

SIGNPOST
the weekly newsletter of
St George's, Tuffley
with **St Margaret's, Whaddon**

Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering
'Growing God's Kingdom'



Sunday worship
12 December 2021

ADVENT 3
Welcome

Please take a moment to introduce yourself to our Minister Rachel or one of our Church Wardens, (Mike or Sylvia at St George's) (Jonathan or Hans at St Margaret's) or the door steward. If visiting St George's, please join us for tea/coffee after the 10.30am service. Both churches are fitted with an inductive loop; to hear the service better those with hearing aids should switch them to the appropriate setting.

To protect everyone,

Please wear a Face Mask.
Sanitise your hands as you enter
Observe sensible social distancing indoors, and ...
You can sing if you wish, but you must be wearing a mask.

As Covid is still with us we ask you to voluntarily stay at home if you feel unwell.

Tea or Coffee after the Service.

Tea/Coffee will be served after the 10.30am service in the Main Hall. While waiting to be served please wear a mask until you are seated. If you are happy to join a tea/coffee rota, please speak to Mike Brammer.

Advent Groups:

The next two meeting of the Advent Group led by Susan Scothern will be on **Tuesdays the 14th and 21st Dec**, the meetings are to be held in the Softley Lounge **from 10.45am**. Susan will be using 3 stories from St Luke. So, bring your tea/coffee from Coffee Pot & take part.

The 3rd evening **Advent Group** will be led by Pete Best in the vicarage on **Monday 13th Dec at 7.00pm**. The 4th meeting will be held on **Thursday 23rd Dec at 7.00pm** in the vicarage.

Order of Service

Advent – A heart change to Christ

The hymns listed below are for the service at St George's



Processional Hymn

Hymn No 541 - O thou who camest from above

Prayer for Today

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your
Son:

give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Readings

Zephaniah 3:14-20 A Song of Joy

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against
you, he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷ The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,

he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing

¹⁸ as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,

so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors at that time.

And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise

and renown in all the earth.

²⁰ At that time I will bring you home,

at the time when I gather you;

for I will make you renowned and praised

among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes

before your eyes, says the LORD.

Prayer: Lord of all, our breath and being come from you, yet our earthly end is dust; as you loose the bound and feed the hungry, so in your mercy bring us through the grave and gate of death to the feast of eternal life, where you reign for evermore. Amen

Isaiah 12:2-6

² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴ And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD,

call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵ Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.

⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Philippians 4:4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Prayer: Father keep us from worry, teach us to pray, and help us rejoice in all circumstances, so we live abiding in your peace. Amen

Luke 3:7-18

⁷ 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?" ⁸ Bear 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. ⁹ Even now the ax 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?" ¹¹ In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³ He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴ Soldiers 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, ¹⁶ John 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. ¹⁷ His 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.

Prayer: Lord as we turn from our old ways, baptise us afresh with your fire that burns away all the dross in our lives. Amen

Sermon - Rev'd Rachel

Declaration of Faith

Intercessions

We pray for all who are ill or in need at this time mentioning by name:

Angela, Susan, Mike and Laura, Lynne, Daphne, Rosemary, Carol, Angela, Margaret and Mark, Joyce and Martin

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Barry & Linda Medwell celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary on 18th.

In Memoriam:

Beryl O'Brien, Jeanne Wilson, Muriel Mayo RIP

Anniversaries of Death:

Christelle Cantillion, Frances Perry, Albert Perry, Sandra Robinson, Duncan Eagles, Angus Mackellar, Molly Lee, Peter Preece, William Andrews, Jean Willetts, Edith Morris, William Nice, Sheila Harvey, Richard Beard, Janet Troughton, Geoffrey Wilson, Sidney Tocknell.

If you would like your birthday or anniversary mentioned in Signpost, please let Glenda know.

Offertory Hymn

Hymn No 411 – Lord Jesus Christ

Communion Hymn

Hymn No 948 – Veni Sancte Spiritus

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

Final Hymn

Hymn No 633 – The Advent of our King

News & Diary Dates – 12 – 19 December

***** Messy Church *****

Have you got neighbours with young children? Let them know the Church in Tuffley plan to run 'Messy Church' sessions each month. Due to Covid some sessions may be cancelled so we advise the relevant Church Website is checked.

St George's on the 2nd Saturday of the month. Next meeting – 8th January 2022 from 10.00am – 11.30am.

St Barnabas on the 1st & 3rd Friday of the month. Next meeting – Friday 7th January 2022 from 3.30pm 4.45pm.

Grange Baptist Church - Next meeting will be **Messy Christmas next Sunday 19th December at 10.30am.**

Sun 12			Advent 3
	9.00am	St M's	Parish Communion
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion Crucifer: Jayne Readers: David / Joceline Intercessions: Derek
Mon 13	11.30am	St G's	Funeral Service for the late Jeanne Wilson RIP followed by refreshments in the hall
	7.00pm	Vic	Advent Group
Tue 14	10.00am	St G's	Parish Communion
	10.00am	St G's	Coffee Pot
	10.45am	SL	Advent Group
	2.30pm	SH	Mother's Union
Wed 15	8.15am	Zoom	Morning Prayer
	3.30pm	MH	Slimming World Sessions
	7.30pm	St B	Refresh Carols
Thu 16	10.00am	SH	Day Centre
	10.30am	St M's	Parish Communion
	2.00pm	Crem	Funeral Service for the late Muriel Mayo RIP
	7.00pm	St M's	Candlelit Carol Service
Fri 17	3.30pm	St B	Messy church
Sat 18	11.00am	St B	Litter Pick
Sun 19			Advent 4
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion Crucifer: Dot Readers: Stuart/Sylvia C Intercessions: Susan
	10.30am	GB	Messy Christmas
	12 noon	MH	Private Booking
	4.00pm	St G's	Carol Service

**St G's = St George's, St M's = St Margaret's,
MH = Main Hall of Centre, SH = Small Hall,
SL = Softley Lounge, Vic = Vicarage,
GB = Grange Baptist, St B = St Barnabas,
Crem = Crematorium**

St George's Christmas Draw:

Thank you to all who bought tickets or donated prizes for our draw. We had 15 prizes in total and the top three were won by Dot Martin who went away happy with a Christmas Cake made by Sue Winter. Roger Meadows waltzed away a bottle of whisky and Sylvia Evans disappeared over the horizon with a bottle of white wine. The draw raised £50 for church funds. Glenda and Darrell

Carol Services

Barring any restrictions due to Covid plans are in place to hold 3 Carol Services in the Benefice.

Thursday 16th December at 7.00pm
Carols by Candlelight at St Margaret's

Sunday 19th December at 4.00pm
Carols at St George's

Tuesday 21st December at 7.00pm
Carols by Candlelight at St Margaret's

A maximum of 60 people can be accommodated at each of the service at St Margaret's, so we ask you book in advance.

Please contact Hans Rackham either by email h_m_rackham@talktalk.net or by telephoning 01452 528939, letting him know how many places you are reserving and for which date.

We believe, with the services at St Margaret's, that one service date will be more popular than the other. Please indicate, to Hans, if the other date would be acceptable, should your preferred date be fully booked.

Christmas flowers in memory of loved ones

Donations for Christmas flowers, in memory of loved ones, can be given to either Gloria or to Jill at St Margaret's.

If you would like to make a donation towards St George's Flower Fund in memory of a loved one this Christmas, please use the envelopes that are at the back of the church and then give it to either Mike or Sylvia.

AN EVENING OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC at English Martyrs' Church, Tuffley Lane on **Saturday 18 December** at 7.30pm with Love2Sing Community Choir. Tickets: adults £5.00, children £3.00; Family ticket (2 adults and upto 3 children) £15.00.

Tickets can be ordered through Darrell

Appeal from the British Red Cross Mobility Aids Service.

The British Red Cross have been supporting the NHS throughout the pandemic. They are appealing for 8 Customer Service volunteers and 1 volunteer Driver for the Quedgeley area. If you are interested, please contact: **Linda McGranaghan**

by email LMcGranaghan@redcross.org.uk
or telephone 07921092909

or by writing to Linda McGranaghan, Engagement & Development Recruitment & Selection Coordinator, British Red Cross, Bradbury House, 2 Lower Chantry Lane, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1UF

❖ Keep bringing items for the Foodbank; The collection point is the Church Centre hallway on a Friday morning from 9.30am until 11.30am.

The Foodbank are in **URGENT NEED OF ANY TINNED FRUIT PASTA SAUCES FESTIVE SPONGE PUDDING (NO ALCOHOL) CHRISTMAS BISCUITS SAVOURY SNACKS plus DEODORANT, SHAMPOO, SHOWER GEL**

Thank you!

Know someone who:

- ❖ is without support?
- ❖ can't make ends meet?
- ❖ Just wants to talk?

Then **Contact Gloucestershire Community Help Hub on 01452 583519**

Keep picking up the phone!

People are finding phone calls with friends invaluable to combat loneliness. Thank you everyone; please keep up the good work!



CONTACTING US:

Vicar: Rev'd Rachel Beck 01452 520851

Email: revrachelbeck@gmail.com 07753 389865

Reader: Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis 01452 502174

Website: www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk

Facebook: St. George's, Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon

Twitter: www.twitter.com/@tuffleystg

Administrator: Glenda Stevens 01452 307456

Email: stgeorgeschurch1@gmail.com

The Administration office is open on Wednesday & Friday mornings from 9.30am until 11.30am. Please contact the Church Administrator by email or leave a message on the office telephone and our Administrator will get back to you.

We are part of the **Church in Tuffley**, working in partnership with English Martyrs (Roman Catholic), Grange (Baptist) and St Barnabas (Anglican).

