



St NICOLAS' CHURCH
ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

Sunday 9 December 2018
Second Sunday of Advent

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

11:15 am Holy Communion

The Revd Mary Williamson

Hymn	34	On Jordan's bank
Collect		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.
1st Reading		Malachi 3.1-4
2nd Reading		Philippians 1: 3 - 11
Gradual	26	Hark a thrilling voice
Gospel		Luke 3: 1-6
Hymn	39	Wake, O wake
Hymn	294	Dearest Jesu
Hymn	538	O Jesus I have promised

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

NEXT WEEK at St Nicolas

Monday 10 3:00 pm Carol Service Old Station House

Sunday 16 8:00 am Holy Communion at St Helen's this month

11:15 am Third Sunday Service

Mr Roderick Smith

6:30 pm Carol Service The Revd Paul Smith

& 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 – South Aisle

Thurs StM 11:00 am Circle Dancing

12:30 pm Said Mass followed by lunch

Sun 16 StH 8:00 am Holy Communion (1662)

10:30 am Sung Eucharist

5:30 pm *No Service at St Helen's this evening*

StM 9:30 am Sung Mass

CHURCH NEWS

A message from Hilary Watkins: "Please will you give the congregations at St Helens and St Nic's my thanks for all their support and care. Some of them have been quite stellar, and I feel very upheld and supported by their prayers. If people could keep praying for a miracle which will get rid of the cancer (a feat beyond medical science at present) without me being further damaged by the tumour and its effects that would be so much appreciated." Phone calls are also welcome.

Foodbank: Thanks to you all for your continued support of the Abingdon Emergency Food Bank this year. At this time they really appreciate donations of Christmas treats for their clients. As well as the box under the refreshment table there are collection points for the Abingdon Food Bank in Waitrose and the Co-op in West St Helen's St. *Thanks Jan*

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the Extravaganza, whether by helping out on the day or by giving us cakes, toys etc. The gross receipts were over £950, which is more than in previous years, in spite of the weather being rather damp in the morning. A considerable part of the total was due to the tremendous number of cookies and cakes that Emma & Catherine made, and the success of Harriet and Harry in selling them in the town. The mulled cider

and the children's films were also very popular. A big thank you to one and all! *Julia Bishop*

Advent labyrinth walks at St Michael and All Angels, Park Road, Abingdon: the church will be open on Tuesday 11 and 18 December between 11 am and noon, and 7 pm and 8 pm.

The Magnitude of Meekness: *Christmas for Twelve Days* by Charles Miller. Reprint now available from the Parish office for £9.95.

LAMPS presents '**Beasts of Bethlehem**'. Christ Church Barn, Monday 17 Dec 4pm & 7pm and Tuesday 18 Dec 1:30pm & 7pm. Tickets £10/£5 (under 16s) from 07452 982705, bookings@lampscollective.com or www.buytickets.at/lampscollective.

Are you 'home alone' for Christmas? Peachcroft Christian Centre invite you to join them for Christmas Lunch 1-3pm on Christmas Day. Assistance with transport is available. Places are free but booking essential – contact Ruth or Adam on 07379 469311 or events@peachcroftcc.org

Equipping for Life: Learning for Discipleship and Ministry: The Spring Directory of courses provided by the Diocese of Oxford as part of the Local Ministry Programme is now available - see copies on the North noticeboard. These courses are open to anyone with a passion to learn more about their faith, about God and our place in his world.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 15 December, Crib Fest at All Saint's Church 10:00am – 4:00pm. Come and see a feast of Nativity Sets, children's quiz, tea, coffee, mince pies, Xmas biscuits. Admission free, donations to The Gatehouse, a calm safe refuge for people in Oxford. All welcome.

Saturday 15th December, ADMS CHRISTMAS CONCERT for choir and orchestra. Christmas Carols & Readings. 7.30pm, Trinity Church. Free admission, collection in aid of the charity SeeSaw

Sunday 16 December, 3pm Abbey Chamber Concert, St Nicolas'. Pavlova Wind Quintet's popular Christmas concert. Classic pieces for wind quintet, including tunes from Tchaikovsky Nutcracker Suite and popular carols. With mulled wine and mince pies Tickets £10 (£9 concessions – OAP/students), accompanied children free, available on the door.

Monday 17 December, Evergreen Club meets at Trinity Church, with entertainment by 'Pandemonium'. Speak to Eluned if you would like a ticket.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Writing in the Diocesan eNews (6/12) Bishop Steven says: This week both Houses of Parliament will be debating various issues around Brexit. This is therefore a week of great significance for our life and future of the nation. Please would you take time to pray both privately and publicly for our government and Parliament. This is the prayer used each day in the House of Commons:

“Lord, the God of righteousness and truth, grant to our Queen and her government, to Members of Parliament and all in positions of responsibility, the guidance of your Spirit. May they never lead the nation wrongly through love of power, desire to please, or unworthy ideals but laying aside all private interests and prejudices keep in mind their responsibility to seek to improve the condition of all mankind; so may your kingdom come and your name be hallowed”. + **Steven, Bishop of Oxford**

Remembering also

- All those for whom this time of year, in the run-up to Christmas, is one of stress or loneliness;
- The many visitors to St Nicolas and all who support the ministry of teaching and welcome in this place;
- Justin our Archbishop, Steven, Colin & Henry our Bishops, Charles, Paul, Mary and all who serve in this Parish;
- Our Church family, especially those unable to be with us today;
- Those who are suffering and in particular need.

Copies of the December / January edition of **The Window**,
and the Winter Edition of **Christian Focus**
are now available at the back of Church.

Contacts

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Items for Pewslip to Eluned Hallas 01235 529462, eluned@hallas.org.uk please