



Notice Sheet

December 2024

Welcome to St. John's Church! Especially if you are a visitor or new to our church.

Sunday Services

10am services streamed on YouTube and available to watch via the website

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1 st December		
8.30am Holy Communion 10am Morning Worship	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21: 25-36	
8 th December		
10am Holy Communion	Philippians 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6	
15 th December		
8.30am Holy Communion 10am Morning Worship	Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18	
6.30pm Carol Service	Readings & carols	
22 nd December		
10am Nativity Service	If you wish, come dressed as a character from the Nativity	
29 th December		
10am Holy Communion	Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:41-52	

Notices





Weekday Services

10am Wednesday (in church)	Holy Communion 1st week of the month
	Morning Prayer All other weeks of the month

December Meetings & Events at St John's

Tuesday 3rd 1.30pm: Knit and Natter (CCH) 6.30pm: Prayer meeting (in church) 7.15pm: Advent Course: Week 4 (CCH) 7.30pm: Ensemble Practice (in church) Thursday 5th Saturday 7th 7.30pm: Ensemble Christmas Concert (in church) Tuesday 10th 7.15pm: Advent Course: Week 5 (CCH) Thursday 12th 7.30pm: Ensemble Practice (in church) Tuesday 17th 1.30pm: Knit and Natter (CCH) 6.30pm: Prayer meeting (CCH)

Friday 20th 12noon: BCT Stockton Heath Village Carol Service (St Thomas' Church)

Prayers

The First Sunday of Advent (3rd December)

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen.

The Second Sunday of Advent (10th December)

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. Amen

The Third Sunday of Advent (17th December)

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent (24th December)

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Christmas Day (25th December)

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. Amen.

The First Sunday of Christmas (31st December)

God in Trinity, eternal unity of perfect love, gather the nations to be one family and draw us into your holy life. Through the birth of Emmanuel, Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for Peace

O God of all hope and peace, we bring to you the needs of our broken and hurting world.

Our hearts are breaking with images of lives lost and torn apart by grief in Israel, Palestine, Ukraine and so many other places around the globe.

We pray for an end to violence and warfare so that the challenging work of rebuilding may begin. Help us, O Lord, to affirm our common humanity so that in our differences we may build together for

justice and peace.
In Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

(adapted from the Church of England Website)

Those we have been asked to pray for

Betty Ester
Jim Joyce Linda
Lois Luke Richard

The St John's Prayer Chain

As part of our Pastoral Ministry at St John's various church members form our Prayer Chain. They pray daily for those in need.

If you would like prayers to be offered on behalf of yourself or someone for whom you have a particular concern at this time, then we would be pleased to do so. We normally include a request daily for two weeks.

To arrange your request please contact one of the following people:

Gill Povey-Robins (Pastoral Worker) on 07970 983 308

lan Jerrard-Dinn (Lay Reader) on 01925 265557

Keith Fletcher (Lay Reader) on 07359 445 564

Alternatively, you can fill out a label & pin it to the prayer board in the porch.

A Christmas Prayer

Holy Jesus,
by being born one of us,
and lying humbly in a manger,
you show how much God loves the world.
Let the light of your love always shine in our hearts,
until we reach our home in heaven,
and see you on your throne of glory.
Amen.

(from Church of England Website)



Prayer Groups

Members of St John's meet on the 1st Tuesday evening of the month at 6.30pm in the lady chapel at Church for prayer. The Lady Chapel just to the left of the pulpit as you come down the aisle.

Additionally, there will be a prayer meeting in the church community hall at 6.30pm on the 3rd Tuesday afternoon each month.

If you would like to join us at either meeting, please do come along.

