



NEWS SHEET for 3rd 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 : Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

Holy Communion every Thursday @ 11am

<u>3rd December</u>	<u>10th December</u>	<u>17th December</u>
8am Holy Communion 10.30am Holy Communion 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:24-end	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, Joyce Moorman, 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

Tuesday 5th December, 2pm: Prayer for Christmas Services in the Centenary Rooms

As we journey through December, we will be welcoming hundreds of people through the doors to celebrate the birth of Jesus and so you are invited to gather together with Lizzy to pray for the services, for people to be open to hearing the Good News, for the community and anything else God lays on our hearts for this season. **Many blessings, Lizzy**



LUNCH CLUB – Christmas Lunch club will be held on **Thursday 7th December in The Hub following the 11am communion service in church.** All are welcome serving soup, sandwiches and Dessert/snacks. **Cost £3.00 per person.**



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.**



MONTHLY QUIZ MORNING - Wednesday 6th December @ 10.30am in the Hub Cost £1 each including a cuppa and a cake. Fun and varied battle of brains. No-one knows everything but everyone knows something! Bring a friend or come as part of a team, come alone and join a team when you arrive. Everyone is welcome.



KIND - We are delighted to be supporting KIND Liverpool again this Christmas. **Stephen Yip will be visiting St Peters at 10.30am Service on Sunday 3rd December.** He will explain the work of KIND and the need there is in Liverpool. Stephen will have a table at back of Church on this date where he will be selling his wares, in aid of KIND. **We will also have a cash collection during this Service and we will also be collecting money on Sunday 10th December which we will then send on to Stephen at KIND.'**



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



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.**



THANK YOU! The Knit & Natter group would like to thank everyone who supported the sale at the back of Church on Sunday 26th November. **The grand sum of £268 was raised for Church funds.**

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 4th	Tuesday 5th	Wednesday 6th
AM Psalm 50, Isaiah 25.1-9 Matthew 12.1-21 PM Psalm 71 Isaiah 42.18-end Revelation 19	AM Psalm 80, Isaiah 26.1-13 Matthew 12.22-37 PM Psalm 74 Isaiah 43.1-13 Revelation 20	AM Psalm 119.1-32 Isaiah 28.1-13 Matthew 12.38-end PM Psalm 77 Isaiah 43.14-end Revelation 21.1-8
Thursday 7th	Friday 8th Dec	Saturday 9th Dec
AM Psalm 42 Isaiah 28.14-end Matthew 13.1-23 PM Psalm 40 Isaiah 44.1-8 Revelation 21.9-21	AM Psalm 25 Isaiah 29.1-14 Matthew 13.24-43 PM Psalm 22 Isaiah 44.9-23 Revelation 21.22-22.5	AM Psalm 9 Isaiah 29.15-end Matthew 13.44-end PM Psalm 27 Isaiah 44.24-45.13 Revelation 22.6-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

