

NEWSLETTER

<u>SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER</u>	<u>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</u>	
	8.00am	Holy Communion St John's
	10.00am	All Age Eucharist – sung by the Junior Choir St John's
	10.00am	Sung Mass St Francis'
	11.30am	Morning Worship St Stephen's
	12noon	St John's Christmas Lunch St John's Hall
Monday	12noon-7pm	Hemel Hempstead School rehearsal St John's
	6.30pm	Together on Monday Club St John's Hall
	7.00pm	Carol Service: The Hemel Hempstead School St John's
Tuesday	9.30am	Tiny Tots: Stay & Play, and Service St John's Hall
	8.00pm	PCC Standing Committee St John's Hall
Wednesday	10.00am	BCP Holy Communion followed by coffee St John's
	1.30pm	Boxmoor Primary School rehearsal St John's
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer St Francis'
Thursday	10.00am	Carol Service: Pixies Hill Primary School St John's
	11.00am	Mountbatten Lodge Communion Service Mountbatten Lodge
	1.30pm	Lockers Park School rehearsal St John's
	6.30pm	Carol Service: Boxmoor Primary School Carol Service St John's
Friday	from 9am	Christmas Trees installed
	5.30pm	Junior Choir St John's Hall
	7.00pm	Choir Practice St John's Hall
Saturday	3.00pm	Concert: The Aeolian Singers Christmas Concert St Francis'
<u>SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER</u>	<u>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Gaudete Sunday</u>	
	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

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, 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: John Bery, Richard Berry, 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, 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:

Seventh Day Adventist Church

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

Enid Leake, Stuart Gray, Simon Cowie, Jez Baldwin; Jonathan King

those whose Years mind is this week: 4-10 December:

Mae Foenander (6.12.18), Doreen Carter (7.12.20), June Steele (9.12.17),

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. The office will be closed until 8 December.

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.

TIME FOR REFLECTION: During Advent 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.

TOGETHER ON MONDAY CLUB: The meeting on Monday 5 December will **START AT 6.30PM**. The talk is called 'My Life in Boxes' and will be followed by our Christmas buffet. Di Tovey 263669.

BOOKSTALL: Saturday 10 December 10.30am-1.00pm at St John's. All paperbacks 3 for 50p, other books £1 each. Coffee will be served. Help with taking any remaining books to charity shops would be much appreciated. Please speak to Marian Davies.

CHURCH FAMILY CHRISTMAS CARD: As in pre-pandemic-years, a large Christmas Card will be placed at the back of St John's for members of the Church Community to exchange greetings, rather than sending individual cards. It is hoped, any monies you would have spent on individual cards you will donate to our charity *Bibles for Children* ensuring that every school aged child in Hemel Hempstead is given the opportunity to have a Bible in Yrs 3 & 6. Thank you in advance for using the card, and to Julie for designing the card.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL: Christmas Tree Festival – please sign up to act as a steward. The list is at the back of church. Thank you to everyone who has sponsored an outside tree.

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. Cards are NOW AVAILABLE for delivery. Please can they be delivered by 15 December? 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 www.stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk/christmas or via the Parish Office. Do book early to avoid disappointment.

If you are going away for Christmas please check www.achurchnearyou.com to find a place to worship our Saviour's birth.

CHRISTMAS BAUBLES: If anyone needs any red or gold baubles, please contact Janet Packe (01442 214126) who has a surplus left over from previous events.

SUNDAY COFFEE ROTA VOLUNTEERS: Volunteers needed to help serve teas and coffees after the Sunday Services. Please feel free to add your name to the list on the board at the back or email Yolanda Porter (yolandaporter.yp@googlemail.com). Thank you.

ROTARY CLUB SANTA SLEIGH: St John's Church benefits from the funds raised by The Rotary Club Hemel Santa Sleigh. This is coming to part of Boxmoor on Monday 12 December- route 5! We need to distribute leaflets - the roads that need covering are Alston Rd, Benchleys Rd, Cangels Close, Cowper Rd, Horsecroft, Kingsland, Lower Sales, Moorland, Puller, Seabright and Wharf Rd. If you are able to help deliver leaflets please pick up a bundle at the back of church. These need to be delivered by 10 December. Thank you very much for your help. Dee Fisher

ADVENT REFLECTION: A wonderful service to usher in the new Church year and begin our preparations for Christmas. Massive thank you to our choir and musicians – especially to the Deanery voices who joined us for this service.

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE 2023: Friday 24-Sunday 26 March. A wonderful opportunity has opened up, in conjunction with the Parish of Hemel Old Town, to go on Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham for the weekend, enabling pilgrims space to reflect and worship, as well as plenty of time for fellowship and friendship. The Shrine offers excellent facilities including en-suite accommodation, and close proximity for visits to Wells Next-the-Sea or Sheringham, nice food and great company. Cost to be advised. There are limited places for this event so if you are

COVID GUIDANCE:

- We have **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.