

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

8am	Holy Communion in St John's
9.30am	Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room
10am	Morning Prayer in St John's (Jude 1-4)
6.30pm	Evening Prayer in St John's (Romans 3)
8pm	Crossover meet at Nathan & Jo Phillingham's home
8.15pm	After 8s meet at Rob & Kathryn Payne's home

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

Prayer Diary – 25th November 2018

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: Jonny & Erica Greaves (The Oakes, Sheffield) and Mags Southern (SAMS in Asuncion, Paraguay).

our local schools:

- The Grange Junior & Senior Schools, and other schools which members of the church are involved in.
- Hartford Church of England High School.
- For headteachers in our congregation.

Church Office phone number 01606 872255

Notice Sheet for Sunday 25th November 2018

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 - John 7:25-36; *Who is Jesus Christ?*

6.30pm Real Issues - Psalm 8: *Identity Crisis! What is it to be human?*

8pm Crossover meet at Nathan & Jo Phillingham's home

Preachers elsewhere today:

Phil at St John's, Over (10.30am)

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

Christmas Connexions

Thank you to everyone who took away some Connexions to deliver last week. There are still a few left and it would be really helpful if you were able to take a bundle (or two!) to deliver during the next few days. Hartford Victorian Christmas is on Saturday 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 the Church Office know. Thank you.

Hartford Victorian Christmas – volunteers needed

This annual community event takes place on Saturday 1st December. In order to make it a success, we could do with some volunteers to help with the following activities, please:

- looking after stallholders in the church or Church Centre on Saturday (8am-3pm)
- setting up and decorating the church and Church Centre on Friday 30th November (1-6pm)
- stewards to assist with unloading on Saturday (8-9.30am)
- welcomers, preferably in Victorian costume, for both buildings (9.30am-2.30pm)
- people to help clear up afterwards (2.30-4.30pm)
- making cakes/traybakes for the café – drop off in Church Centre on Friday after 1pm

If you are able to support this event hosted by the church, please contact Sarah Farmer or ring the Church Office (872255).

This year we also have the Eden Bus coming - this is a new specific opportunity for volunteers to get alongside young people, to support them in the activities and begin conversations towards the gospel. The activities include: rock climbing wall, tube slide, nail bar, various video games and karaoke. We would need approximately 5 people throughout the day on a rotation system. If you would like to get involved in this aspect of the Victorian Christmas, please contact Nathan.

Christmas Welcome Team & Firewardens

For our Christmas services (23rd, 24th & 25th December) we always need extra people to join the regulars on the Welcome Team and, for our candlelight services, we also require firewardens to look after the candles. In addition, we have lost some of our morning Welcome Team and are looking to recruit five new members. If anyone wants to try out the role before signing up, Christmas would be a perfect time! If you can help, please contact Debbie Nobes.

Toy Sunday

On Sunday 2nd December we will be having our Toy Sunday, where we collect **new toys** which will go to the NSPCC at Rainbow House in Crewe. Please can you make sure all toys are wrapped and clearly labelled with the gender and age they are intended for. Thank you.

Ladies' Christmas Meal

Our Ladies' Christmas Meal is on Tuesday 11th December at 7.15pm for 7.30pm in the Church Centre. Price is £10 for a 2-course meal, and there will be a short Christmas message from Rosemary Charlton after dinner. Flyers with details of the menu options are now available in church. To book your place, please contact Linda Sharps by **Thursday 6th December**. All ladies are very welcome and please invite your friends too.

Environmental issues in churches

Chester Diocese is trying to increase the profile of environmental issues in churches. They have formed a group to discuss what to provide and eventually hope to produce suitable, sensible material for churches to use, and to provide support and ideas. If you have any interest in knowing more or contributing ideas, please speak to David King in the coming weeks.

St John's Café Christmas Special

Please join us on Thursday 13th December at 11.45am for our Café Christmas Special. There will be entertainment from Hartford Manor Primary School Choir, carol singing, and Phil Highton will be giving a short Christmas talk. Cost is £5 for adults and all children are free. Menu is a choice of turkey, salmon or vegetarian with all the usual trimmings, followed by Christmas pudding or fruit salad. Please select your meal options and contact Sarah Farmer by **Thursday 6th December**. You can also book by ringing the Church Office.

The Church Christmas card

... will be on display in the Church Extension during December. We invite you to use it for sending greetings 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.

Lunchtime Recital

On Monday 3rd December, starting at 12.30pm, pupils from The Grange Senior School will be performing in a lunchtime recital in St John's. They would love to have many from the church family and local community coming to support them.

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: Tuesday 27th November, Tuesday 4th December, Thursday 13th December and Thursday 20th December. If you cannot make all of the practices but could manage some, please do still come along! For more details, please see Mike Jones or contact the Church Office.

Items wanted for Hartford Victorian Christmas

Do you have any new unwanted toiletries, maybe unwanted gifts you could donate for us to sell on the CAP stall at the Victorian Christmas on 1st December. A group of us have been sewing and knitting for the stall, but nice 'smellies' always sell well. Please leave any donations in the box in the Church Extension. Thank you. *Jackie Williams & Gill Woolley*

Mary Parkes is running a stall at the Victorian Christmas to raise money for CAP and the Ulcerated Legs charity. If you have any Bric a brac or second-hand toys you would like to donate, please leave them in the box in the Church Extension.

Drivers for Thursday Café

The Thursday Café is short of drivers to pick-up/drop-off people who would be unable to get to the café by themselves. If you could help with this, please talk to Sarah Farmer.

Church Diary – 25th November 2018

Monday 26th November *Readings: 1 Chronicles 22, 1 Peter 3, Micah 1, Luke 10*

Nathan taking assemblies at Hartford CE High School (Monday-Thursday, 2.45pm)
Alec attending Curacy Book Group (7.30pm)

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

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

Teresa taking a year 3 & 4 RE session at Davenham CE Primary School (9.15am)

10am Jigsaw meet in the Church Centre
7.30pm Christmas choir practice in St John's
8pm Sunday Services' Committee meet at The Vicarage
8pm Evangelism Committee meet at 52 Stones Manor Lane

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

Mike's day off

Phil at Hartford Church of England High School Christian Union (1.05-1.35pm)

Teresa leading a story & craft session at Sir Leslie Martin Nursery (1.30pm)

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

Nathan & Jo leading Big Bible Club at Hartford Manor Primary School (3.30pm)

10am Tots and Tinies meet in the Church Centre
2pm Ladies' Fellowship meet in the Church Centre – Rev Alec Ham
8pm Prayer Fellowship meets in the Church Centre (*Paul Bundle's housegroup*)

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

Teresa's day off

11.45am Thursday Café in the Church Centre

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

Alec's day off

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

6.30am Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room
10.30am-3pm Church Office open in the Church Centre
7.15pm Friday Night Live (Pathfinders) film night in the Church Centre

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

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