

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 31st December 2023

Christmas 1

Opening Hymn: **19** All hail the power of Jesus' name

Readings: Isaiah 61.10-62.3 Geoff Hill
Galatians 4.4-7 Nigel Wake

Gradual Hymn: **241** Hail to the Lord's anointed

Gospel: Luke 2.15-21

Sermon

Intercessions: Paul Kennett
To the bidding: O come:
Please respond: **Let us adore him.**

Offertory Hymn: **59** At the name of Jesus

Communion Hymns:

125 Come down, O love divine (choir)

813 The servant song

88 Blest are the pure in heart

Final Hymn: **335** Joy to the world



Next Sunday – Epiphany

8.00am – Holy Communion

Readings: Isaiah 60.1-6 John Swindin
Ephesians 3.1-12 John Swindin

Gospel: Matthew 2.1-12

Intercessions: Clergy

10.00am - Family Service

Readings: Isaiah 60.1-6 Linda Dunmore
Ephesians 3.1-12 Rob Holdsworth

Gospel: Matthew 2.1-12

Intercessions: Rob Holdsworth



Luke 2.19

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 and a chat. It's a chance to get to know everyone.



GOOD COMPANIONS (Meet in church at 2.30pm)

Next meetings:

22nd January - AGM followed by a social

5th February - Speaker to be announced later



A Better Way to Give Regularly to Church

The Church of England has introduced the 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 Richard Hemmings or look at PGS's website:

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) ★

Open Church

Thursdays 10.30am - 12.30pm

Saturdays 10.30am - 12.30pm



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 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

Pastoral Care Arrangements

If you have any pastoral care requirements during January or know of someone in need of pastoral care, please contact our Parish Administrator, Michelle Walsh on 07961 097497 who will be pleased to put you in touch with a member of clergy.

Calling all Calligraphers!

St Stephen's maintains a Book of Remembrance. This involves adding the names and date in Gothic script using registrar's ink as well as ensuring we keep the date current throughout the year. Our book is situated in front of the Lady Chapel next to the Prayer Board. If you're interested in assisting to keep this record up to date or in keeping the page(s) current, please can you reach out to Michelle.

Hearing Loop System

A huge thank you to Paul for sourcing and installing our new Hearing Loop System. What a difference it's made to users. Thanks also to those who have kindly donated towards the cost of the system.

Thank You! Gifts under the tree

A massive thank you to all those who donated and left presents under the Christmas tree for the Salvation Army. They were absolutely delighted with the amount of gifts and cash received. Amazing!

Happy New Year!

As the year draws to a close I'd like to offer my sincere thanks to everyone who has made it possible for me to have some time away before my licensing at the beginning of February. I know you'll look after each other and I look forward to continuing our journey together on my return. Until then, may God bless you all and keep you in the palm of his hand, Lindsey.



Autumn Fayre, St. Stephens ~ 23rd Sept 2023

*"Where's that lively music coming from?"
Someone asked partner as children skipped along.
"It's from the churchyard, something's going on";
Fire engine and police van were part of the throng.*

*Waiting at the crossing for the green man,
They saw in the churchyard an ice-cream van,
Chair o'planes and pony rides for the young;
While work-weary Mums and Dads had some fun.*

*Grandmas and Grandads in shade of church sat,
Out of the sun, raffle tickets in hands held tight.
See local artists' work and children's new books,
Teas in the hall with fresh cakes from home cooks.*

*Saturday had dawned clear, cool and bright,
'Setters-up' at 8 o'clock came to test their might
In giving the churchyard a make-over
With tables out and gazebos up and over.*

*The weather was kind, happy smiles were seen,
Lovely comments like "village fete" had been.
The 'setters up' became the 'breakers down' -
Then by 5 o'clock, were out on the town.*

Teresa Charman©2023



Here's some of the items we urgently need, as we continue to combat hunger and feed well over 1,000 people every month.

CEREAL, TINNED POTATOES, TINNED VEGETABLES, TINNED FRUIT, TINNED RICE PUDDING, LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE, LONG-LIFE MILK, CREAM CRACKERS, TEA BAGS, SUGAR, COFFEE, COOKING OIL, TOMATO PUREE, SHAMPOO/CONDITIONER, SHAVING FOAM, SOAP NAPPIES (SIZE 5-7).

You can read the full updated shopping list on our website for other ways to donate or help.

www.worcester.foodbank.org.uk

The Foodbank were extremely grateful to receive 10 bags of essential food and Christmas goodies along with a whopping £140 donation.

Thank you so much to everyone who donated.

