

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 27th November 2022

1st Sunday of Advent

Opening Hymn: 364 Lift up your heads, O mighty gates

Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5 R. Scotson
Romans 13:11-14 R. Goddard

Gradual Hymn: 133 Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Gospel Reading: Matthew 24:36-44

Sermon

Intercessions: R. Holdsworth

Offertory Hymn: 75 Be thou my vision

Communion Hymns:

54 As the deer

147 Do not be afraid

143 Dear Lord and Father of mankind

Final Hymn: Christ be our light

(See words overleaf)



Next Sunday – 2nd Sunday of Advent

8.00am - Said Holy Communion

Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10: M. Mandrell
Romans 15:4-13: M. Mandrell

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Intercessions: D. Fulbrook

10.00am - Family Service

Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10: K. Maltby
Romans 15:4-13: B. Cox

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Intercessions: P. Kennett



1st Sunday of Advent



So you also must be ready,
because the Son of Man will come at an hour
when you do not expect him."

Matthew 24.36-44

Tea, coffee, squash and biscuits are served in church following the service. Why not stay for a drink and a chat. It's a chance to get to know everyone.



GOOD COMPANIONS

Meet in Church at 2.30pm



Next meeting:

5th December - Christmassy social in church with mince pies

Worcester foodbank It's time to unwrap our Christmas shopping list - and here's a flavour of what's on it:

DRIED STUFFING, GRAVY GRANULES, BREAD SAUCE, CANNED HAM, CHRISTMAS CAKE, CHUTNEY, CRANBERRY SAUCE, PICKLED ONIONS, CHEESE BISCUITS.

You can download the full list from our website.

<https://tinyurl.com/2p83y8p4>

The Foodbank are also collection Egg Boxes (6 eggs)

Thank you for your continued support of local people in crisis.

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

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) ★

Open Church

Thursdays 10.30am - 12.30pm

Saturdays 10.30am - 12.30pm



If you have any items for the pew 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 pew sheet.

For church hall bookings contact Michelle Walsh at mwalsh.ststephens@outlook.com or 07961 097497

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Tea & Coffee Rota

Ruth is compiling the new Rota for serving tea and coffee after the 10am service for the period January to June 2023. We really do need some more helpers. If you aren't currently involved but think you might be able help please could you have a word or email her at:

ruth.scotson@gmail.com

Cost of Living Crisis

In response to the Cost-of-Living Crisis we will be collecting child and adult size coats, hats, gloves and scarves to be donated to those in need. If you have any items to donate – there will be a box at the back of church.

Worcester Trussell Trust have specifically suggested that a supply of new Hot Water Bottles would be really helpful so there will be a separate collection box at the back of church for these also. Thank you for your support.

St Stephen's & Sticky Fingers Autumn Fayre

An Autumn Fayre was held in the churchyard this year,

With pony rides for the young and 'dance with a cheer',

With chair o'planes and a bouncy castle for smalls;

And for the grown-ups, lots of interesting stalls

Plants of course and lovely cakes from many cooks;

Crafts, local artist's work, and second hand books.

Andy and Viv with extra hands from helpful crew,

Ran an efficient and tasty barbecue.

The day dawned fine and sunny, not too hot,

Volunteers arrived to work at eight o'clock.

Success of the Fayre carried them through the day,

Now and then took time out to watch the people play.

As the Fayre ended, came a refreshing shower

And it was all cleared away in under an hour!

Teresa Charman 2022

Bereavement Support Group

A Bereavement Support Group has begun, to provide informal support following the loss of a loved one whether recently or not. It will run fortnightly on Mondays, 11am-12pm in St. Stephen's Church but does not assume any religious beliefs.

All are welcome or if you'd like to know more contact Marion Neary on 07870 753739.

Advent Group. This year, there will be an Advent Group looking at Stephen Cottrell's book "Walking Backwards to Christmas." Starting on 29th November, we will meet on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm. We will use the book as a help to reflection, group discussion and prayer. Speak to Andy or Lindsey if you would be interested in being part of the group.

The Arts Society/ Church Recordings

As mentioned in last weeks pew sheet – The upcoming Arts Society / Conversation with Dr Maggie Keeble Chairperson of TAS Worcester will now be postponed until the New Year.

Final Hymn - Christ, be our light

Longing for light, we wait in darkness

Longing for truth, we turn to You.

Make us Your own, Your holy people

Light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in Your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has power to save us.

Make us your living voice.

Christ, be our light!...

Longing for shelter, many are homeless

Longing for warmth, many are cold.

Make us Your building, sheltering others

Walls made of living stone.

Christ, be our light!....