



8th - 21st December 2024

Dear Friends

December is upon us, and personally I am sure it has come round a lot quicker than normal! As we launch ourselves into the world of writing Christmas cards, choosing gifts, decorating trees, baking minced pies and a multitude of other things, perhaps we could also remember to carve out time each day from the busyness to pause and be still. Advent is after all a time for watching and waiting, both in expectancy and hope, not just in preparation for celebrating Jesus' birth but also for the time when he will return. The advent ring is a wonderful symbol of this; as we light an extra candle each week, we are reminded that in our waiting we are drawing ever closer to the time when the light of Jesus will flood our world.

But as we wait, we are also drawn into the story, encouraged to share the light and love of Christ in our homes and communities. There are so many ways in which we can do this, the generous gifts collected and sent to the Salvation Army last week is one such example. But another way we can share the light of Jesus is to offer an invitation. Thanks to the hard work going on behind the scenes by so many, there is so much to invite people to, not least our carol services, crib services, and Christmas services. So please take a moment to consider who you may be able to invite to one or more of these this year. Sometimes a simple invitation of come and see, can be the start of a journey of exploration for that person. I finished our service of light with a blessing that I have been asked to share in Newslink. Perhaps we can all make this our prayer for this advent season.

May we have the boldness of Mary; whilst not knowing what the future may hold may we be able to say with quiet conviction 'I am the Lord's servant'. May we have the patience of Simeon waiting with expectancy and hope, and may we take the light of Christ out into our tired world, trusting that He is the Alpha and the Omega, who was and is and is to come. Amen.

Every blessing, Katie

New Stone Cross at St Nicholas' Church

Last week, Tessa braved the heights of St Nicholas' Church and blessed their beautiful new stone cross, with the blessing below.

*"For those who have crafted this beautiful cross for your glory,
we are thankful.*

For their gifts and skills, energy and team work, we are thankful.

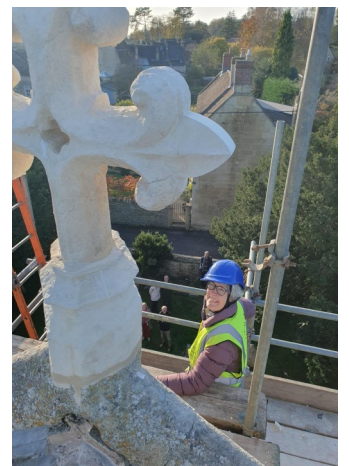
*For those who have called St Nicholas Church home through many
generations and walked in the light of your cross, we are thankful.*

*For those who worship here today we ask that this new cross will inspire
and call us to walk the road of humility and trust in you.*

For the community served by this church, we are thankful.

*May the presence of this cross bring comfort in times of trial and
confidence in your love, today and for future generations.*

*May the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with those who
made this cross and those who will look upon it. Amen"*



Upcoming Services

Sunday 8th December

10am - Refresh, St Nicholas' Church, Winsley, led by Roy Ludlow

10am - Holy Communion, St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh (joint with St James') led by Rev. Katie Jackson

10:30am - Holy Communion, Christ Church, led by Rev. Tessa Mann

Sunday 15th December

10am - Holy Communion, St Nicholas' Church, Winsley, led by Rev. Keith Charnley

10:30am - Holy Communion, Christ Church, led by Rev. Katie Jackson

6pm - Carol Service, St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh, led by Rev. Tessa Mann

6pm - Carol Service, St James' Church, South Wraxall, led by Rev. Katie Jackson

Sunday 22nd December

10am - Holy Communion, St James' Church, South Wraxall (joint with St Peter's), led by Rev. Paul Batson

10:30am - Carol Service, Christ Church, led by Rev. Tim Hawkings

6pm - Carol Service, St Nicholas' Church, led by Rev. Katie Jackson (charity collection - cash only)



Carol Services

St James' Church
Sunday 15th December - 6pm

St Peter's Church
Sunday 15th December - 6pm

Christ Church
Sunday 22nd December - 10:30am

St Nicholas' Church
Sunday 22nd December - 6pm

Everyone very welcome

Churches of North
Bradford on Avon
& Villages

Crib & Nativity Services Christmas Eve

10am - St James' Church

3pm - St Nicholas' Church

4pm - St Peter's Church

4pm - Christ Church



All welcome

Children are very welcome to dress up

A Thank You from The Salvation Army Christmas Present Appeal



"To all the churches and parishioners of the North Bradford on Avon and Villages Benefice. I write to thank you for your donation of toys and gifts in support of The Salvation Army's Christmas Present Appeal. The toys you have so kindly and generously donated will be added to all those collected as part of the Appeal and then used to support vulnerable families and their children. We know your gifts will make a big difference this Christmas, so thank you again for thinking of others and working with us once again to support local families who may be struggling."

Territorial Envoy Michala Lancefield



St James' toy collection display & photo by Daisy Boddington, Age 9

Social Events Across the Benefice

Sunday 8th Dec - 9am -11:30am - **South Wraxall Village Breakfast** - South Wraxall Village Hall
Sunday 8th Dec - 3:30-5pm - **Advent Activity Tea** - Crafts, games & festive tea - St Nicholas Church Hall
Monday 9th Dec - 7pm - **Ladies Night** - Dinner & Quiz - St Nicholas Church Hall
Wednesday 11th Dec - 10:30am - **Sunbeams** - Parent & Toddler Group - St Nicholas Church Hall
Wednesday 11th Dec - 10:30am - **Coffee & Company** - Knitting optional - Christ Church
Wednesday 11th Dec - 3pm-5pm - **Conversation & Craft** - Christ Church
Wednesday 11th Dec - 5pm - **Winsley Village Carol Singing** - Meeting at the bottom of Dane Rise
Thursday 12th Dec - 10am - **The Ark** - Parent & Toddler Group - Christ Church
Saturday 14th Dec - 10am -12:30am - **Christ Church Christmas Coffee Morning** - Christ Church
Wednesday 18th Dec - 10am - **Kettle's On** - Cafe-style morning - St Nicholas Church Hall
Wednesday 18th Dec - 10:30am - **Coffee & Company** - Knitting optional - Christ Church

Benefice Directory Update

Over the next few weeks we will be updating the Benefice Directory for a new 2025 copy. If you would like to update any of your contact details, be added to, or removed from the directory, please contact Kate at nboabenefice@gmail.com

South Wraxall Village Breakfast Sunday 8th December

We invite you to join us for our pre-Christmas Breakfast in South Wraxall Village Hall. We will be serving a full English breakfast, which also includes toast, homemade marmalade, tea, coffee and fruit juice, from 9:00am until at least 11:30am.

All the profits go towards the upkeep of St James's Church. You are welcome to turn up on the day or reserve your table by emailing southwraxall@outlook.com

Stewardship Campaign

Thank you so much for your responses to the Stewardship campaign that took place in October.

Your generosity, which is seen in so many ways, makes such a difference to the life of our churches. Only our treasurers know the details so please accept this as a thank you from both myself and the wider church family. Katie

FREE EVENT

Discover Christ Church!
COMMUNITY | DISCOVERY | RESTORATION

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
Dementia Action Alliance

Christmas CONVERSATION & CRAFT

CHRIST CHURCH, BRADFORD-ON-AVON

WEDNESDAY 11TH DEC 2024
3PM - 5PM

DELICIOUS CAKES
HOT DRINKS
FRIENDLY CHAT
VARIETY OF GAMES
SELECTION OF SANDWICHES
CHRISTMASSY CRAFT
CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Drop by any time - all welcome!

With grateful thanks to our funders

Heritage Fund | Christchurch PCC | ChurchCare | BRADFORD ON AVON TOWN COUNCIL | Community Donations | The Pilgrim Trust | Bradford on Avon Preservation Trust

Ministry Team:

Rector: Revd. Katie Jackson (01225 722230)
Revd. Tessa Mann (309374)

Lay Pastoral Assistants:

Stephen Pike (782537), Denise Davies (863678)
Gill Fairhurst (867560), Daphne Cox (868224)
Elizabeth Bush (866624), James Middleton (920564)

Children's and Families Worker:

Zoe Yeomans zyeomans3@gmail.com

Church Wardens:

Winsley: Roy Ludlow (868779) Linds Batson (720069)
Christ Church: Vacancy
South Wraxall: Dave Wyper (865384) Valentine Thornhill (862552)
Monkton Farleigh: Rachel and Colin Exley (851485)

Benefice Office:

Kate Davies (865046),
nboabenefice@gmail.com



Churches of North
Bradford on Avon
& Villages

CHRIST CHURCH Christmas Coffee Morning

SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER
10AM - 12:30PM



COFFEE & CAKE

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

CRIB DISPLAY



THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY STALL
CASH ONLY

ALL WELCOME

Parent and Toddler Group
every Thursday in term time at
Christ Church, Bradford on
Avon from 10.00am



Baby and Toddler Café

Come along with your little ones
for a fun time with toys, story,
songs, craft and snacks to finish.

For more details, contact Hilary Pike

01225 782527

thearkatboa@gmail.com



**PLEASE NOTE, OUR LAST
SESSION FOR 2024 WILL BE ON
THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER
WHEN WE WILL HAVE OUR
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

WINSLEY VILLAGE CHRISTMAS CAROLS

A group from St Nicholas Church will be
singing carols around Winsley on
Wednesday 11th December

Meeting at the
Bottom of Dane Rise at 5pm
and singing for approximately one hour
at three or four destinations.

Carol sheets will be provided.

PLEASE DO JOIN US!

Contact Roy Ludlow (Church Warden) at
royludlow4@gmail.com or 01225 868779




Churches of North
Bradford on Avon
& Villages

Advent Activity Tea

Sunday 8th December 3:30-5pm
St Nicholas Church Hall, Winsley, BA15 2NN

Join us for Christmas crafts, games and activities
with a delicious festive tea, including mulled wine
and mince pies for the grown ups!

Fun for all the family!
No charge but donations welcome.

No need to book but do let
us know if there are any
dietary needs to cater for.
Contact Zoe at
zyeomans5@gmail.com




Ladies Night

DINNER & QUIZ

MONDAY 9TH DECEMBER
7PM
ST NICHOLAS CHURCH HALL
WINSLEY

ALL LADIES WELCOME

Cost £25 per person
includes a glass of wine/soft drink,
2 courses and a quiz!

To book please contact
Sue on 01225 863497 or Mary on 01225 722210

KETTLE'S ON

Wednesday 18th December
10.00am - 12.00pm

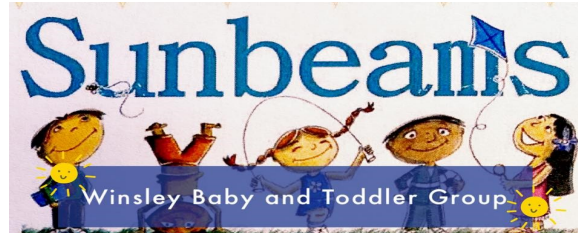


Friendly café-style morning
St Nicholas' Church Hall
All very welcome

**This is our last Kettle's On before Christmas.
Our first Kettle's On in the new year will be
Wednesday 15th January 2025.**

NewsLink

The next edition of NewsLink will be on
Sunday 22nd December 2024.
Please email any relevant contributions to the
Benefice Office at
nboabenefice@gmail.com by
Monday 16th December 2024.



Parent and Toddler Group
St Nicholas Church Hall, Winsley
2nd and 4th Wednesday at 10.30am

For more details please contact
Mary Hewetson on 01225 722210

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