

NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 29 DECEMBER

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

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|----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 8.00am | No Service this week | |
| 10.00am | Combined Parish Eucharist | St John's |
| 10.00am | No Mass at St Francis' this week | |
| 11.30am | No Service at St Stephen's this week | |

Tuesday

| | | |
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| <i>New Year's Eve</i> | | |
| 12.00 noon | MaSJ 5km Walk | St John's |
| 12.30pm | MaSJ 10km FunRun | St John's |

Wednesday

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| The Naming of Jesus – New Year's Day | | |
| 10.00am | Holy Communion – followed by Coffee | St John's |

SUNDAY 5 JANUARY

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion | St John's |
| 10.00am | All Age Parish Eucharist | St John's |
| 10.00am | Sung Mass | St Francis' |
| 11.30am | Morning Worship | St Stephen's |

Monday

The Epiphany of our Lord

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|-----------|---------|--|-------------------|
| Tuesday | 2.00pm | Knit, natter, sew | St John's |
| Wednesday | 10.00am | Holy Communion – followed by Coffee | St John's |
| | 5.00pm | Evening Prayer | St Francis' |
| Thursday | 11.45am | Mountbatten Communion | Mountbatten Lodge |
| Friday | 7.00pm | Choir Practice | St John's |

SUNDAY 12 JANUARY

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion | St John's |
| 10.00am | All Age Parish Eucharist | St John's |
| 10.00am | Sung Mass | St Francis' |
| 11.30am | Morning Worship | St Stephen's |
| 3.00pm | Messy Church | St John's |

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

for peace between Israeli and Palestinian, and for the peoples of Ukraine;

those who are ill: Lynsey Abbott, Andrew, Becky, Stewart Blake, Matthew Bloor, Brenda, Sarah Bush (nee Lambert), Rev David Brooke, Arthur Brown, Sarah Bush, Carl & Justine, Michael Collins, Hugh Cumberland, Jean Dawkins, Emily Gager, Annetta Gray, Dave Harvey, Angie Jackson, Kevin, Alan Kirtley, Alex Labern, Chris Loake, Pamela Macey, Paul McCormick, Elizabeth McDonald, Mary, Ann & Paul Meeder, John Poole, Mavis Rhoden, Stanley Rose, Claire Smith, Cathy & Trevor Stone, Penny Williams;

those with ongoing needs: Richard Berry, John Bery, Joan Claridge, Peter Clayton, Marion Cowe, Sandy Cutts, Val Darvill, Gill Dow, Eve Davis, Angela English, Ken Farmborough, Michele Finch, Pam French, Josie Gower, Andrew Gunning, Margaret Gunning, Pam Hart, Anne Hosier, Elizabeth Jones, Paul Kessell-Holland, Sheila Lewis, Anne Lyne, Ruth Merry, Gladys Mimer, Steve Randall, Marion Roff, Jane Rombout, Beryl Taylor, Jayne Taylor, Jim Taylor, Gill Williams, Christine Wilson, John Wilson, Mike Winch;

Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead:

All Churches as we celebrating the birth of Jesus

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

Leslie Ames, Vincent Kelly, Alison Evans, June Howard, Jeffery Canvin, Marina Smith, Arthur Brown, Margaret Gunning;

those whose Years mind is this week: 29 December–11 January:

Colin Backhouse (29.12.23), Ann Lewis (30.12.21), Gladys Pearson (02.01.20), Peter Wing (02.01.21), Carol Johnston (02.01.23), Sheila Charge (03.01.21), Michael Cherry (04.01.24), Peter Price (07.01.23).

PARISH NOTICES

CHRISTMAS THANK YOUS: Thank you to everyone who helped make our celebrations this Christmas go so smoothly:

- Our Christmas Tree Festival and all who helped share the joy of Christmas with our community
- Our musicians for setting the tone with the Festival of Lessons and Carols which attracted a bumper crowd, and then for the glorious music offered throughout Christmas.
- Our sidespeople who welcomed everyone and ensured we were safe in our worship – not easy when so many candles and children are involved!
- Our cleaners and flower arrangers in preparing and keeping our churches looking clean, tidy, and welcoming.
- To all who contributed to our Christmas Collections. Initial counts suggest each of our Charities (DENS, Friends of the Holy, and Church funds) will receive just under £1000 each. Amazing generosity – thank you.
- To all who delivered our Christmas Card – especially Wilf who delivered over 1000 cards on his own!

CONDOLENCES:

Margaret Gunning RIP: It is with sadness we share that Margaret died peacefully in hospital on Christmas Eve. Margaret was a longstanding member of our Church community and will be sorely missed. Our prayers are with her family as they grieve. Details of her funeral will be shared when they have been confirmed.

Arthur Brown RIP: Our sincere condolences to Sue Brown and her family upon the death of her husband, Arthur, who died a week before Christmas. He had been unwell for many years. Funeral arrangements are yet to be announced.

MASJ NEW YEARS EVE RUN & WALK: Everyone is invited to partake in the New Years Eve WALK & RUN raising money for Music at St John's. Walkers - £5 entrance fee - set-off at midday for a 5km walk; Runners begin at 12.30pm for a 10km run - £10 entrance fee. Begins and ends at St John's. It's a great way to walk/run-off some of the excesses of Christmas!

MESSY CHURCH: Our next Messy Church will be on Sunday 12 January, 3.00–5.00pm at St John's. Fun, craft, games, food, and worship for all the family. Everyone welcome – please share the news with neighbours and family.

TOGETHER ON MONDAY: Our New Year's festive lunch will be held at Little Hay Golf Club. Please will members who indicated that they will be attending or those wishing to attend let Ian Packe have their menu choices either in church or by email (toms@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk) or text to 07905 418851 or 'phone (01442 214126).

ECO CHURCH NEWS: We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded a Bronze Eco Award for St John's Church - more details on how we got there in the next church magazine. Dee, Rosie, and Mark.

TINY TOTS: We resume with our **PARTY** on Tuesday 14 January, 11.00am–1.00pm (please note later times). Please buy your tickets as soon as possible, price £3.50 from Annie Mitchell, so we know how many little ones to cater for. Normal weekly meetings begin again on Tuesday 21 January from 9.30 in the Hall. New children always welcome.

HARDSHIP FUND: The church has a hardship fund. Should anyone be struggling with fuel bills the parish may be able to help. Please speak to the vicar.

LIVE STREAMING – THIS WEEK: We finally think we have cracked our technical issues with the Live Streaming. This week, we will therefore attempt to live stream our Parish Eucharist. If this fails, we will upload the recording after. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

SAFEGUARDING NOTICE: Should anyone need advice or help concerning a safeguarding matter, please approach the Vicar or Rosie Akeroyd, Parish Safeguarding Officer.

NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL: If you wish to receive the weekly Newsletter by Email please send your Email address to stjohnchurchnews@btinternet.com and you will be added to the distribution list.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Parish Office: 01442 773990 office@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk <https://www.stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk>
The Office is now closed until Monday 6 January 2025.

Any urgent enquiries during this time please contact the Vicar or Churchwardens.
The normal office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.30am–12noon.

Vicar: vicar@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk 01442 243258
Marian Davies: marian_a_davies@hotmail.com 07557 952707