

NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 5 FEBRUARY

CANDLEMAS – THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	<i>St John's</i>
	10.00am	All-Age Eucharist <i>sung by the Junior Choir</i>	<i>St John's</i>
	10.00am	Sung Mass	<i>St Francis'</i>
	11.30am	Morning Worship	<i>St Stephen's</i>
Monday	7.45pm	Together on Monday Club <i>"Ramblings of a Vicar" – Speaker: The Vicar</i>	<i>St John's Hall</i>
Tuesday	9.30am	Tiny Tots: Stay & Play, and Service	<i>St John's Hall</i>
	11.30-4.00pm	Warm-Space – Open and warm church	<i>St John's</i>
	3.45pm	Choral Scholarship auditions	<i>St John's</i>
	8.00pm	Church Meeting: PCC Standing Committee	<i>St John's Hall</i>
Wednesday	10.00am	BCP Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee</i>	<i>St John's</i>
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St Francis'</i>
Thursday	11.00am	Mountbatten Lodge Holy Communion	<i>Mountbatten Lodge</i>
	12.30pm	Funeral – Peter Price	<i>St John's</i>
Friday	5.30pm	Junior Choir Rehearsal	<i>St John's Hall</i>
	7.00pm	Choir Rehearsal	<i>St John's</i>

SUNDAY 12 FEBRUARY

SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	<i>St John's</i>
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St John's</i>
	10.00am	Sung Mass	<i>St Francis'</i>
	11.30am	Morning Worship	<i>St Stephen's</i>
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong	<i>St John's</i>

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

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

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

those with ongoing needs: Anthony, John Bery, Richard Berry, Val Darvill, Peter Davis, Gill Dow, Pam French, Derek Frost, Josie Gower, Andrew Gunning, Margaret Gunning, 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:

Pray Hemel – Christians from many churches meeting together on the first Saturday of each month to worship and pray for many aspects of life in our town.

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

Peter Price funeral: 9 February, 12.30pm, St John's Church

John Loria funeral: 15 February, 3.00pm, Bierton Crem

Jennifer Sears funeral: 27 February, 1.00pm, St John's Church

Carol Johnston, Steve Hanwell;

those whose Years mind is this week: 5-11 February:

Keith Travi (7.2.20), Martin Hammond (7.2.18), Peter Clarke (8.2.18).

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.

TOM'S MEETING: on Monday 6 February is entitled "Ramblings of the Vicar". All are welcome. Di Tovey 263669

WARM-SPACE: The PCC has committed to warming St John's each Tuesday during the winter for people to find a warm place to be.

CHORAL EVENSING: Next Sunday at 6.30pm. Music will include Handel's *Worthy is the Lamb*, *Rose Responses*, and *Bairstow's Evening Service in D*. Come and share this oasis of prayer and praise.

LENT COURSE: Images of Christ: The story of Jesus in the Arts: Explore how the Gospel narrative has been interpreted in Art, Word, and Music and the response we have to it. 5 sessions, repeated twice each week (St John's on Monday evenings and St Stephen's on Thursday mornings). See poster and Magazine for more details. All welcome.

SHROVE TUESDAY: 21 February

For Children: We will once again hold our children's **Pancake Party** at 4.00pm in the church and hall. £1 per child. Races and pancakes. Lots of fun!

For Adults: Wine and cheese evening (with something sweet too!) at 7.30pm in the hall. £5 per person. Another chance for us to 'build back better' as we socialise and get to know each other again.

ASH WEDNESDAY: 22 February. Start Lent well by coming to a service of Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes. 10.00am and 8.00pm at St John's. A chance to reflect on how we (as people who get things wrong) can walk a closer life with God and know we are his children – loved and redeemed.

STEVE HANWELL RIP: After a long fight with cancer, Steve – a regular member of the Wednesday morning Communion service until the pandemic and self-isolation prevent attendance – died peacefully in Debs' arms on Wednesday 25 January, 7 days shy of his 70th birthday. Steve was resolute in his faith to the end. Please remember Steve and Debs in your prayers.

NEW BISHOP OF HERTFORD: On Thursday 2 February our new area Bishop was consecrated. The Venerable Jane Mainwaring – previously Archdeacon of St Albans – was consecrated bishop by the Archbishop of Canterbury in Canterbury. Please pray for Jane as she begins this new ministry and for wisdom and grace as she seeks to shepherd and guide the Churches and communities within Hertfordshire under Bishop Alan.

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: £145. There are limited places for this event so if you are interested please speak to the Vicar. Time is running out to book!

YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU: It has become increasingly difficult to provide sidespeople and helpers at our services – not helped by the pandemic! This is a vital task in helping regular and new worshippers feel welcome and safe whilst in church. Some Sundays we have either been operating on the bare minimum or, looking to the future, have not been able to create a rota. Please would you consider helping with this ministry. The more who help the less often you would be required to do it. We also need more readers and intercession leaders. Please see the Vicar if you are willing to help. Thank you.

ADVANCE NOTICE: MOZART'S REQUIEM: Sunday 12 March, 6.30pm As part of our Lenten devotions we will be performing, within a liturgical context Mozart's Requiem. Our choir, accompanied by the St John's Ensemble, with fabulous soloists will sing the Mass whilst. Do put it in your diary – it will be well worth attending.

3RD BOXMOOR SCOUT GROUP: are looking for volunteers to join their team. If you're passionate about giving young people [#SkillsforLife](#) then this could be for you. No scouting experience necessary as training will be provided. For more information contact moore_deborah@icloud.com

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.