



NEWS SHEET for 10th December 2023

St Peter's Church, Woolton

Growing in love for God, each other and the World

**Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

A WARM WELCOME TO EVERYONE!

A very warm welcome to today's services, particularly if you are visiting the church for the first time. If you are new to St Peter's please make yourself known to our Welcome Team at the back of church. We are pleased to be able to offer teas and coffees in the centenary rooms after the service.

Collect : O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

Holy Communion every Thursday @ 11am

<u>10th December</u>	<u>17th December</u>
8am Holy Communion 10.30am Morning Worship Isaiah 40:1-11 Mark 1:1-8	8am Holy Communion 10.30am Crib (& Chocolate Service) Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-end John 1:6-8, 19-28

<u>24th December</u>	<u>25th December</u>	<u>31st December</u>
Christmas Eve 8am Holy Communion 10.30am Carol Service Romans 16:25-end Luke 1:26-38 11pm Midnight Holy Communion	Christmas Day 8am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Celebration Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:1-20	New Years Eve 8am Holy Communion 10.30am BAPTISM & Christingle Colossians 1:9-20 Luke 2:41-end



For your prayers: Those who are sick: Molly Kinsella, Archie Mckerrel, Ann Large, Gillian Saignes, Samantha Gibbons, Ray Grist, Sam Murphy, Catherine and Paul, Baby Charlotte Berge, Harry Benson, Karen Davenport, Baby Finley Page, Ron Travis, Carole Haggis, Mila Facenfield, Cedric Jones, Patricia Wiggins, Sandra Nairen, Jon Mann, Anita Lloyd, Jean Thwaite.

Please pray for the family and friends of : Andy Cheetham, Hilary Rotherham

Sunday 10th December: 10:30am

Christmas Praise Party for children and young people. Please go to your normal place for starting groups (church or hub) and leaders will take the children to the hall. If you can contact your group leader to say you are coming that would be really helpful.

Sunday 17th December: 10:30am

Crib service with live donkey! Come along for carols, our story led by pathfinders and a time of celebration. All are invited to come dressed as a nativity character or in your favourite Christmas jumper!

Tuesday 12th December, 1:30pm

Andy Cheetham's funeral service will be at church and all his church family are invited to attend. Lizzy is compiling the eulogy from different people and so if there's any stories or things you would like to share about Andy please let Lizzy have them via email by Sunday 10th December. Please email the parish office (parishadmin@stpeters-woolton.org.uk).

"As many of you know, our dear friend, Ruth Christie, has recently moved to Stapely, North Mossley Hill Road, Liverpool L18 8BR.

After some delay, BT has finally connected her phone and her phone number is still 0151 428 3342. Ruth welcomes calls but the phone is in her bedroom and she is often downstairs with the other residents so you may want to time your call so that she is around to receive it. Ruth also welcomes visitors."



KIND - We are delighted to be supporting KIND Liverpool again this Christmas. **Stephen Yip visited St Peters at 10.30am Service on Sunday 3rd December.** He explained the work of KIND and the need there is in Liverpool. **We will also have a cash collection during the Service on Sunday 10th December which we will then send on to Stephen at KIND.'**



MEN'S BREAKFAST – Will be held on **Saturday 9th December** at the Cookhouse Pub (on the roundabout at the corner of Mackets Lane and Halewood Drive). **We will meet at 9.15am.** To give the venue an idea of how many breakfasts to cook, could you please add your name to the sign-up sheet, contact **Tom Canty, Roger Whitaker.**



CHRISTMAS CHOIR - The Christmas Choir practice started on **Monday 27th November 8pm-9pm in the Hub (Simon Peter Centre)** and will be continued each Monday up to the Carol Service.

The only requirements are that you can sing at the Carol Service on **24th December @ 10:30am**, you attend the practices (let me know if there are any you can't make), and you bring a smile with a willingness to work hard. Open to all who have or haven't been in a choir before. If you haven't experienced the joy, sense of achievement and fellowship a choir brings then why not give it a go!



CAROL SINGING: Farmer's Market 9th December @ 10.30 am - come and join us as we sing in the centre of the Village, then back to St James' for a cuppa at the Coffee Morning.

All are welcome to join us as we sing around Woolton Village on **Tuesday 19th December.** - **4.00 – 4.45 pm Meet at Tesco**

5.00 – 5.45 pm Meet at Sainsbury's

then back to St James' for a cuppa/bring your own food if you wish

6.45 pm Meet at Marie Curie



ST PETER'S FRIENDSHIP GROUP – will be held on **Thursday 14th December in the Simon Peter Centre @8pm.** This will be the last group until February 2024. Notice will be given of the date and time in February when received.



Can you Help? Chris Ford is looking for the loan of a dolly tub for use in the Anglican Cathedral Centenary activities next year where they will be celebrating the life of Kitty Wilkinson. **If you can help please e mail us at parishadmin@stpeters-woolton.org.**

Admissions Policy for Bishop Martin : There are proposed changes to the Admissions Policy and Application form for Bishop Martin School. The Consultation Process will commence from **1st October 2023 and end on 31st January 2024**. If you have any questions, please direct them to Debbie Pierce the Secretary at Bishop Martin School. Please refer to the Church Facebook page or website, or the school website to view the documents or click on the following link
<https://www.stpeters-woolton.org.uk/bishop-martin-admissions-consultation/>

MARIE CURIE LIGHTS TO REMEMBER - I would like to invite you to our annual "lights to remember" carol service in the Catholic cathedral on **Sunday 10th December at 5pm**. I know this is a busy time but I wanted you to know you would be welcome to come.

Would anyone be willing to train as a Chaplaincy volunteer at the Hospice, if anyone is interested I could meet up with them and discuss further. **Please contact Rev. Ruth Pryce. Chaplain on 0151 801 1435 or by e mail at ruth.pryce@mariecurie.org.uk** Ruth's working hours are Monday 8am – 1pm, Tuesday 8am – 3pm, Wednesday 8am – 3pm, Thursday 9am - 12.30pm. Many thanks for all your support.



Why not Grab a cuppa and a biscuit and take 30mins each day to read your bible. It's food for the heart and soul. Suggested daily bible readings for this week are :-

Monday 11th	Tuesday 12th	Wednesday 13th
AM Psalm 44 Isaiah 30.1-18 Matthew 14.1-12 PM Psalms 144 Isaiah 45.14-end 1Thessalonians 1	AM Psalm 56 Isaiah 30.19-end Matthew 14.13-end PM Psalm 11 Isaiah 46 1Thessalonians 2.1-12	AM Psalm 62 Isaiah 31 Matthew 15.1-20 PM Psalm 10 Isaiah 47 1Thessalonians 2.13-end
Thursday 14th	Friday 15th Dec	Saturday 16th Dec
AM Psalm 54 Isaiah 32 Matthew 15.21-28 PM Psalm 73 Isaiah 48.1-11 1Thessalonians 3	AM Psalm 86 Isaiah 33.1-22 Matthew 15.29-end PM Psalm 90 Isaiah 48.12-end 1Thessalonians 4.1-12	AM Psalm 145 Isaiah 35 Matthew 16.1-12 PM Psalm 94 Isaiah 49.1-13 1Thessalonians 4.13-end

One-off donations (plus any associated gift aid) can now be made via the Parish Giving Scheme. You can do this by clicking on the link [HERE](#) or use this QR Code



Contact :- If you would like a message of your event/group details put on the notice sheet please e mail Angela at parishadmin@stpeters-woolton.org.uk by close of play on **Wednesday**.

Many thanks Ange

BISHOP JOHN'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

This will be my first Christmas among you in Liverpool and I am looking forward to experiencing how you do Christmas in Liverpool. Over many years in many places, I notice how churches build their own fabulous traditions around Advent and Christmas and I am excited to see how you mark this great festival.

But I am reminded that in our extravaganza and paraphernalia of festivities, we can lose sight of the harsh realities of the nativity story: a stable, the cold night, the Inn's closed door, refugees fleeing to Egypt, the brutal slaughter of the innocent.

These harsh realities mirror the harsh realities of the world we live in. We see war, natural disasters, chronic anxiety, and poverty all around us. God embraced this world when sending Jesus at Christmas and God asks us as a church, who face challenges of our own, to lift our heads and show love to the world. To be encouraged by the nativity story and encourage others because of it.

As in previous years, the Church of England tries to come together with a campaign for Advent and Christmas. This year's theme – Follow the Star: Join the Song – highlights how singing can help draw us closer to God and each other through the journey from Advent to Epiphany. I encourage you to use their resources and take part in their invitation to sing the First Nowell as part of a way of bringing people to church.

And then together we are singing a song of God's hope for God's world. A hope that can only come through our belief in Jesus and Jesus' story from Christmas to Easter.

So sing this song of hope as you celebrate Christmas in your place. And renew in yourself a commitment to being that light of hope in God's world.

Have a blessed, peaceful, hope-filled Christmas.

Bishop John



Doing Christmas Differently

If the thought of Christmas makes you feel stressed about all there is to do, worried about how you will afford it, and guilty that there is no time to remember what it is really all about, you are not alone! This year, why not try something different that will help us grow in love for God, each other, and the world? Here are some ideas (and please do share your own with others too!):

- ❖ Christian Aid invites us to remember the women of Kurigram, Bangladesh - a disaster-prone area, where our generosity can help light up lives through business training & education. Watch this [short video](#) to find out more.
- ❖ Not sure what to buy someone who has everything? Why not choose a gift that can bring a smile to someone here while making a huge difference to families across the world? £15 provides five cookstoves to people in Malawi which means fewer trees are chopped down. For £37, you can buy a sheep for a woman in Bangladesh. Check out Christian Aid's other alternative gifts [here](#).
- ❖ Instead of buying more stuff, why not try an experience present – perhaps a nice walk with a café visit, or an invitation to a home-cooked meal? Or why not try making your own gifts or only buying gifts from a charity shop?
- ❖ You might want to try a more sustainable Christmas – use recycled wrapping paper or the bits of material and ribbons you've been wondering what to do with. How about only sending cards to people you don't see and giving the money you would have spent on cards to charity?
- ❖ Why not sign up to the [Christian Aid prayer diary](#) for prayer prompts throughout Advent and Christmas?
- ❖ You may want to fill a box for Children's Society with spare change to make a difference to vulnerable children here in Liverpool. Call Sue Whitaker on 283 9199 for more details.
- ❖ Is there someone you could invite round for Christmas dinner, or over the Christmas holidays, to share in fun and fellowship? This is a good time to think about people who may spend a lot of time on their own or for whom Christmas is not an easy time.

Whatever you decide to do differently, be encouraged that even small acts can make a huge difference!

Quick Links:



Bangladesh Video



Alternative Gifts



Prayer Diary



Call Sue Whitaker on
0151 283 9199 for details

