

Newsletter Sunday 9th December 2018

Second Sunday of Advent

A Warm Welcome to St Nicolas:

We are so glad you have joined us. If this is your first time here please introduce yourself to one of our host team who would love to welcome you personally.

8.00am: Holy Communion
Leader: Joy Mawdesley
Readings: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 24:23-31

10.00am: Holy Communion
Theme: Be prepared
Leader: Joy Mawdesley
Preacher: Will Hunter Smart
Reading: Matthew 25:1-13

**There is no Benefice
Evensong Service this week**

6.00pm: Contemporary Worship (Hall)
Theme: Waiting with purpose
Leader: Joy Mawdesley
Preacher: Marcia Wadham
Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Children and Youth

StNicksKids and **Pathfinders** start in church for the beginning of the 10am service and then go to the church hall and St Nicolas House for their groups.

Ages 0 - 3: Sparklers (*Upper hall*)
Age 4 - Reception: Comets (*Upstairs balcony*)
Years 1 - 5: All Stars (*Lower hall*)
Years 6 - 9: Pathfinders (*St Nicolas Hse*)

The Firm (Years 10 -13) meet in the **Upper hall** at 7.30pm following the 6pm contemporary evening service.

Collect for the Day

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

This Week: 10th - 14th December 2018

Monday

7:30 pm Bell Ringing practice

Tuesday

10:00 - 11:15 am Foundations (a group for women) in the upper hall for informal Bible study, prayer and fellowship. Pre-schoolers are also very welcome!

Wednesday

10:00 am Daybreak - a group for parents with young children

Thursday

10 am - 12 pm Charity Coffee Morning in aid of Shoemakers

10:30 am Mid-Week Holy Communion Service

Friday

6:30 pm Junior Choir Practice in the Church

7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice in the Church

7:30 pm TGI (Years 6-9)

Dates for your diary

Notice of PCC Meeting The next meeting will be held on Monday 10 December at 8.00pm in the Church Hall for all members of the PCC.

Encounter Prayer is on Tuesday 11 December at 8pm in St Nicolas upper hall. This is an opportunity to join together in prayer for our Church. It is normally finished by 9.15pm. All are very welcome to join us for the last Encounter of 2018.

Can you Help?

Food Bank - Thank you for responding to the shortages so generously. The warehouse has advised that they are short of the following items: **Urgently needed:** Long Life Milk (UHT). **Low stock:** Razors, Instant Mash and Custard.

CTNA Christmas wrapping service. We still need people who can wrap presents - doesn't need to be fancy! - in the 'shop' in the Kennet Centre. We are open from Saturday 8th to Sunday 16th; we have slots mostly of 90 minutes but any time you can offer will be gratefully received! Please call Sue Elliott on 01635 33557 if you would like to help or would like more information.

For Your information

St Nic's Christmas Collection - This year at our Christmas services we will be collecting for the organisation West Berkshire Homeless, who are very active in helping to re-house rough sleepers in the area. Some trustees of the organisation will be with us at both the morning and evening services today for one of the occasional "Sunday Stalls" organised by the TOWN Team. We will hear about their work and opportunities to help with their ministry which is so critical at this time of year. We welcome Erica Gassor, Pam Hayden and Ian Waters who are Trustees of WBH.

COINS (Christian Outreach in Newbury Schools) have an exciting job opportunity for a new Team Leader starting end April 2019. The role is for an average of 20 hours per week, term time only. Responsibilities include management of our team's activities (4 session workers and many volunteers) coupled with the ability to deliver assemblies, RE lessons and clubs. You will also be part of the Management Group and have input into policy. Strong interpersonal and organisational skills are key. Please contact Liz How, lizahow@btinternet.com for more details about the role and an application form. Applications will close on Friday 25 January.

AWARD! The St Nic's team that works in the Therapy Garden at WB Community Hospital is delighted to hear that the Garden has won the Green Space category in this year's NHS Sustainable Health & Care Awards. The press release from the Berkshire Healthcare Trust says: "Winning the Green Space award is an amazing achievement and recognition of the incredible hard work and dedication by the clinical lead, Christine Stockwell and the team of volunteers from St Nicolas Church. The therapy garden is a fantastic example of how we recognise that providing good quality green space can contribute significantly to a health and care service that embraces sustainability in the truest sense of the word". Many thanks, Andy Moore.

Shoemakers Just a reminder that Shoemakers is here for all your last-minute Christmas purchases. Come and see us in The Arcade off Market Place or visit our website www.christophershoemaker.org.uk. We have a range of charity Christmas cards and nativity sets, as well as Christian books, CDs, DVDs and gifts. Also, please come and support us at the St Nicolas coffee morning on 13 December, 10-12 at St Nicolas church (and if you can spare any donations of cakes or unwanted gifts that would be lovely!).

Last Recommended Posting Dates Just a reminder with regard to posting dates.

UK Inland Services, Tuesday, 18 December: 2nd Class and Royal Mail Signed For 2nd Class.

Thursday, 20 December: 1st Class, Royal Mail Signed For 1st Class and Royal Mail Tracked 48.

Friday, 21 December: Royal Mail Tracked 24. Saturday, 22 December: Royal Mail Special Delivery Guaranteed.

Biojemms news: Many of you will have seen Sian Davies' harvest appeal thank you video. Thank you very much for supporting that! It's that time of year again when Biojemms are holding their annual children's Bible camp in January. I have some vouchers to sell that I can bring to services throughout December so let me know if you would like to buy one. They are £20 (each buys 4 children a place) but you can also contribute e.g. £5 or £10 to one. Thank you, Bronwen

First Living Advent Calendar

St Nicolas Church are part of the first Living Advent Calendar of Newbury. We will be unveiling our door on the 10th December. For more information take a look at the posters. You can also find more info about this event on their website

<https://sites.google.com/view/newburyadventcalendar/home>.

Come and take a look at 6pm on the 10th December

Thank you

to everyone who contributed in any way to the
Christmas Open Day on Saturday

It is wonderful to be able to welcome people and share with them the Christian good will and the welcoming presence of St Nic's at such a special time of year.

Please ensure that items for the
Newsletter reach the office by
10am Thursday Morning
No more than 80 words please!

Sunday 16 December

Third Sunday of Advent

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Morning Worship

6.00pm St Nic's Carol Service

No 6pm service in the hall

Contacts at St Nicolas Church, Newbury

Rector:	Will Hunter Smart	Tel: 285710
Curate:	Joy Mawdesley	Tel: 285715
Licensed Lay Minister:	Jane Sutton	Tel: 36466
Youth Minister:	Edward Carthy	Tel: 285717
Children's Ministry Admin:	Gemma Gaskin	Tel: 285714
PA to Rector:	Libby Lake	Tel: 285711
Church Administrator:	Mandy Maskell	Tel: 47018
Facilities Manager:	Belinda Bowrey	Tel: 07554 430621



/stnicolasnewbury



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Church Office Tel: 01635 47018 / Office Email: Office@st-nics.org

For prayer support contact the church office or email prayer@st-nics.org

For pastoral care support contact the church office or email pastoralcare@st-nics.org

Church Office normally open week days, 9:30 am - 4:00 pm.

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