

NEWS & CHAT 23 December 2021

The online service will remain 'joint' while each church has its own service as pre-pandemic. For the foreseeable future, the online service will be live-streamed from the church where the minister is leading, but always on the Christ Church Facebook page.

**Following the introduction of Plan B by the government,
the wearing of masks is compulsory in churches.**

In order to keep Covid-19 safe, please remember to:

- Wear a mask at all times (unless you have an exemption), including at groups meeting at church.
- Sanitise hands when entering the building
- **Keep at least 1m from people you are not in a 'bubble' or live with including at groups meeting at church.**
- Try to keep conversations after worship to a minimum

During services and other events, we will endeavour to keep the Church as warm as possible whilst maintaining good ventilation, so please dress accordingly.

Christmas Eve	3pm 6pm	Christingle at CC – ticket holders only Christmas Eve Communion at BDC
CHRISTMAS DAY	10am 10.30am	Christmas Family Worship at CC, the Minister A short service of carols, readings & prayers at BDC, (Margaret)

Sunday 26 Dec. **NO service at either church.** You can listen to the URC Daily Devotions service for 26 Dec. here: <https://soundcloud.com/andy-braunston/urc-daily-devotions-sunday-service-for-26th-december-2021-the-revd-james-church?si=b580218acf9b44bb8f7632857788a96e>

Or read it here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZYvupFuVbCKxScw19vXKq_ubq75pTZ51/view
If you would like a paper copy of this service, please contact Jean or Sue.

Sunday 2 Jan. 2022	10am 10.30am	Ian Miller at CC Robert Dart at BDC
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Thursday 6 Jan	Space for Prayer
Saturday 8 Jan	Art Club from 10am not on the 1 st Saturday of the month as that is New Year's Day.

There will be NO News & Chat next week.
The Minister is on annual leave 26 Dec- 2 Jan.

Harmonie Concert – a big THANK YOU to the Harmonie Band and all who made the concert possible. £648 was raised for groups supported by the church.

Used Postage Stamps

Don't throw away your used postage stamps. If you don't already give them to someone, then please give them to Penny who collects them to send to The Leprosy Society.

RESOURCES

An Advent reflection by Revd Dr Cally Hammond who is the Dean of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. <https://mailchi.mp/6bf643a7f522/coming-up-from-st-pauls-cathedral-8251172?e=e30a1f608a>

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell in conversation with the theologian Paula Gooder about Advent and Christmas: <https://youtu.be/MpPyv3keef8>

PRAYER CORNER

I invite all of you to set aside time daily to pray for our churches and members but also for the whole nation and world. We pray especially this week for all those who find Christmas hard for whatever reason, those who will be alone, the homeless and NHS staff.

This week's prayer theme (prepared by Gwyneth). **Gifts of gratitude.** In the midst of another Christmas season, please take some moments to bring your thanks and gratitude to the Lord. When we start to list the good in our lives, from a tea bag to a new grandchild, we realise how relentlessly generous our Lord is to us. What else can we do except, in gratitude, praise and worship our awesome God.

Particular prayer requests this week:

Mark E and his family
Audrey
Phil and Grace
Beth, Bill & Elizabeth G

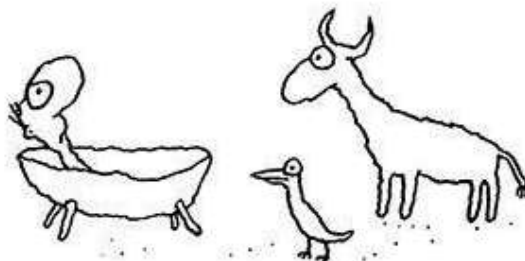
Leeann, Pauline D's daughter
Sheila S
Peter C
Joy and Steve A

Prayer concerns from Budiriro - Pray for travelling mercies for those travelling for Christmas holidays as we experience road carnage on our roads during festive season. Pray for children writing final Exams as they have a break for Christmas and will resume Examinations soon after New year.

We give thanks to God for the safe arrival of Emilia Ellen Rose - granddaughter of Penny & Phil, and Matilda – great-granddaughter of Anna & Richard

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

Love is born
With a dark and troubled face.
When hope is dead
And in the most unlikely place
Love is born.
Love is always born.



Michael Leunig