



All Saints Church

W O K I N G H A M

Sunday 22nd December 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent



Services this week

Sunday 22nd December

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

Services for next week

Sunday 29th December

9.30am All Age Parish
Communion
No 8am service

*No Junior church & Youth
Church until 12th Jan*

Collect

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our
saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Weekly Services

There will be no mid-week services from
24th December until 2nd January.
There will be an extra service of Holy
Communion on Monday 23rd December
at 10am

All Saints Church Café

Mondays, Thursdays 10-2pm, Fridays and Saturdays
10am - 12pm. The café will be closed from
24th December until 3rd January.



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

Micah 5: 2-5a

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.
³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labour has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return

Luke 1: 39-55

In those days Mary set out and went with haste
to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰ where
she entered the house of Zechariah and greet-
ed Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's
greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Eliza-
beth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴² and ex-
claimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among
women, and blessed is the fruit of your
womb. ⁴³ And why has this happened to me,
that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴ For
as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting,
the child in my womb leapt for joy. ⁴⁵ And
blessed is she who believed that there would
be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by
the Lord.'

⁴⁶ And Mary said,
'My soul magnifies the Lord,
⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
⁴⁸ for he has looked with favour on the low-
liness of his servant.

to the people of Israel.
⁴ And he shall stand and feed his flock in the
strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his
God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be
great
to the ends of the earth;
⁵ and he shall be the one of peace.

Surely, from now on all generations will call
me blessed;
⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for
me,
and holy is his name.
⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of
their hearts.
⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their
thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our
ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

Sung Liturgy at 9.30am

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

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.

Bags2School (Church)

We are organising another collection in January. Over Christmas and new year please have a look through for clothes, paired shoes, handbags, hats, bags, scarves, ties, jewellery and belts which you no longer need and put them to one side for us, we will advise when you can drop off after Christmas.

For more information <https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect>



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/>

Date for your diary

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

Quench at the Café

Our café now stocks a range of cards from Quench bookshop. From January we will be offering a click and collect service for your Quench orders.

<https://www.quenchshops.com/>



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 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