



All Saints Parish Church, Kings Heath
Second Sunday of Advent
10th December

Welcome to all visitors. Everyone is welcome to coffee after the service

Before the service the choir will sing the Advent prose. You are very welcome to join in the hymn during communion.

Advent candle song

The holly and the ivy
are dancing in a ring
round the berry-purple candles
and the bright and shining King.

Oh, one is for God's people
in every age and day.
We are watching for his coming.
We believe and we obey.

And two is for the prophets
and for the light they bring.
They are candles in the darkness
all alight for Christ the King.

Services this Week: 2nd Sunday of Advent

8.00am	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Parish Communion
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer

Morning Prayer: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9.00am
Saturday 9.15am

Wednesday:

Holy Communion	11.30am
Compline	9.00pm

Services next Week: 3rd Sunday of Advent

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Parish Communion
6.30pm	Carols by Candlelight

COLLECT :

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40: 1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice

says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3: 8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given him,

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,'"

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you O Christ

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

We give you thanks, Lord, for these heavenly gifts, kindle us with the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever
Amen

MEDITATION:

"Regard the patience of the Lord as Salvation." (2 Peter 3:15a)

PRAYERS:

WE PRAY:

- for those who find truth hard to hear;
- for the civil servants whose perception might clear the sight of political figures;
- for people unpopular for issuing warnings and those accused of naivety for speaking of hope.
- we remember before God those who are ill Huxley Brennan, Lovetta Campbell, Val Hems, Kathryn Steventon, Helen Ross and those for whom we regularly pray Lara Tikonova, John Robertson, Jo Bailey, Jack Gauder and Iain Galloway
 - we remember those who have died and in our Year's Mind Elaine Leech, William Sandford, George Cole, Kathleen Machin, Noren Stacey, Elsie Price, Doris Adams and Kathleen Horton

Meditation Group: The next meeting of the meditation group is at 29 Portman Road on Thursday 14th December. 7.30 for 8.00 start. All are welcome. Daniel Wilson.

Thank you from Liz

Liz and all the family would like to thank everyone who has written cards and held the family in their prayers while we waited to hold Alan's funeral at All Saints and then the cremation at Robin Hood.

We were all blown away at the attendance both at the funeral and then the Reception at Kings Heath Cricket Club. As my brother said, "Alan would have hated to be the centre of attention but would have been immensely moved by the outpouring of love and affection." You helped to make it the send off we had planned and hoped for – a real celebration of Alan's life.

I also want to say a big thank you on behalf of the Pathways Fund (which supports groups that maintain footpaths for walkers) and the R.N.L.I. who will both be receiving a substantial gift from the donations made at the funeral and the reception which will help these charities continue their excellent work.

ALL SAINTS CRAFTERS - Craft Fair last Saturday December 2nd.

A big thank you to everyone who supported the Craft Fair and to Ben and Clare for organising musical accompaniment, it provided a lovely atmosphere. It was the first time the Church was used rather than the hall and it worked very well. On the day we made £1140 (there is still a Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs raffle to be added). This year the crafters have donated towards various Church projects including the Memorial Garden. Our aim is to support the Church while having a good time making jams, chutneys, crafts, knitting and crocheting.

The All Saints Craft Group

Memories of Kings Heath and All Saints on CD have been recorded by Margaret Shepherd in aid of the Vicar's Discretionary Fund, which helps refugees and others in need. Margaret has lived in Kings Heath all her life and attended All Saints since 1944 (when "women only arranged flowers and made tea!"). The CD includes 1930s music and our church organ and would make a good present for anyone local. It can be ordered from Helen Lloyd after church or on 689 0681, for a minimum donation of £5 - or whatever you can afford to give to the fund.

Do you need your house cleaned before Christmas or help with shopping or anything else to ease the pressure? A refugee who used to attend All

Saints and speaks very good English would like to earn money to send Christmas presents back home to her family. If interested, contact Helen Lloyd after the service or on 689 0681

Can you donate gold chocolate coins and gold Ferrero Rocher for the Hogwarts Family Day on 16th December? Any donations of these would be greatly appreciated please, to make the day even more special! Please pass them along to Emily via the Office / Welcome Desk / Cafe or pigeon hole (maybe best in a bag so they don't go walkabout from the pigeon hole!) Huge thanks!

Advent Posada: We're **sending the Holy Family** (knitted figures) around the church family through December this year to help make advent all the more special for everyone, and to support the work of Oxfam with those most in need over this season. **If you or your school, workplace, group or equivalent would like to host Mary and Joseph for a night please contact me: 07739 018908 /emily.childrensworker@gmail.com or sign up at the back of church under 'Posada'** to commit to a date. You then have a look at the **Oxfam Unwrapped** website or booklet which offers gifts ranging from mosquito nets to blankets for refugees, to sanitary products for girls and women in impoverished countries, to a goat for a farmer, tools for a teacher, and countless other gifts from as little as £5, and decide what (if anything) you feel able to offer

16th December is the next Family Day, themed on Hogwarts and Harry Potter! Usual Saturday morning, doors open from 10am until 12:30pm for family activities – crafts, games, adventures, films, books, prayer activities, refreshments and all sorts, and you're very welcome to come, either to take part or to help on a craft table / signing people in / greeting and mingling / supervising a game or activity – there'll be a **sign-up sheet for helpers** at the back of church so you can choose whatever you feel most drawn to. There's also a special provision for adults

smAll Saints Baby Group: We will be joining up with Musical Babies to celebrate Christmas with a party on Monday 18th December from 1:00-3:00pm in the main Hall with inflatables, entertainment, food and lots of excitement! The only dates we're NOT meeting are 25th Dec / 1st Jan.

2 evenings of 'Hogwarts After Dark' on Friday 15th and Saturday 16th 7-11pm, where you can experience all the fun of a Family Day, but with the added

features of alcoholic Potion-making, more complicated crafts and much more. **Tickets £5** per person for 18s and over, available from me or from the office / welcome desk after the weekend. We will need helpers here too, though you wouldn't be expected to stay the whole time! If you can spare an hour that would be wonderful please.

Christmas Family Film Night!!! On **Monday 18th December** there will be a Christmas film showing (I'm thinking Mickey's Christmas Carol, the Muppets Christmas Carol, Santa Claus the movie, something along those lines – we'll decide on the night with whoever comes along!) with popcorn, drinks and snacks, from **6-7:30pm in the Marjorie Allen Room**. Everyone is welcome, please let Emily know if you're planning to come along so we have a rough idea of numbers. Thank you!

Board Game Cafe: The Cafe will be open on **Saturday 6th January from 6-8pm** for anyone who'd like to come along and play board games – either bring your own or enjoy what we have available... **Suggested donation of £2 for adults, £1 for children (babies under 2 years free), or £5 for a family** (up to 2 adults and 2 children) to raise a little for future family events, but mainly to get together and enjoy spending time with each other. We'll have games suitable for all ages. The Cafe will be open and serving refreshments as normal. Please do come along and invite some friends! Please sign up at the back of church to let Emily know you're intending to come. Thanks!

Please Pick up the latest copy (December/January edition) of "Saints Alive" Clare and Ben are excellent editors and its full of interesting articles - if you have an interesting story why not pass it on to them.

Can you deliver some OUTLOOKS in your road? every month we produce 1000 which are distributed in the All Saints Cafe, Kings Heath Library , Kings Heath Community Centre, Kitchen Garden Cafe and Johnstans Butchers. We are currently not getting all of them out - this is such a shame could you deliver your road? speak to Des or a churchwarden and pick up 50. Many thanks - The latest edition promotes all the Christmas Services so it is important that we get our story out of our Celebration of the Birth of Jesus to the local population and give them the opportunity to come and worship.

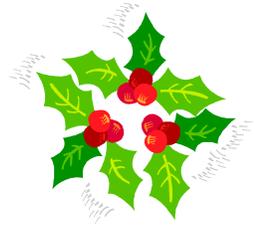
A talk to get you going " A Virtual Tour of the Number 11 Bus Route"- did you know the Number 11 Outer Circle bus route is the longest continuous urban bus route in Europe (27 miles) - it takes 3 hours to go all the way around - what will you see, what of the History - Come and see the video and talk by local historian David Humphreys on SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10th at 2.30 pm in CHURCH. Just £3 including tea/coffee and cakes. Tickets available after Christmas from Des or Sheila Workman, Pam Coley and on the Welcome Desk.

Join 'All Saints Children and Families' group on Facebook, and follow @allsaintsfamily on Twitter for updates on our ministry with children and families **All Saints Community Arts** is pleased to present an exhibition of work by Key Stage 3 students of King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls . The exhibition will run from: Mon December 11 2017 to Sunday January 7 2018. The Welcome Space is open daily from 09.00am - 5.00 pm and after church on Sunday mornings .

Friday Evenings, with live music, in the Cafe The café is now open on Friday evenings until 9.30, for our usual meals, drinks, and cakes. We have a varied programme of live music from 7 – 9pm, organised by Sarah Wright Owens, who is looking for performers if you would like the opportunity. Contact Sarah on sarah@singertrain.com. Please see our board, or the different Facebook pages (Café, Village Square, or Church) to find out the programme for the week. Hope to see you there!

Communion: Gluten-free wafers are now available, please mention to a member of the clergy before the service if you would prefer a gluten-free wafer when taking Communion.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Photographs may occasionally be taken by our photographer during services. They are to record our church's story and may be used for publicity. If you do not wish your picture or that of your child to be used, please speak to a Sidesperson or Churchwarden. We respectfully ask that others do not take photographs at church without permission



Community Christmas Lunch 2017_
(jointly organised by All Saints and St Dunstan's)_

You are warmly invited to join us for Christmas lunch
in the All Saints Community building.

The programme for the day is:

10.00am. Christmas Morning Service in All Saints Church

11.00am mass at St Dunstan's

11.45am (approx.) Drinks and nibbles in the Welcome Area, with carol-singing,
and decoration-making.

1.30pm (approx.) Lunch.

4 00pm (approx.) Finish.

All ages and backgrounds welcome! There is no booking deadline, but for catering purposes it is helpful to know in advance if you are coming. Please leave your name with the Café. Voluntary donations towards the cost are very welcome.

There are various jobs that need doing, including helping with transport, stirring and chopping in the kitchen, meeting and greeting etc.

If you are unable to come but would like to make a gift, wine, sherry, satsumas, and Christmas crackers are much appreciated, and may be left with the café staff any time throughout Advent. Also you might sponsor a meal for £5

For more information see Margaret Healey-Pollett in the café.

Recycling at All Saints: We recycle the following materials:

Old stamps for charity (main beneficiary is St. Mary's Hospice)

Redundant mobile phones for Christian Aid

Spare knitting wool

Clean jam jars required by Craft Group

please don't throw these items away – help a good cause

this notice sheet is printed on sustainably sourced paper



ALL SAINTS

is a Fairtrade Church, see: www.fairtrade.org.uk

supports the Statement of Belief of 'Inclusive Church',

see: www.inclusivechurch.net

has signed the Living Wage Pledge, see: www.church-poverty.org.uk

belongs to the Christian Ecology Link, see www.christian-ecology.org.uk

is a Jubilee Congregation,

see www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk

is affiliated to Amnesty International and Pax Christi



Parking: Our site is wonderfully busy during the week. Grateful for that activity, then, this is a reminder to ourselves as congregation members that parking is not generally available at All Saints when the Medical Centre and Robin Centre are open. Apart from disabled parking, loading and unloading, we encourage church family to park elsewhere if at all possible.



Books: Thank you to everyone who donates books but at the moment our stock is more than we can manage. PLEASE no more donations for the foreseeable future. We will let you know when more are needed. Thank you once again for supporting the book sales.

Next year will be the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice which ended World War One

ASCA plans to create an artwork in honour of this event. Knitters, please, are invited to contribute as we need to amass hundreds of red poppies!!!

They can be made from crochet, felt, knitted etc. There are many designs online or make up your own. And also we need some coloured flowers too - any colour but red - and any shape/style.

If you don't knit, then donations of wool - and finished flowers - can be left at the Welcome Desk or put in the box in church.

Please involve any knitting groups you know of so we can create a really marvellous piece as a focus for contemplation and worship.

Further details from Vivien Thickett via the Parish Office