

All Saints Parish Church, Kings Heath
Third Sunday of Advent
17th December

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

Before the service, the choir will sing 678 This is the truth sent from above (verses 1-2 & 5-7). You are very welcome to join in this and the Taizé chant 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.

And three for John the Baptist.
He calls on us to sing:
"O prepare the way for Jesus Christ,

he is coming, Christ the King."

Services this Week: 3rd Sunday of Advent

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

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

Wednesday:

Holy Communion 11.30am
Compline 9.00pm

Services next Week: Christmas Eve, Sunday 24th

8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Parish Communion
3.30pm Children's Carol Service (with brand new musical)
'News from Bethlehem'

Midnight Communion 11.30pm

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 in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-end

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted,

to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

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

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

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

GOSPEL READING: John 1: 6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.
This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you O Christ

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

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

Amen

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WE PRAY:

- 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 Pat Dyer, Carol Fallon, Jacqui Brown and all who live at Rosemary Lodge
 - we remember those who have died and in our Year’s Mind Ellen Pullin, Mary Bayliss, Valerie Cole, Leonard Bevan, Mabel Mace, Rose Baker and Molly Budd

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.

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

One of Alan Fletchers many gifts to us was to serve as Income Officer. We need someone to fill his walking boots. Here is a description of the role. Could it be you?

The Income Officer assists the Church Treasurer in collating all receipts into Church Funds for submission to the Church accounts, which are reported by the Treasurer to the PCC on a monthly basis.

They also provide information on a regular basis to the Gift Aid Officer to enable timely submission of Gift Aid submissions to HMRC.

They may also volunteer to help count and bank the Church Plate collections which is done on a rota basis with the Church Warden.

Essential requirements:

Honesty and financial integrity

Basic knowledge of Microsoft Excel spreadsheet

Having own computer with Microsoft Excel installed (or other compatible spreadsheet), and an Internet link.

Must maintain confidentiality of finance information at all times, apart from to authorised Church Officials and the Finance Team.

Training will be given on how to extract and report the necessary financial information.

Please notify the Vicar, Treasurer or any member of the Finance Team of your interest.

Carol singing - Saturday 23 December: We will once again be carol singing in the village square, between 11:00 and 12:30 on Saturday, this year raising money for a charity called Help Birmingham's Homeless run by two colleagues of Clare's. It provides hot and cold drinks, food, toiletries, clothing, footwear, sleeping bags, books and dog food to rough sleepers in Birmingham city centre, as well as referring them on to agencies that can help them access benefits, accommodation, healthcare, counselling and rehabilitation. All are welcome to come and sing, play, shake a bucket or give their support by watching and listening; words and music will be provided (along with refreshments afterwards!)
Ben & Clare Noakes (07967 730156 / musicatallsaintschurch@gmail.com)

Christmas services: All are welcome to come and join the singers for the services over Christmas. Short practices will be held in the Chapel just before each service as follows: 23:00 (Midnight Mass) and 9:30 (Christmas Day & Sunday 31 December). If you would like more information, or a music list in advance, please contact **Ben & Clare Noakes on 07967 730156 or musicatallsaintschurch@gmail.com.**

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!

Crochet animals reach target: Very many thanks to all who have supported the All Saints Crafters by purchasing my crochet animals from the Welcome desk during the year, and from the Christmas Fair. I have managed to reach my target of £1000. In addition to the usual owls, rabbits, hedgehogs etc, and the Christmas angels, snowmen and Father Christmases, I have fulfilled some individual requests. These have included a blue flamingo, unicorns in various colours and

sizes, and baby dragons. Please let me have any ideas for increasing my range in 2018. *Gill Cole*

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

Recycling at All Saints: We recycle the following materials:

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

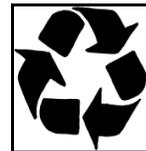
Redundant mobile phones for Christian Aid

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





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.

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

Christmas Services at All Saints 2017



Sunday 17th

Holy Communion 8.00am

Parish Communion 10.00am

Carols by Candlelight 6.30pm



Christmas Eve, Sunday 24th

Children's Carol Service (with brand new musical) News from Bethlehem 3.30pm

Midnight Communion 11.30pm



Christmas Day, Monday December 25th

Holy Communion 8.00am

Christmas Communion 10.00am

Sunday 31st



Holy Communion 8.00am

Parish Communion 10.00am