



Church Matters...

Sunday 11 December - Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome

We are so pleased to welcome you to our services today. If you are new to the parish or worshipping with us for the first time, then please do make yourself known to the person leading the service.

Parish Diary

Sunday 11 December

8.30am - Holy Communion (said) - St John's, Itchen Abbas
with Revd Peter

4pm - Carols in the Barn - Grace's Farm

see page 2 for more information

6.30pm - UTX Christmas Crafts & Games - St John's, Itchen Abbas

Monday 12 December

9.30am - Little Rainbows - St John's, Itchen Abbas

2pm - IAPS Carol Service - St John's, Itchen Abbas

Tuesday 13 December

12pm - CAMEO - St John's, Itchen Abbas

8pm - Ministry Team Meeting - Zoom

Sunday 18 December

10am - Parish Communion - St Mary's, Easton

5pm - Carols by Candlelight - St Swithun's, Martyr Worthy

see page 2 for more information

Notice Board

A Warm Welcome - On Wednesdays and Thursdays there will be a warm welcome to anyone who would like to come to St John's Church to enjoy a hot drink and the warmth of an already-heated space. This will be the chance to meet with others for a chat, bring along your book or just take the time to relax and take advantage of a warm environment during the winter weather. The church will be open from 9am to 2pm during term times. There will be hot drinks and biscuits available at no charge and everyone is welcome. Please let Beccy know if you would ever like to host this event over the next months.

Carols in the Barn - Please come along (dressed as a nativity character if you would like) to our all-age barn service this Sunday (11th) at 4pm at Grace's Farm, Martyr Worthy, SO21 1DX. This will be a wonderful opportunity to enjoy your favourite carols, a short family-friendly talk and some festive refreshments. Everyone is welcome: please wrap up warmly and bring a torch. Car parking will be signposted (and muddy).

Carols by Candlelight - We are looking forward so much to this special service, with carols sung by the choir or congregation, interspersed with six readings from the Bible and from contemporary poetry. If you would like to join the choir for this, do please be in touch with Simon Ffennell who will give details of the time of the choir rehearsal planned for that Sunday afternoon. Please note that there will be VERY limited car-parking available on that evening, so please consider other options. Also that the start-time of this service has been advertised as 5.00pm. However, if England are in the World Cup final, a delayed start-time will be circulated on the Itchen List! We are so grateful to John and Nicky Barber for their offer of some Christmas hospitality after the service.

'In the Steps of Jesus' - A Tour to the Holy Land for the parishes of the Itchen Valley (April 2024). The Revd Christopher Durrant and I are pleased to announce this exciting joint venture between our two neighbouring parishes here in the Valley. An outline itinerary can be found on [our website](#): There will be two 'presentation evenings' (one in each parish) later in January: more details to follow.

For Your Prayers

for the situation in Ukraine
for those who are ill or suffering at the moment
for those experiencing financial difficulties
for Cameo helpers and attendees as they celebrate Christmas
for the Ministry Team as they meet
for those attending our Christmas services in the parish