

Snow last week: Thank you to everyone who bravely ventured out last week. I hope everyone has kept safe and warm.

OTHER NOTICES

Retirement of Canon David Lawson after 17 years in the Deanery as Team Rector of Langelei Benefice and 7 years as Rural Dean. A farewell Eucharist will take place on Sunday, 7th January at 5 p.m. at All Saints Church, Kings Langley, with refreshments and presentation to follow.

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord (Attendez le Seigneur, son jour est proche. Prenez cœur. / Ждите Господа, ибо близок день Его; бодрствуйте, будьте крепки сердцем.)



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

☆☆☆☆☆

NEXT SUNDAY 24th December – Advent 4

Services at St John's:
8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Combined Parish Eucharist

CHRISTMAS EVE
2.30pm Christingle Service 1
4.30pm Christingle Service 2
6.30pm Crib Service
11.10pm Carols in church
11.30pm MIDNIGHT MASS

Service at St Stephen's: NO Service
Service at St Francis: NO Service



NEWSLETTER ITEMS for the **COMBINED CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR NEWSLETTER** in writing please to **Annie Mitchell** by **Tuesday 19th December at the latest** (maximum length 4 lines of A5). If separate flyers are to be produced, please let Annie know. Items for inclusion should now be emailed to: newsletter@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk

Newsletter by email. You can receive a copy of this Newsletter every week by email. Send your email address to stjohnchurchnews@btinternet.com and you will be added to the distribution list.

Parish Office: ☎ 260299 www.stjohnsboxmoor.co.uk

SAINT JOHN'S With
St Stephens
Chaulden &
St Francis
BOXMOOR Hammerfield

NEWSLETTER

No. 3680

17th December 2017

ADVENT 3

Services at St John's

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Eucharist

Hymns 470, 29, 384, 28

Wait for the Lord (back of newsletter)

Anthem: Make me a light – Wilby

11.00am – 4.00pm Christmas Tree Festival open

6.30pm FESTIVAL OF 9 LESSONS & CAROLS

Service at St Stephen's Chaulden

11.15am Morning Worship

Services at St Francis Hammerfield

10.00am Sung Mass



THIS WEEK AT ST JOHN'S: 18th –23rd December

Daily: 8.45am Morning Prayer 5.00pm Evening Prayer (not Saturday)

MONDAY 10.00am-5.00pm

7.30pm

TUESDAY 9.00am

10.00am-5.00pm

5.00pm-7.00pm

WEDNESDAY 10.30am

10.30am

5.30pm

6.00pm

THURSDAY 9.30am

FRIDAY 6.00pm

6.45pm

SATURDAY 10.00am

Christmas Tree Festival open

Holy Communion **at St Francis**

Heath Lane Nursery School Nativity & Carols

Christmas Tree Festival open

Dressing down of trees

Carols by Candlelight at St Francis

Holy Communion, followed by coffee

Evening Prayer **at St Francis**

Brownies rehearsal for Christingle

Morning Worship **at St Stephen's**

Parish Office Closed

Choir Practice (Trebles)

Choir Practice (Adults)

Church open - coffee



Details of next Sunday's Services are on the back of the Newsletter

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead: The Society of Friends

those who are ill: Sue Jeffs, Ruby Brooke, Angie Parsons, Jean Harries, Reg Farmborough, David Stevens, Christine Wilson, James Lockyer, Pam Hart, Rory Wilson, Steve Hanwell, Ann Frogley, Pauline Webb, Bob Croxford, Fiona Rock, David Jarman, Beryl King, Ruth Merry;

those with ongoing needs: Dorothy Freeman, Anna Gough, Margaret Gunning, Jean Stevens, Jayne Taylor, Mary Willis, Jim Taylor, David Mitchell, Jenson Galloway, Brian Laidlaw, Anne Hosier, Joyce Graham, Jana Pick.

Prayers for others with ongoing needs are offered at our weekday services. If you wish only to be remembered at Morning and Evening Prayer, please contact the vicar.

**all those who have died:
and we pray for their families and friends.**

Year's Mind (17th – 23rd December): Reg Boutell (17.12.2015), Keith Hill (19.12.2012) Jean Thorne (20.12.2012), Brenda Banks (20.12.2015), Joan Lovegrove (20.12.2016), Hayley Makepeace (21.12.2015), Irene Mallord (22.12.2013).



TODAY

READINGS at St John's:

Copies of readings (including large print) are available from the sidespeople.

We welcome Ken Martlew as our organist at 9.30am today. The voluntary after the service will be Toccata in F – J.S. Bach.

During Advent we will once again observe 5 minutes of silence before our services, allowing some space to contemplate the coming of Christ among us. We hope you will find this helpful to your journey of faith.

FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS: As we continue towards our yearly celebration of the birth of Christ, come to our Carol Service **TONIGHT (6.30pm)** and hear again of God's gift of love – born in the stable – for all humanity. Sing your favourite carols, listen to our lovely choir, and enjoy a warm glass of mulled wine.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COLLECTION TUBES are available for those planning to attend one of our **Christingle Services on Christmas Eve at 2.30 or 4.30**. Please take yours **today** – you will need a filled tube to exchange for Christingle at the service. All money donated goes to **the Children's Society**.

CHURCH FAMILY CHRISTMAS CARD. There is now a Big Christmas Card at the back of St. John's to sign to wish your friends at church a Happy Christmas. So, instead of sending individual cards, sign this one and give the money you would have spent to **BIBLES FOR CHILDREN** – a charity which ensures all children in Boxmoor and beyond receive a Bible.



Christmas Tree Festival: Thank you to all who have helped with, sponsored, or attended this year's Festival. The church looks fabulous. Please encourage neighbours to come and enjoy the display and festive atmosphere.

THIS WEEK

MORNING & EVENING PRAYER: The Daily Offices will be said in the Chancel during the Christmas Tree Festival – all are welcome.

Holy Communion on Monday evenings will be celebrated **at St Francis** throughout December, due to numerous events taking place at St John's.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT AT ST FRANCIS: Another opportunity to sing carols and raise money for the Hospice of St Francis. All are welcome. **6pm Tuesday 19th December** at St Francis Church, Hammerfield.

PARISH NOTICES

Christmas Morning: Please can everyone bring one of your Christmas presents with you for the Vicar to use during his Sermon. Thank you.

10k Run / 4k Walk – MASJ are holding their annual 10k Run and 4k Walk again this year on **New Year's Eve, Sunday 31st December**. The walkers will leave St John's at 11.45am and runners leave at 12 noon, registration opens at 11.15. The fee for runners is **£10** and **£5** for walkers. The route is the same as last year. On returning to St John's, hot food and drink will be waiting for you. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of church so please take part if you can.

TINY TOTS: Tiny Tots is not meeting again until our **PARTY on 9th January** in the Hall – 11.30-1pm. Tickets, price £3, are available from Annie Mitchell – please get them NOW if you would like to come so we know how many to cater for. Weekly meetings begin again on 16th January at 9.30am – new members always very welcome.

Office Hour: The next Office Hour will be Tuesday 9th January at 6.30pm. If you need to discuss baptisms/weddings/funerals before then please contact the Vicar.

Organ Percentage Club Update. Congratulations to our November Draw Winners; Diana Edwards 1st £15; Gaynor Reidy 2nd £8; Catherine Holness 3rd £4. If you would like to join the Organ Percentage Club and support MASJ in this way there are Entry Forms in church or call 01442 230399 or see me in church. Mark Harbour - on behalf of MASJ

Christmas holidays: If you are going away for Christmas please find a Church near you to celebrate the birth of Christ. www.achurchnearyou.com is a useful site to check.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CURATE who has been Musical Director of this year's panto *Cinderella at the Playhouse*. Resounding success. A man of many talents. Bravo!