Parish Church of Barbourne St. Stephen

Visit our website www.st-stephens-church-worcester.org.uk for information about services and forthcoming events

Welcome to our church, especially if you are a visitor or a newcomer

Sunday 15th November 2026 — **2 before Advent**

Opening Hymn: **64** Awake, awake fling off the night
Readings: Zephaniah 1.7,12-18 — Paul Kennett
1 Thessalonians 5.1-11 — Bev Cox
Gradual Hymn: **357** Let all the world in every corner sing
Gospel: Matthew 25.14-30
Sermon
Intercessions:
To the bidding: Lord in your mercy
Please respond: **Hear our prayer**
Offertory Hymn: **383** Lord Jesus Christ
Communion Hymns: **680** Take this moment
339 Just as I am
285 I the Lord of sea and sky
Final Hymn: **248** He who would valiant be



Next Sunday – Next before Advent
8.00am – Holy Communion
Readings: Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24 — Stephen Murphy
Ephesians 1.15-23 — Stephen Murphy
Gospel: Matthew 25.31-46
Intercessions: Clergy
10.00am – Family Service
Readings: Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24 — Linda Dunmore
Ephesians 1.15-23 — Meriel Orton
Gospel: Matthew 25.31-46
Intercessions: Philippa Boulter





AFTER SERVICE REFRESHMENTS – 10.00AM
Tea, coffee, squash and biscuits are served in church following the 10.00am service. Why not stay for a drink, biscuit and a chat. It's a chance to get to know everyone. **A warm and friendly welcome to all.**



Praying Together in Word & Silence
Regular prayer meetings are held on the **1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month. 9.30am-10.10am** in the Hartley Brown room (entrance back door).



Open Church

Thursdays	10.30am - 12.30pm
Saturdays	10.30am - 12.30pm



GOOD COMPANIONS Meet in church Mondays at 2.30pm.
16th November - Margaret Mandrell Entertains.
7th December - Christmas Celebration. 1pm - Shared Lunch. 2pm - Discover History - 'Christmas over the Ages'



CRAFT & CHATTER (Every 4th Saturday of the Month) 10.30-12.30. We run alongside Open Church. If you knit, crochet, sew or craft, do come along. **Open to all**

JUNIOR STARS New Sunday School on the 4th Sunday of each month during the 10am service. Ages 4-11.
● Bible Stories ● Craft ● Music ● Prayer ● Prayer



Poetry Reading – During Open Church. 10.45 – 12.15
Speaking Allowed: Next readings: **Sat 14th November**
For more info: t.charman1@btinternet.com

A Better Way to Give Regularly to Church The Parish Giving Scheme is administered by a charity controlled by various Dioceses. There are booklets at the back. Please speak to PCC or go to **www.parishgivingscheme.org.uk**

LITTLE STARS For babies to pre-schoolers and their parents/carers meets in church every Thursday afternoon in **term time** from **1.30pm to 3.00pm**. Further details from Michelle Walsh (details below)

Church Services this coming week.

Thursday	10.00am	Holy Communion
Zoom only services		
Monday & Wednesday	8.20am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday & Thursday	5.30pm	Evening Prayer

If you have any items for the notice sheet please e-mail them to: **mwalsh.ststephens@outlook.com**
Please send by **Thursday 10.00am** if you wish it to be included in the following Sunday's notice sheet.

Prayers for Those in Continued Need: Barbara Hellicar, Joyce Pringle, Rosie Goddard and Patricia Ash.

For church hall bookings contact Michelle Walsh at **mwalsh.ststephens@outlook.com**

THIS WEEK'S NOTICES

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS & RAFFLE DRAW



Saturday 28th November. 11-2

Christmas Crafts.

Please do come and join us for our Christmas Craft event!

We will be hosting multiple craft tables including, paper crafts; **3D Snowflakes** & **Christmas Gift Boxes**, plus **Wreath Making** (with demonstration). St Stephens Care Home & 'others' will be joining us, adding further craft activities, selling plants & homemade crafts.

Café. There will be seating available to relax to buy Tea, Coffee & Cakes. We will be serving Homemade Soup from 12.00pm.

Sticky Fingers Craft Fayre Sticky Fingers will also be hosting their Christmas Craft Fayre where you will find Gifts Stalls, Children's games, Make your own Santa plate and much more.

Raffle Draw. We will be drawing the Raffle prizes at **1pm in church**. There is still time to buy tickets (at the back of church), please do or take away to sell to friends and family if you can.



Prizes include; £100 Cash, Gym Memberships, Numerous Café Vouchers, Basketball & Football Tickets, Crazy Golf & Tenpin and much more!

DONATIONS & HELP

Cakes & Soup.





We will be putting on a Christmas Café serving Tea, Coffee, Cake & Soup. Any donations of Cake or Homemade Soup will be very welcome.

Raffle Hampers.



Thank you to all those who have kindly donated foods & drinks to our Raffle Hampers. If anyone has a spare **Hamper, Basket or Nice Box** that you no longer need, please leave in the Tower room.

Helpers on the Day.

We already have some wonderful helpers, but we do need more help, either serving refreshments, or just a spare pair of hands during the event or to help set up and tidy up. If you think you will be able to offer any help, even for just a short time, do let us know!

ALL MONIES RAISED AND DONATED ON THE DAY WILL GO TOWARDS THE TOWER FUND.

Nine Lessons and Carols – Readers needed.

Rev Julieann will be leading this years Nine Lessons and Carols at 6.30pm on 20th December. If you would like to be involved and read one of the Lessons during this service, please speak to Julieann, Ruth, Kevin or you can email Michelle and I will let Julieann know. We will update again once all spaces have been filled.

Would you like to host our Holy Family for one night in Advent? We have a lovingly created, hand knitted, holy family who will begin their journey around the parish on Advent Sunday before returning to Church on Christmas Eve. If you would like to host them for one night, sign up on list at the back of Church.

Events Group St Stephen's are looking for volunteers to support the creation of an Events Group. Initially tasked with the 2027 Autumn Fayre, this group will also consider community activities to support wider ministry to our parish and serve our community. Please speak to Michelle, William or clergy for more details.

Prostate Cancer Research Walk 60-miles

Hi, I'm Adrian. I have enrolled on to this charity event to give thanks to the research that is saving men from prostate cancer, including myself and, recently, my brother.

The treatments have given us new hope to enjoy life without the burden of this cancer. If you would like to sponsor me, please scan the QR Code. Thank you for your time and, hopefully, support. Best wishes, Adrian Everett.

Sound Desk Support St Stephen's are looking for anyone who is interested in helping with the sound desk as we consider whether to expand our mid-week offering to community events or other services. Initially to support on Sunday's, assisting here will help guide the PCC regarding the direction of Zoom as an offering. Speak to William, Pete, Michelle or clergy for more details.

Advent Sunday Carol Service at United Reform Church – 29th November – 6pm

The North Worcester churches are having an Advent Sunday Carol Service on 29th November at 6pm at the United Reform Church, Albany Terrace.

It's a good chance to sing together as a group of Christians from several churches and enjoy refreshments after the service. Do please come! Any questions? Ask Rob.'

The Science and Faith Worcester group invite you to join them on **Tuesday 1st December,** for **"A Fawn's Tale: through a creature's eyes"**, part 3 of our Narnia series (The drama is child friendly, though please be aware we'll be streaming the event). We're meeting at St. Paul's Church, (St. Paul's Street, WR1 2BH). Doors open at **7.30pm** for coffee and cake, and the talk will begin at **8pm**. Please visit www.sciencefaith.co.uk for more information, or find us on Facebook.

Christmas Tree Decorating. In Church Thursday 3rd December 3.00 – 4.00pm

For Families, Young People and Everyone. Please do invite a friend. Refreshments provided including Mince pies and Christmas snacks. We hope to see you there!

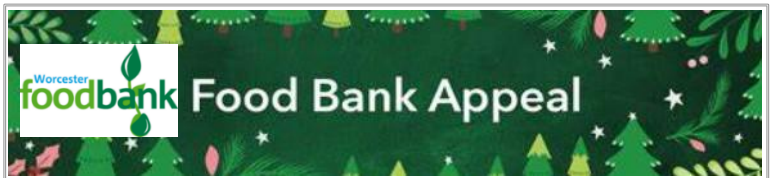


Another Quiz!!! In the BA Hall – 14th November Doors Open at 7.00pm. Quiz Starts at 7.30pm.

Teams of up to 6 people. £5 per person.

To book please message Kate on 07968 338405

Monies raised will go towards the fundraising for a trip to Zanzibar - Bishop Perowne High School.



Christmas Foodbank Shopping List

CHRISTMAS CAKE, MINCE PIES, STUFFING, TUBS OF CHOCOLATE, PICKLED ONIONS, BRANSTON PICKLE, CRANBERRY SAUCE, BOXES OF CHOCOLATE, CRACKERS FOR CHEESE, CHRISTMAS PUDDING NO ALCOHOL.

For Full list visit: www.worcester.foodbank.org.uk

Foodbank – GIVE TODAY WEBSITE

Order the items we urgently need - these will then be delivered straight to our door 😊

https://www.givetoday.co.uk/worcesterfoodbank/

Thank you for your continued support.

Calling all Carol Singers: with people from other local churches, we are going to sing carols and run a pop-up nativity in our local care homes:

2nd December at Fernhill House - 2pm
8th December at The Willows - 2pm
8th December at Northwick Grange - 3pm
15th December at Noele Court - 2pm
15th December at Perdiswell Rose - 3pm
22nd December at St Stephen's Care Home - 2pm
22nd December at The Belmont - 3pm

Please come and sing with us, at some of these care homes or all of them! There's no need for a practice – you know the carols. The residents loved our visits last year, and we want to remind them again of the wonderful Christmas story, in word and song. Any questions? Ask Rob.'

Advent Study'

Will you try an Advent Study this year? Rev'd Sarah and I have made our plans for this, and we'll be using the Cover to Cover 'A Child is born' guide, with short daily reflections based around the perspectives of those present in the Advent story that can be done at home as you wish, and we'll be meeting weekly for a group discussion for our three churches, based on the guide's four main themes.

All will take place between 7.00pm-8.30pm, at;

St Stephen's on 23rd November
St George's on 30th November
St Stephen's on 7th December
St George's on 14th December

I've got lots of copies of the guide, so just ask me for one to use at home as you prefer, or they'll be available on the night. Rob'

Printer Cartridges - Thanks



Over the past 3 months (Aug- Oct) we have raised £34.05 for the benefit of Christian Aid. Many thanks to those who have left their used cartridges in the box at the back of church. As well as raising money for Christian Aid, this has also had the environmental benefit of not sending these cartridges to landfill. The box is always on the counter near to the door into church and it is eagerly looking forward for your (and your friend's!) future contributions of used inkjet cartridges.