

Sunday 3rd December *Readings: 2 Chronicles 2, 1 John 2, Nahum 1, Luke 17*

8am Holy Communion in St John's
10am Morning Prayer in St John's (Guest preacher: *Bishop Andy Lines*)
6.30pm Evening Prayer in St John's (Guest preacher: *Bishop Andy Lines*)
8.15pm Crossover meet at Nathan & Jo Phillingham's home

For more details about the daily Bible reading plan, including online readings, please visit our website

Prayer Diary – 26th November 2017

The Collect for today – Sunday before Advent:

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord, so that we may produce abundantly the fruit of good works and receive your abundant reward, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please pray for...

the sick and the bereaved:

our mission partners: Andrew Pettinger (TWR in UK) and the Persecuted Church worldwide.

those serving in the Armed Forces:

our local schools:

Hartford Primary School & Kids Count Nursery, and other schools which members of the church are involved in.

Hartford Church of England High School.

For safety in school and during travel to/from schools.

Notice Sheet for Sunday 26th November 2017

All services are in **St John's Church** unless stated otherwise.

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Eddowes Room

10am Morning Prayer – Exodus 17:8-16; *The Lord is my Banner*

12.15pm Bring & Share Lunch in the Church Centre

6.30pm Holy Communion – 1 Corinthians 5:1-13; *Expel the wicked man!*

8.15pm Crossover meet at Nathan & Jo Phillingham's home

Preachers elsewhere today:

Michael Field at Castle Methodist (10.45am)

Jeremy Hunns at St Mary's, Whitewell (11am)

Connexions

The Christmas edition of our magazine, Connexions, is now ready to be delivered to every home in the parish. It would be really helpful if you were able to take a bundle (or more!) to deliver during the next couple of days. It's less than a week before Hartford Victorian Christmas and we would like them all to be delivered before then. If you are able to help, please can you put your name on the list in the Church Extension when you take your bundle away. If there are any discrepancies between the number of magazines on the slip and the actual number of houses, it would be very helpful if you could please let Jackie (jackie@stjohnshartford.org) know. Thank you.

Christmas Door to Door

If anyone would like to help with the Christmas Door to Door, where we drop off a gift and invitation to our Christmas services for any new houses in the parish, please contact Sandra and Alf Tipper. Thank you.

Pray Bake Read – meeting for potential new volunteers

If you would be interested in finding out more about joining a Pray Bake Read team for one of our local schools, please get in touch with Teresa and come along on Monday 4th December at 9.15am. We will meet in the Conference Room, upstairs in the Church Centre, for about an hour. Many thanks, Teresa.

The Christian Institute – job opportunities

The Christian Institute is seeking to employ a PA, a Research Assistant and a Finance Administrator to work at their headquarters in Newcastle upon Tyne. The closing date is Tuesday 9th January. For more information, please see the poster in the porch or contact Judi Coulson (0191 281 5664).

Ladies' Christmas Meal (change of starting time)

Our Ladies' Christmas Meal is on Tuesday 12th December at 7.15pm for 7.30pm (previously 7.45pm for 8pm) in the Church Centre. Price is £10 for a 2-course meal, and there will be a short Christmas message from Pam Wilkinson after dinner. Flyers with details of the menu options are now available in church. To book your place, please email ladies@stjohnshartford.org by *Thursday 7th December*. All ladies are very welcome and please invite your friends too.

Church Holiday 2018 – booking forms now available

We have booked Friday 7th September to Sunday 9th September 2018 for our next church family holiday, at Quinta Hall in Oswestry. If you haven't received a booking form, there are some blank envelopes available in the Church Extension. The deadline for returning forms is **30th November 2017**. If you have any further questions please talk to any one of the organising team. *Nathan*.

Welcome Team Christmas Rota

Wanted: church members with a smile, a willing heart and a cheery welcome! Recruiting now - temporary positions supporting the Welcome Team over the Christmas period. It's a great time for welcoming visitors into our church as they join us in celebration at one of the many services running on 17th, 24th and 25th December. All applications welcome; no special skills required other than the above! Interested? Please contact Debbie Nobes to receive a list of services to volunteer for ... and thank you.

We are also looking for **firewardens** (to keep watch over the candles) at the services on 17th and 24th December. If you would like to volunteer for this role, please contact Ian Barton.

Christmas Choir Practices

If you would like to join a choir to sing in the Christmas services, rehearsals are mainly on Thursdays, from 7.30pm until 8.30pm in the church. The dates are: Monday 27th November, Thursday 7th December and Thursday 14th December. If you cannot make all of the practices but can manage some, please do still come along! For more details, please see Mike Jones.

CAP Stall at Hartford Victorian Christmas

Please could you help by donating unwanted good as new gifts to be sold on the CAP stall at the Victorian Christmas Fayre on 2nd December. There will be a box labelled 'CAP STALL' at the back of church for items to be left in. Many Thanks. For more details please contact Jackie Williams or Gill Woolley.

Good News Singers

Monday 27th November, 7.30pm, at Knutsford Methodist Church, the Good News Singers warmly invite you to 'Advent Hope', a presentation for Advent. Rev Rob Cotton will be speaking and refreshments will be served afterwards. All are welcome to this evangelistic opportunity and there's no admission charge.

Candlelight Services

Will the candle troopers (volunteers and conscripts) please assemble at 2pm, on Saturday 16th December, in church for the annual candle mounting ceremony! For more information, please contact Les James.

Hartford Victorian Christmas

We need volunteers to enable this event to run successfully on Saturday 2nd December, and for all the setting up on Friday 1st December. There are lots of different roles available - please can you help? There are sign-up sheets at the back of church or have a chat to Sarah Farmer.

The Church Christmas Card

... will be on display in the Church Extension from Sunday 3rd December. We invite you to use it to send a greeting to everyone else in the church family, rather than sending individual cards. Any money saved could then be donated to the church or to missionary organisations. Thank you.

Could you help with The Buzz?

The Buzz, which is run by Sound Holidays for 8-11s, during May half term, is looking for some new leaders, and also for a head cook. If you would be interested in getting involved, please talk to Nathan.

Church Diary – 26th November 2017

Monday 27th November *Readings: 1 Chronicles 23, 1 Peter 4, Micah 2, Luke 11*

Mike attending the Reform Council Residential (Monday & Tuesday)

Teresa leading a story & craft session at Hartford Old School House Nursery (9.30am)

Alec taking assemblies at Hartford Church of England High School (Monday-Thursday, 2.45pm)

9.30am-5pm Church Office open in the Church Centre (Monday-Thursday)

7.30pm Christmas Choir practice in St John's

Tuesday 28th November *Readings: 1 Chronicles 24-25, 1 Peter 5, Micah 3, Luke 12*

Teresa joining Michael Field at Little Leigh Primary School for 'Walk Through the Bible' (9.30am)

Michael Field leading 'Walk Through the Bible' sessions at Little Leigh Primary School (9.30am & 11am) and Greenbank School (1.50pm)

10am Jigsaw meet in the Church Centre

Wednesday 29th November *Readings: 1 Chronicles 26-27, 2 Peter 1, Micah 4, Luke 13*

Phil at Hartford Church of England High School Christian Union (1-1.45pm)

Mike leading a year 6 'Grill the Vicar' session at Hartford Manor Primary School (1.30pm)

Mike taking a KS2 assembly at Hartford Manor Primary School (2.30pm)

Teresa taking a KS1 assembly at St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School (2.30pm)

10am Tots and Tinies meet in the Church Centre

2pm Ladies' Fellowship meet in the Church Centre – SMAART (handbells)

8pm Prayer Fellowship meets in the Church Centre (*Paul Bundle's housegroup*)

Thursday 30th November *Readings: 1 Chronicles 28, 2 Peter 2, Micah 5, Luke 14*

Nathan's day off

Mike leading a visit from Hartford Manor Primary School (year 3) to St John's (1pm)

10am Men's Walk - contact David King for meeting point

10.30am Funeral in St John's (*Mike*)

11.45am Thursday Café in the Church Centre

12.15pm Funeral at Vale Royal Crematorium (*Alec*)

8pm God's Big Picture course in the Church Centre

Friday 1st December *Readings: 1 Chronicles 29, 2 Peter 3, Micah 6, Luke 15*

Ministry team taking Hartford Church of England High School Chapel Services (2.55pm)

10.30am-3pm Church Office open in the Church Centre

7.15-9.30pm Pathfinders' film night in the Church Centre

Saturday 2nd December *Readings: 2 Chronicles 1, 1 John 1, Micah 7, Luke 16*

Alec's day off

10am-2.30pm Hartford Victorian Christmas in St John's, the Church Centre and Chester Road