

Holy Communion

Collect for Sunday

Blessed Lord,
who hast caused all holy Scriptures
to be written for our learning:
Grant that we may in such wise hear them,
read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them,
That by patience and comfort of thy holy Word,
we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed
hope of everlasting life,
which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus
Christ.
Amen.

Isaiah 40:1-11
(p702 in the OT of the Church Bibles)
Read by Alison Peyton

Mark 1:1-8
(p45 in the NT of the Church Bibles)

Eucharist celebrated by Rev. Mark Laynesmith
Preaching Hamish Bruce
Worship led by Jeremy Thake
Prayers led by (tbd)

Songs for Today

Be thou my vision

How deep the Father's love for us

There is a hope which burns

Calm me Lord

Holy Spirit, living breath of God

Glorious things of thee are spoken

*All are invited to come for communion and prayer.
If you do not wish to take communion, please come for prayer.
If you have any particular need, problem or prayer request
please speak to a member of the clergy after the service.*



Taize
Tonight from 6:30 pm
Taize songs, prayers, Bible readings
and silence followed by sharing our
journeys over tea/coffee, cakes etc.
Come to either part or both



Christmas Music

As usual we are gathering a choir
together to sing at our Carol Service -
anyone is welcome to come and join us.
We will be having rehearsals on Sat 13th and Sat
20th December - both at 10 am in the church,
lasting about an hour and then a final practise on
Sunday 21st December straight after the morning
service. The Carol Service is on the evening of
Sunday 21st December at 6.30pm. We usually
manage to get a good group together to sing and
we have great fun - do come along! See Hamish or
Sue Bruce for more information.

Church Lunch Today

Everyone is welcome, please bring
a pudding if you are able



Recycling Update

In church we still recycle jewellery, printer cartridges
and gadgets for Traidcraft, stamps for Leprosy
Mission and plastic milk bottle tops for the Air
Ambulance.

We no longer recycle batteries (these can be
recycled at many shops eg Asda or Erleigh Road Co-
op, or placed in a sealed clear plastic bag on top of
your recycling bin), or foil (clean foil scrunched into
large balls can go in red recycling bins). NB light
bulbs can be recycled at Homebase and Clas Ohlson
(ask checkout staff).



The Reading Bach Choir are singing
The Messiah at Greyfriars church on
Saturday December 13th. If anyone
would like to go, they can get tickets
from Selena Peters or go to the
choirs website at

www.readingbachchoir.org.uk

Anyone thinking of writing to our link
Missionaries over Christmas;
Ali Wilkinson's address is, '- *FAO Ali Wilkinson,
TEAR Australia, 4 Solwood Lane, Blackburn, VIC,
3130, Australia*'
And '*The Galpins, INF Office, PO Box 1230,
Kathmandu, NEPAL*'

Church Lunches

The net proceeds of the November lunch
amounted to £100 and this has been sent to
Parkinson's UK, as part of Bill Gothard's
fundraising efforts. His total now stands at
£4,961 - an impressive sum. A big "thank you"
to everyone who has contributed.

Any surplus from this Sunday's lunch will go
to Christian Aid for maternity care in countries
like Kenya.

Christian Aid's Christmas appeal is for Health
work in Kenya, aiming to reduce the large
number of babies
that die at birth. The
British government
will double each
pound that is given
for this campaign.



There is a box at the back of church if you want
to donate anything



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Rudi Kelly & Chloe White (7th)
Mark Laynesmith (9th)
Ben Harwood (13th)




The Church of
St John & St Stephen

*To know Christ and to
 make Him known*

Church Diary

Sun 7th	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung)
		Church Lunch
	6.30pm	Taize
Mon 8th	10am-12pm	English Class
	1-3pm	Monday Monsters
Tues 9th	12-2pm	Lunch Club
Weds 10th	1.30-3.30pm	Oasis
	6-9pm	Cubs & Scouts
Fri 12th		Scouts Christmas Dinner
Sun 14th	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung)
	2-5pm	Contact Centre




Pray

- Prayers for Hamish Preston as he continues to recover from his heart operation
- Mike's thanks for past prayers for his breathing. He is much better, and continues to carry on the exercises as shown him at the hospital.
- Prayers for Gladys, Chris Bicknell's mum, for a speedy resolution to her admission to hospital and if and when it is appropriate and safe, for her to be home again.
- Prayers for Molly Field who has been in Oakwood Ward for several weeks following her fall and faces a rather uncertain future.

Items for prayer and notices

Please give any items for prayer or notices to Rev Vincent Gardner *before 9 am on Wednesday*

Small Groups



Oasis (Bridget Barwick).....	966 9735	Wed 1.30pm
Richard and Rosemary Croft.....	926 0672	Thurs 8 pm
Jeremy and Rachel Thake ..	987 1288	Thurs 8.30 pm
Judith Lawrence	954 1332	Thurs 7.30 pm

You are welcome to join with any group - please speak to contact/leader

Vicar:	Vincent Gardner 07901 737649
Church Office:	Tanya Penn (0118) 926 3633

121-147 Orts Road Reading RG1 3JN
 0118 926 3633
 e-mail: stjohns@readingchurches.org.uk

Second Sunday of Advent

7th December 2014



Please feel free to join us after the morning service for refreshments

7th December—Thake Homegroup
 14th December—Oasis Group

The link person from the Welcome Team today is
Ian Maynard

