



St NICOLAS' CHURCH
ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

Third Sunday of Advent
Sunday 17 December 2017

*A warm welcome to all who join us to worship God
in the love and peace of his Holy Spirit*

11:15 am Third Sunday Service

The Revd Dr Jane Baun

Service details - see Service Booklet



6pm Carol Service

The Revd Dr Jane Baun

Service details - see Service Booklet

NEXT WEEK at St Nicolas

Sunday 24 *8:00 am At St Helen's this month*
11:15 am Holy Communion
4:00 pm Crib Service
11:30 pm Holy Communion

Christmas Day 10:00 am Holy Communion

AND IN THE PARISH

Mon - Fri **StH** 9:10 am Morning Prayer – The Lady Chapel
Mon - Fri **StH** 5:10 pm Evening Prayer – The Lady Chapel
Wed **StH** 10:30 am Holy Communion – Parish Centre
Thurs **StM** 11:00 am Circle Dancing
12:30 pm Said Mass followed by lunch

**For details of all the
Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Services in the Parish
See the Christmas Leaflet.**

CHURCH NEWS

Liz Dixon would like to thank everyone for their kind offers of household items. She has decided to move in with a friend and is now fully equipped but is very touched by the generosity she has been shown by everyone.

Thank You: A big thank you to all who helped at, or came to, our Christmas Extravaganza. We raised over £800.

Thank you too: to all who worked so hard to make the St Nicolas' Day Lunch and Patronal Festival Evensong so successful.

Details of the spring programme of '**Equipping for Life: Learning for Discipleship and Ministry**' are available at the back of church. These courses are provided by the Diocese of Oxford as part of the Local Ministry Programme, but are open to all.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Are you home alone this Christmas? join us for Christmas day lunch. 25th December, 1pm to 3pm, (arrival from 12.30), Peachcroft Christian Centre, Abingdon. For more information and booking contact: Kay or Gareth: 01235 529510. E-mail: events@peachcroftcc.org. Places are free but booking is essential. Assistance with transport available.

The **Red Cross** are looking for gifts of toiletries and similar items for destitute refugees locally. This can be left up until December 20th at St Ethelwold's House. See details at the back of church.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Advent labyrinth walks: St Michael's will be open on **Tuesday 19** December between 11 am and noon, and 7 pm and 8 pm. There will be an opportunity to walk the labyrinth or simply to enjoy the sacred space. A short prayer will be said at the beginning and end of each session, but feel free to come and go as you please. Entry will be through the south porch.

Christian Aid's New Year's walk 2018: The New Year walk for Christian Aid's Christmas Appeal will be based at the Parish Centre. Walkers will depart at 10 am on Monday 1 January and follow a figure of eight route with refreshments, finishing back at the Parish Centre. The government is providing matched funding to all Christian Aid's Christmas income until February 4th, so donations and / or sponsorship will be most gratefully received. Contact Eluned for a Sponsorship Form.

Stable Door - out now!

Stable Door, the edition of *the Door* celebrating Christmas and looking forward to the New Year, is available now. It's designed to be accessible to occasional visitors to church as well as regular church-goers, so do use this opportunity to spread *good* news.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

The Bishop of Reading comments:

Extraordinary how God chose to hug our humanity into God's divinity, through a very vulnerable young woman and her tiny, newborn child. That suggests to me that our own vulnerability is nothing to be ashamed of; but the way we treat the vulnerable? That is another matter. + Andrew

(From E-news from the Diocese of Oxford, 14 December 2017)

We remember today:

- The lost, the outcast and the refugee
- Our Team Vicar, Paul, as he recovers from his operation;
- All those for whom Advent is a time sorrow;
- Justin our Archbishop, Steven, Colin and Henry our Bishops, Charles, Paul, John, Jane and Mary, and all who serve in this Parish;
- The many visitors to St Nicolas and all who support the ministry of teaching, healing and welcome in this place;
- Our Church family, especially those unable to be with us today;
- Those who are suffering and in particular need.

Team Rector	The Revd. Dr. C Miller	01235 520144
Team Vicar	The Revd. Paul Smith	01235 534654
Church Wardens	Mr Paul Rast-Lindsell	07876 277363
	Mr Andrew Coker	01235 539929
Parish Office	Mrs Jenny Balshaw	01235 520144
Website:	www.stnicolasabingdon.org.uk	
Facebook	www.facebook.com/stnicolasabingdon	

No collection will be taken at this Service, but a plate for your donation is available at the back of the Church

Thank you