

Holy Communion

Collect for Sunday

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way
of your Son:

give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Reading - Zephaniah 3:14-20

(page 912 of OT in bibles)

Read by Jan Jackson

Gospel - Luke 3: 7-18

(page 77 of NT in bibles)

Eucharist presided by Revd Collins

Preaching by Revd Christine Bainbridge

Worship led by Richard Croft

Prayers led by Mary Langshaw

Hymns for Today

Lo, He comes with clouds descending
Hills of the north, rejoice
From the squalor of a borrowed stable
Broken I stand
Wait for the Lord
Joy has dawned

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.

Hope into Action House

Christmas presents for the House!

If anyone would like to give Christmas presents for the occupants of the Hope into Action House (boy aged 2 (nearly 3), girl aged 7 and the two ladies), could you please bring it wrapped and labelled to Church this Sunday and pass to Jan Jackson.

Learn4life

Andrea Smith, from Scripture Union's learn4life is looking for volunteers to help with Thursday afternoons, enrichment activities for years 7-9 at John John Madejski Academy in Whitley eg sports, arts and crafts, sewing, baking, cake decorating, photography, knitting and crochet, video editing skills, or graphic design, Bike maintenance, Car maintenance. 1 adult with 2 young people.

Contact andrea4schools@yahoo.co.uk

School Nativity

School would like to extend a warm invitation to all at St John & St Stephen's to their Christmas Nativity on Thursday 20th December at 10am.

Trauma Informed Communities

9th January 2019 at 5.30pm

St John's primary School RG1 3JN

Come and see the film 'Resilience. The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope' and discuss what can be done to prevent childhood trauma and improve quality of life for those affected by childhood trauma by creating trauma informed communities.

advent
the meaning is in the waiting

You are warmly invited to celebrate with us through Advent and Christmas this December.

2 nd	10.30am	Advent Sunday. All-age Service
16 th	6.30pm	Carols by Candlelight
23 rd	10.30am	Patronal Festival with Bishop Andrew
24 th	11.30pm	Midnight Mass
25 th	10.30am	Christmas Celebration

St John & St Stephen's

Carol Service Tonight 6.30pm
- please join us.

Future Dates for the Diary

Patronal Festival with Bishop Andrew	23rd December—10.30am
Midnight Mass	24th December—11.30pm
Christmas Service	25th December—10.30am



Birthdays

Micah Collins (16th)
Carol Meunier & Jan Hearn (17th)
Ewa Folta (20th)
**Leslie Russell, Joanna Laynesmith
 & Judy Fisher (21st)**
**Chloe Gardner, Isobel Wharton
 & Diya Sijo (22nd)**

Prayers

- Pray for those in our community who feel isolated and lonely at this time of year
- Please pray for Bill Gothard and his worsening Parkinson's Disease. Please pray too, for their daughter, Alice, who has MS, for Chris's sister who has advanced cancer and for the impact of all this on Chris.
- Prayers for John Lawrence, son of Judith, as he continues his treatment
- Prayers for Leslie & June Russell.
- Prayers for Carol Meunier

Please give any items for prayer or notices to
 The Office *before* 9am on Wednesday
 by pigeon hole, e-mail or phone.



Called to be Christ-like
 CONTEMPLATIVE • COMPASSIONATE • COURAGEOUS

Church Diary

Sun 16th	10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (sung) Carol Service
Mon 17th	9am 10-12pm 1-3pm	Morning Prayer English Class Monday Monsters
Tues 18th	9.45am 12-2pm	Fireside Coffee Morning Jacket Potato Club
Weds 19th	1.30-3.30pm 6-9pm	Oasis Cubs & Scouts
Thurs 20th	10am 10.45am 11.15am	FS2 Nativity Holy Communion (Café) Coffee morning
Fri 21st	9am	Morning Prayer
Sat 22nd	9.30am	Choir practice
Sun 23rd	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung)

Small Groups

Oasis (Bridget Barwick)	966 9735	Wed 1.30pm
Richard & Rosemary Croft	926 0672	Thurs 8.00 pm
Jeremy & Rachel Thake	987 1288	Thurs 8.00 pm
Judith Lawrence	954 1332	Thurs 7.30 pm

You are welcome to join - please speak to contact/leader

Vicar: **Rev'd Vincent Gardner**
 On extended leave

Curate: **Rev'd Gary Collins**
 07986 901879

Associate Priest: **Rev'd Christine Bainbridge**
 07939 662980

Church Office: **Tanya Penn**
 (0118) 926 3633

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**St. John &
 St. Stephen's**

Advent 3. Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday
16th December 2018



WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH.

Don't rush away! Please feel free to join us after the morning service for a cup of coffee or tea. We look forward to your company.

16th December—Peter & Nancy Crooks
 23rd December—Marian Harwood & Friends

Welcome Team leader **Marian Harwood**
 On-duty Warden today is **Rosemary Croft**

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