



NEWS SHEET for 17th 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 Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

Holy Communion every Thursday @ 11am

17th December

**8am Holy Communion
10.30am Crib (&
Chocolate Service)
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-end
John 1:6-8, 19-28**

24th December

**Christmas Eve
8am Holy Communion
10.30am Carol Service

Romans 16:25-end
Luke 1:26-38
11pm Midnight Holy Communion**

25th December

**Christmas Day
8am Holy Communion
10.30am Family Celebration

Titus 3:4-7
Luke 2:1-20**

31st December

**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 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!

Ruth Christie : “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.”



HUB SING-A-LONG - Christmas Special is on Wednesday 20th December @ 10.30am in The Simon Peter Centre - Cost : £1 including a cuppa and cake. Come along and join in to sing-a-long to familiar songs from the 50's & 60's from the Beatles and other artists and songs from later years. It is singing for pleasure. You don't need the voice of an angel. All are welcome.



CHILDREN'S SOCIETY HOUSE BOXES : The sum of £228.21 was raised in the last opening of the Children's Society House Boxes. Many thanks to all. All monies raised are used for projects in the local area. If anyone would like to start a new box to collect any small change that they have please let me know. that £228.21 was raised in the last opening of the Children's Society House Boxes. Many thanks to all. All monies raised are used for projects in the local area.

If anyone would like to start a new box to collect any small change that they have please let me know. Sue Whitaker 283 9199



Calling all walkers : Start your new year with a walk on the Wirral. We are hoping to gather at 11 for 11:30 in the Parkgate area on **Monday, 1st January 2024** for a five mile stroll. More details will follow next week and will also be at the back of church. **For more information contact Ruth Fletcher on 0151 428 2013 and at fletcher_family@blueyonder.co.uk.**



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/>



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 18th	Tuesday 19th	Wednesday 20th
AM Psalm 40 Isaiah 38. 1-8, 21-22 Matthew 16.13-end PM Psalm 26 or Isaiah 49.14-25 1Thessalonians 5.1-11	AM Psalm 144, 146 Isaiah 38.9-20 Matthew 17.1-13 PM Psalm 57 Isaiah 50 1Thessalonians 5.12-end	AM Psalm 46 Isaiah 39 Matthew 17.14-21 PM Psalm 4 Isaiah 51.1-8 2 Thessalonians 1
Thursday 21st	Friday 22nd Dec	Saturday 23rd Dec
AM Psalm 121 Zephaniah 1.1-2.3 Matthew 17.22-end PM Psalm 84 Isaiah 51.9-16 2 Thessalonians 2	AM Psalm 124 Zephaniah 3.1-13 Matthew 18.1-20 PM Psalm 48 Isaiah 51.17-end 2 Thessalonians 3	AM Psalm 130 Zephaniah 3.14-end Matthew 18.21-end PM Psalm 89.1-37 Isaiah 52.1-12 Jude

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 email Angela at parishadmin@stpeters-woolton.org.uk by close of play on –

Wednesday 20th DECEMBER.

Please Note the last notice sheet for 2023 will be on Sunday 24th December. This will be a double edition to cover 24th and 31st December.

The notice sheet will be recommenced on Sunday 7th January 2024 and continue as normal
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

