

NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 20 NOVEMBER

CHRIST THE KING: SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT

	8.00am	Holy Communion	St John's
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist	St John's
	10.00am	Sung Mass	St Francis'
	11.30am	Morning Worship	St Stephen's
	6.30pm	Deanery Confirmation Service	St John's
Monday	7.45pm	Together on Monday Club – see note over the page	St John's Hall
	8.00pm	Fundraising Committee	Zoom
Tuesday	9.30am	Tiny Tots: Stay & Play, and Service	St John's Hall
	8.00pm	Communications Committee	Zoom
Wednesday	10.00am	BCP Holy Communion followed by coffee	St John's
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	St Francis'
	8.00pm	Finance Committee	Zoom
Friday	5.30pm	Junior Choir	St John's Hall
	7.00pm	Choir Practice	St John's Hall

SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER

ADVENT SUNDAY

	8.00am	Holy Communion	St John's
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist	St John's
	10.00am	Sung Mass	St Francis'
	11.30am	Holy Communion	St Stephen's
	6.30pm	Deanery Advent Service sung by the choirs of the Deanery	St John's

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

all who are infected or affected by the Coronavirus pandemic

the peoples of Ukraine – those defending their land; those made refugees; those in positions of leadership

those who are ill: Lynsey Abbott, Phil Barton, Andrew, Becky, Matt Blake, Brenda, Catherine, Peter Clayton, Jean Dawkins, Michele Finch, Annetta Gray, Dave Harvey, Angie Jackson, Alan Kirtley; Lizzie, John Loria, Anne Lyne, Paul McCormick, Elizabeth McDonald, Pamela, Jane Rombout, Stanley Rose;

those with ongoing needs: Richard Berry, John Bery, Val Darvill, Peter Davis, Gill Dow, Pam French, Derek Frost, 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, Gladys Mimer, Steve Randall, Godfrey Rock, Marion Roff, Beryl Taylor, Jayne Taylor, Jim Taylor, Christine Wilson, John Wilson, Mike Winch; *If you wish to be remembered at Morning and Evening Prayer only, please contact the Vicar.*

Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead:

Street Pastors – A Christian presence late night on the streets, offering reassurance and help;

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

Stewart Gray, Simon Cowie, Phil Peckham, Shirley Plumber, Jez Baldwin;

those whose Years mind is this week: 20-26 November:

Alan French (20.11.20), Margaret Cooper (21.11.21), Alan Stone (21.11.19), Sonny Khan (23.11.19), Kenneth Morgan (24.11.21),

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

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

PARISH NOTICES

LIVE STREAMING – THIS WEEK: The Parish Eucharist at 10.00am will be live streamed this week. This can be joined at: www.stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk/live-streamed-services - we apologise in advance if our internet connection fails! A recording will be uploaded as soon as possible if this happens. Thank you for your understanding.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE: St John's is hosting the Confirmation Service **this evening at 6.30pm**, for the Deanery. We currently have 6 candidates for Confirmation and another candidate for Baptism who will be joined 5 candidates from the Deanery. Please pray for them and turn-out to support them as they make this public declaration of faith. We shall be welcoming Bishop Christine who will lead the service.

COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS FAYRE: Sincere and many thanks for all who made our Fayre yesterday such a success – both in terms of community engagement but also financial. To date, £2650 has been raised for Parish Funds, but it's not too late to make guilt-offering. Well done one and all – thank you for all your donations, baking, and time. A great collective effort.

ADVENT SUNDAY: To mark the beginning of Advent we will once again be returning to a special, in-person, service to help us prepare to welcome the coming of the Christ-child this Christmas. This year a Deanery Choir will come together to lead the singing. Come and join this lovely service. **Next Sunday 27 November, 6.30pm**, St John's.

TIME FOR REFLECTION: During Advent – which starts next Sunday – we shall try to spend the 5 minutes leading up to each service in contemplative prayers as we watch and wait for signs of God's emerging Kingdom. This time will be triggered by the organ playing before the service.

FLOWERS: The Altar flowers this week commemorate St Cecilia's Feast Day and are given by Katherine and Jonathan Cox in loving memory of their daughter Emily.

TOGETHER ON MONDAY CLUB: Due to unforeseen circumstances the speaker for tomorrow has had to postpone her talk. Instead Dee Fisher will be talking about recycling and her recent exhibit at the V & A. All welcome Di Tovey 263669

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL: A reminder that the Christmas Tree Festival will take place 16-20 December at St John's. It can only be successful if we are prepared to properly resource it with stewards, installers, and caterers. Please sign-up or talk to Jean Garner/Alan Munford/Cathy Shaw to ensure the Festival brings some festive cheer to our community.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS: Once again we will be sharing Christmas Greetings to all who live in the parish and services times on with our Parish Christmas Card. Please can you help to distribute these cards? A sign-up sheet is available at the back of St John's. Thank you in advance.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES: Building on the last few years we shall once again be ticketing our most popular services over Christmas including the Parish Carol Service, the 2 Christingle Services, Crib Service, and Midnight Mass. These FREE tickets will be available from our website on 1 December, from 9.00am. Do book early to avoid disappointment.

MISSING KEY: One of the keys from the key store in the parish office has been missing for over five weeks. If you ever use the keys, please check your pockets and bags. It has a red tag on it. Many thanks.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL: I am looking for sponsors for the outside Christmas Trees. There is a letter in church explaining what is required and I look forward to hearing from you. Jean Garner.

COVID GUIDANCE:

- We have now **re-introduced the chalice** within the parish. Receiving communion in both kinds is not compulsory (as our recent practice has shown). If you would like to receive the chalice the offer is there. If you would prefer not to receive from the common cup then simply receive the host and walk back to your places. It is an entirely personal decision.
- Intincting/dipping your wafer into the wine is not permitted.
- Mandatory Social Distancing has ceased, however, please be mindful when choosing somewhere to sit as some may still prefer to keep at a respectable distance and/or wear a face covering. If you would like some space no-one will be offended if you say so.