2.15pm	South Hill School Carol Service	<i>St John's</i>
	7.00pm	Westbrook Hay School Carol Service	<i>St John's</i>
<i>Friday</i>	10am-5pm	Christmas Tree Festival	<i>St John's Hall</i>
	7.00pm	Choir Practice	<i>St John's</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	10am-5pm	Christmas Tree Festival	<i>St John's</i>
	2.00pm	Outdoor Community Carols around the trees	<i>St John's</i>

SUNDAY 19 DECEMBER: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St John's open for worship only

	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	<i>St John's</i>
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St John's</i>
	10.00am	Mass	<i>St Francis'</i>
	11.30am	Morning Worship	<i>St Stephen's</i>
	4.30pm	Traditional Festival of Lessons and Carols	<i>St John's</i>
	6.30pm	Traditional Festival of Lessons and Carols	<i>St John's</i>

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

all who are infected or affected by the Coronavirus pandemic:

our hospitals and all health professionals	for our community as we "live with" Covid
our schools, shops, and other services	for all who are anxious or struggling financially
our vaccination centres and all who volunteer	for all who sick with Covid or mourn loved ones

those who are ill: Lynsey Abbott, Becky, Catherine, Derek Cordery, Jean Dawkins, Beryl King, Lizzie, Paul McCormick, Elizabeth McDonald, Pamela, Kelvin Porter, Stanley Rose;

those with ongoing needs: Richard Berry, John Bery, Trevor Boyce, Val Darvill, Margaret Delph, Gill Dow, Michele Finch, Pam French, Derek Frost, Karen Gager, Josie Gower, Andrew Gunning, Margaret Gunning, Steve Hanwell, Jean Harries, Pam Hart, Anne Hosier, Elizabeth Jones, Chloë Lear, Sheila Lewis, Brian Laidlaw, Samuel & James Lockyer, Rev'd Rex Merry, Ruth Merry, Steve Randall, Godfrey Rock, Marion Roff, Jean Stevens, Beryl Taylor, Jayne Taylor, Jim Taylor, Vera Trustram, Christine Wilson, John Wilson, Mike Winch;

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

those who have died recently and we pray for their families and friends:

Margaret Cooper, Sylvia Macklin, John Jones,
Ken Morgan funeral: 13 December, 2.20pm, West Herts Crematorium

those whose Years mind is this week: 12 - 18 December:

Margaret Fricker (12.12.19), Patricia Gamble (12.12.16), Jana Pick (14.12.17), Margaret Meyer (16.12.18).

Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead: Society of Friends (Quakers) – Old Town area

PARISH NOTICES

COVID NOTICES: Current measures in this Parish, in line with Government regulations:

The following measures are in operation in order to help maintain confidence in coming to Church to worship:

- Within Church:
 - **Face Coverings are to be worn in all our buildings.** The exceptions are:
 - The choir – who will test before singing; those leading or reading at service
 - Children under 12, or people who are exempt
 - When refreshments are being taken.
 - Social Distancing to be maintained – One pew (over 1 metre) to remain empty between different bubbles
 - Congregational Singing is still permitted but whilst wearing a mask.
 - Use of hand sanitiser stations is still encouraged.
 - Track & Trace to remain in place – we recommend signing-in rather than using the App.
 - Communion will continue to be given in one kind (Bread) – please be directed by the sidespeople. Your ministers will still wear a face covering when distributing Communion.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The Altar flowers this week have been sponsored by Jonathan Bradshaw in memory of his late Father Michael Bradshaw, a former member and Choir Boy at St. John's.

CHRISTMAS FRIENDSHIP TEA: Wednesday 15 December, 3.30-5.00pm. You are invited to join us for a joyful afternoon of tea, fellowship and friendship in St John's Hall. All welcome.

ADVENT MEDITATIONS & REFLECTIONS: A small, daily devotional booklet has been produced for use during Advent to help us watch, wait, and prepare for the coming of Christ among us this Christmas. Please pick-up your copy from the back of our churches.

CHRISTMAS PUBLICITY: The Parish Christmas publicity is printed. We really need your help to deliver cards so that everyone in the Parish knows how they can celebrate Christmas with us. Please sign up at the back of church for roads you are willing to deliver to.

TICKETS FOR CHRISTMAS SERVICES: Covid hasn't gone away meaning we face another Christmas with restrictions. To maximise the numbers attending services in a safe way we are ticketing all our services over Christmas, and doubling the number of services offered. Please book your tickets via our website. If you need help, please contact the Office/Vicar.

CHRISTMAS CARDS TO EACH OTHER: Once again you are invited to share Christmas greetings with each other via one large card at the back of St John's and to give the money you would have spent on postage/individual cards to our nominated charity *Bibles for Children*. The Card will be available from 5 December at the back of St John's.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL: We need your help and support to run the festival. Here are some areas for you to consider.

1. There is a rota at the back of church for stewards. Please sign up if you possibly can.
2. There is also a rota for people to help with refreshments in church.
3. The trees will arrive at 8.00am on Monday 13 December. We URGENTLY need help to set these up in church.
4. If you have sponsored a tree inside church, these can be decorated after 11.00am on Wednesday 15 December, or in the morning on Thursday 16 December.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Over the Christmas period St John's will be decorated with as many poinsettias as possible. We have negotiated a huge discount with Sainsbury's Apsley, but would you be willing to help towards the cost? Please speak to Julie Boyce, Sue Brown, or Jean Frith if can help.

JUNIOR CHURCH: All children aged 3-11yrs are welcome to explore Jesus during this special time within the Parish Eucharist. **YOUR HELP NEEDED:** Each session needs an over 18 chaperone - all church members welcome and no prep required! Please sign up on the dates listed at the rear of church and/or chat with Rosie Shaw, Jo Fisher or Mary McCluskey.

ST JOHN'S WINDOW PAINTING: Tickets are selling fast for this fabulous painting of St John as seen in the Memorial to Canon Hamilton in the Lady Chapel. £10 a ticket. Over half the tickets have been sold already. Tickets available at the Parish Eucharist.

MUSIC PERCENTAGE CLUB: Congratulations to the winners of the November draw: Sheila James 1st £15, Catherine Holness 2nd £8, Job Rombout 3rd £4. If you know of someone who would be interested in joining the Music Percentage Club and supporting Music at St John's in this way there are forms in church or please contact Mark Harbour on 01582 841019 or see him in church.

Parish Office: 01442 260299 office@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk <https://www.stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk>

The regular office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays 10.30am-1.30pm.

Vicar: 01442 243258 vicar@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk