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 4th December 2022

Opening Hymn: 375 Long ago, prophets knew

Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5 K. Maltby

Romans 13:11-14 B. Cox

Gradual Hymn: 78 Behold the Lamb of God

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:1-12

Sermon

Intercessions: P. Kennett

Offertory Hymn: 778 We have a gospel to proclaim

Communion Hymns:

730 This is my body

4 A new commandment

331 Jesus the Word

Final Hymn: 373 Lo he comes with clouds descending

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

A Better Way to Give Regularly to Church

The Church of England has introduced a new Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), administered by a charity controlled by various Dioceses and based in Gloucester. The new scheme should be a win-win situation - better for givers, and better for the church. There is a small supply of booklets at the back of Church. If you want to know more, speak to Andy or Richard Hemmings, or look at PGS's website:

www.parishgivingscheme.org.uk

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

2nd Sunday of Advent

Next Sunday - 3rd Sunday of Advent

8.00am - Said Holy Communion

Readings: Isaiah 35:1-10 R. Adams

James 5:7-10 Clergy

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Intersessions: R. Adams

10.00am - Family Service

Readings: Isaiah 35:1-10 R. Goddard
James 5:7-10 M. Orton

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Intercessions: R. Holdsworth



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

<u>Saturdays</u> 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

"All things come from you, and of your own do we give you."

One of the reminders of the pandemic in our services has been the way the **Offering** is made. Rather than pass the collection plate and bring it forward with the Communion elements for blessing, we have left it for gifts to be made before the service. However, given the importance of this part of the service, we are keen to reintroduce it, whilst still respecting the need for Covid-related caution. We will therefore be re-instituting the blessing of the elements and collection, but we will not for the moment be reintroducing the passing of the collection plate. Please note that for those who give by regular planned means (standing order or Parish Giving Scheme) or by using the card machine in Church, there are small cards available which make that clear: if you place one of these in the collection at the beginning of the service, they will be included in the blessing. We hope this will enable you to feel that your giving is fully recognised in the liturgy.



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.

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

Bereavement Support Group

Provides 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.



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 need your help again in cracking our shortage of egg boxes!
We've got plenty of fresh eggs but need boxes that can hold 6 eggs

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