

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN

Sunday 10th December 2023, Advent 2



Readings for today: Isaiah 40 vs 1-11; Mark 1 vs 1-8

Dear Friends, Advent. In all the busyness, leading up to Christmas, Advent is still a time of waiting. Waiting in hope, with peace, joy, love. And as we wait, it is also a journey – leading us closer to God. Mary journeyed, as she awaited the birth of her son, Jesus. Immediately she had received the message from the Angel Gabriel, she visited her relative, Elizabeth, who also was awaiting the birth of her son, to be called John. There was joy for Mary, as she travelled to see Elizabeth; and the two women rejoiced together. Mary also had to journey, with Joseph, to Bethlehem, due to a census being taken; but this was also where Jesus would be born – in fulfilment of one of the many prophecies surrounding the long-awaited Messiah. Despite the difficulties of the journey, so close to the birth of her baby, were Mary and Joseph able to travel in hope, and in joy and peace? Probably, with those wonderful promises to them, from God. There must have been an awareness of the presence of God, as they waited and journeyed. And soon Jesus would be born, showing God’s amazing love for the world – all people, all of creation. God’s gift of love.

As we wait and journey, this Advent, do we have hope in our hearts? Are we aware of God’s peace and joy filling us? Part of our journey may be to read an Advent book; perhaps something a little different. If you have not started a book yet, it is not too late. There are still some books at the back of church that you might like to borrow. Maybe you also have an Advent calendar – with or without chocolates! – perhaps with pictures and Bible verses, reminding of this story of God’s love.

As we wait this Advent, may we have hope in our hearts, and know God’s peace and joy as we journey towards His amazing gift of love, revealed in the Christ child, in the manger. **Geraldine**



COMING UP AT ST DENYS THIS WEEK:

Thursday 7th 9.30 Gentle Exercise Group meet in the parish centre

Thursday 7th 1pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Thursday 7th 7pm Christmas Choir rehearsal in church

Friday 8th 10am Musical Toddlers meet in the parish centre

Sunday 10th 10am Holy Communion in church and on Zoom, ID 820 0369 6332

(password from Qyan) **3pm** Christingle service

Monday 11th 8.30am Private Booking in the parish centre

Monday 11th 1.30pm City of Leicester College visit in the church

Tuesday 12th 8.30am Private Booking in the parish centre

Tuesday 12th 2pm City of Leicester College visit in the church

Wednesday 13th 10am Evington Family History Group parish centre

Wednesday 13th 9.30am Little Poppets Nursery visit in the church

Morning Prayer Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9am in church.

Thursday 10am Holy Communion (BCP said) in church

Open Church 9am—12noon Free wi-fi, refreshments, chat! All welcome.



I called in to see **Pat and John Pickering** on Tuesday who were celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary having been married at St Denys. I took them a card and flowers from the church and prayed an emotional blessing on them on their special day. **Anthony**

Pictures from the Krishna Avanti Christingle service held in St. Denys last Tuesday:





Christingle Our Christingle service is at 3.00pm this Sunday. To get ready we need a working party for Saturday morning to ready the Christingles. If you are able, please come along to the church from 9.30am onwards on Saturday as we put the packs together ready for final assembly in the service. We aim to be finished by 11.30am as many hands make light work! Also we need a small team to prepare and serve drinks at the back of church before and after the service, please contact Mark if you can help. Many Thanks, **Mark**

Please note: The Cruse Bereavement Group will not meet this week.

The Eden Knit and Natter Group and The Faith and Friendship Group are making hats and scarves for those who need them. If you can help with knitting or crocheting hats and scarves, please speak to Anthony. You can sponsor them for One Roof's Winter Appeal via <https://wonderful.org/fundraisers/nDyE7>



Faith and Friendship Group are gathering on Saturday 16th December, 10am-12pm, in the parish centre, to collect knitted hats and scarves ready for One Roof, sew together some squares for blankets, drink coffee and eat mince pies, etc! Everybody welcome. **Anthony**

Christmas Carol Singing takes place under the marquee at Stoughton Christmas Market on 9th December at 4pm, 5pm and 6pm for short stints on each occasion. Monies raised will be in aid of the One Roof Leicester charity. Mulled wine will be provided! If you would like to join in, please speak to Wendy or turn up!



Joy to the World!

Stoughton Grange Christmas Market Saturday 9th December St. Denys will be having a Christmas stall in aid of St. Denys! Do go along if you can to support the team!

Children's Christmas Concert Saturday 16th December, 5.30pm, some of Daphne Wilshere's children will be coming to play, as a celebration of 50 years of music teaching by Daphne, and for their annual Christmas concert. Anyone who would like to come is welcome. There will be a collection for the benefit of St. Denys Church.

Advent and Christmas Services at St. Denys Church:

Sunday 10th December: 10am, Holy Communion

Sunday 10th December: 3pm, Christingle

Saturday 16th December: 5.30pm, Children's Christmas Concert

Sunday 17th December: 10am, Holy Communion

Sunday 17th December: 6pm, Carol service

Sunday 24th December (Christmas Eve) 10am Holy Communion

Sunday 24th December (Christmas Eve) 3pm Crafty Church 4pm Crib Service

Sunday 24th December (Christmas Eve) 11.15pm Holy Communion

Sunday 25th December (Christmas Day) 10am Holy Communion

Sunday 31st December (New Year's Eve) Holy Communion



Our Knitted Donkey part of the knitted Nativity travelling around the church family, with Elsa, beloved companion to the Tyler family.

Collect for 2nd Sunday of Advent Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour, we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. Amen.

Pray for the sick: Brenda Bedingfield, Pat Davies, Ann Dixon, Gwilym Edmonson-Jones, Marion Heygate, Michael Matts, Roman Orzel, Sian Rigby, Jill Sinclair, Phil Tyler **Pray for those who mourn including the family and friends of:** John Hancock



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St. Denys website, including the Giving Links for Church and Youth Work

www.stdenys.org.uk

