



All Saints Church

W O K I N G H A M

Sunday 15th December 2024

Third Sunday of Advent



Services this week

Sunday 15th December

- 8am Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Communion,
with visiting priest
- 4pm Family Carols

Services for next week

Sunday 22nd December

- 8am Holy Communion
- 9.30am All Age Parish
Communion & Nativity
- 4pm Blue Christmas

*Junior church & Youth Church
are running their last session
on 15th Dec, until 12th Jan*

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.

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.

Weekly Services

- Morning Prayer: Tue, Wed, Thurs 9am
- Tuesday Holy Communion 10am
- Wednesday Mums aimed at pre-
schoolers and carers , every
Wednesday at 10am

All Saints Church Café

Mondays, Thursdays 10-2pm, Fridays and Saturdays
10am - 12pm



Intercessions: Please pray for:

Sandra, Cathy, Gabriela, Angie, Lyn, George, Amelia, Judy, Rayanne, Neil, Michelle, Michael,
Shannon, Anne, Tony, June, Gareth, Joan, Alison, Ian, Chris, Judi

This week's bible readings

Philippians 4: 4- 7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 3: 7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?' ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' ¹¹In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' ¹²Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' ¹³He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Guest Speaker

Today we will be welcoming guest priest Revd Rebecca Amoroso, new chaplain at Broadmoor Hospital, she will be preaching and presiding at 9:30am parish communion.

Sung Liturgy at 9.30am

From Christmas we plan to reintroduce singing of the Gloria and Agnus Dei as part of our regular worship

Date for your diary

26th January 2025, 11am - 1.30pm consultation on mission giving. All welcome.

Nativity on 22nd December at 9.30am

On Sunday 22nd December we are pleased to be including a Nativity performance as part of our all age Parish Communion service. The script for this has been produced by Eva Packiarajah from junior church and will star regular members of our youth and junior church as well as any eager children from the congregation. This all age service will include craft activities and songs for all ages.



Congregational Christmas Message Board

Please write a Christmas greeting to your friends at All Saints on a Christmas bauble card, which are available at the back of the church and add it to our message board.



Refurbished Benches

The benches in the gathering space were in a state of disrepair so many thanks to Tom Lochhead who has been working on making them safe and refurbishing them. In line with our commitment to **Inclusive church** and in an effort to spread this message of welcome into our community, we have decided to repaint them in rainbow colours. We also hope that they will become part of Wokingham's bench trail.

Inclusive church is about seeking to be a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate, a church which welcomes and loves all people in the name of Jesus. This covers all types of discrimination including on grounds of disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality.

HatMas Trees!

The Barkham Hookers Crochet group have donated two full sized HatMas Trees, one of which is in the church and one in The Cornerstone. The Christmas Trees are covered in bobble hats to look like baubles which are completely free to take for anyone who would like one, or if you know of someone who would like one.

PACT

During Advent we will be holding retiring collections for the work of local charity PACT - Parents And Children Together – This is an adoption charity and family support provider helping hundreds of families every year through adoption and adoption support services. You can donate in church via cash or card. Find out more about PACT here - <https://www.pactcharity.org/>

Surveys

A reminder for volunteers to please submit their anonymous surveys on sexual harassment by 15th December please. <https://www.allsaintswokingham.org.uk/survey-on-harassment/>

Sidespeople Christmas Eve Crib Services at 2pm and 4pm

We are again holding two Crib Services and are looking for adults to play all the parts which make up the Christmas story. These are non-speaking roles and costumes are provided - generally everyone who helps finds this a fun afternoon, and it is an important part of Christmas for so many families.

Time is short and so do please get in touch with me on either Pamela.gilbey@btinternet.com or 01189785694 or 07771656570.



Piano Accompaniment at the Café

Enjoy a relaxing morning at our cafe with the accompaniment of the church's new addition - the beautiful Bechstein grand piano!, played by local pianist Debra Wong

All welcome - Cafe opens from 10 am to 12 pm and music starts at 10:30 am (for approx. 1 hour). **Dates: 10th January & 14th March**

Christmas Services & Events 2024

- Sunday 15th December - 4pm Family Carols
- Sunday 22nd December - 9.30am All Age Parish Communion & Nativity
- Sunday 22nd December - 4pm Blue Christmas, followed by refreshments
- Christmas Eve - 2pm & 4pm Crib Services
- Christmas Eve - 6.30pm Nine Lessons & Carols
- Christmas Eve - 11.15pm Midnight Communion
- Christmas Day - 8am Said Holy Communion
- Christmas Day - 9.30am All Age Parish Communion



Christmas Opening

The Church will be closed on Christmas Day afternoon, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. On 29th December there will be one service at 9.30am (no 8am). There will be no mid-week services from 24th December until 2nd January.

The café will be closed from 24th December until 3rd January.

The Parish Office is closed from Monday 23rd December until Friday 3rd January.

The Cornerstone is closed from lunchtime on 24th December until Thursday 2nd January.

The Rector is on leave from Monday 30th December until Monday 6th January.

Should you need a member of the clergy **urgently** over the Christmas period, please contact Hannah on 07860 930547.

Parish Office: 0118 979 2797 /
parishoffice@allsaintswokingham.org.uk
Normal Office Opening Times: Monday-Friday 10am - 12pm
(Remotely on Thursdays)

Don't forget to check our website for more information about events on our news page: www.allsaintswokingham.org.uk/news/ , Facebook & Instagram