

ALL SAINTS NEWS

18th December 2022
Advent

The Second Half of Advent

The lighting the rose candle on the Advent wreath has taken place – does it indicate anything else?

The Advent season is split between an earlier part, which sort of echoes the last part of the previous liturgical cycle when we focus on the Second Coming of Jesus. We're thinking about the future, we're thinking about that time when Jesus will come, escorted by the angels and saints. We're thinking about that moment in history that will end history, and usher in once and for all the definitive Kingdom – the Kingdom of justice, and mercy, and peace. The Kingdom where the lion will lay down with the lamb. The Kingdom that will be the perfection of all things in Christ.

And our prayers and our focus for the last two weeks has been on that reality, that there will be a Second Coming. There will be a day of judgment. There will be a day when this order as we know it is passing away, and the new heaven and new earth will become real. We long for that day, we yearn for that day, we desire that day, we look forward in hope for that day. And we pray: Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!

We have been doing that for the first two weeks of Advent. With the third Sunday of Advent, that shifts. We look back in history to the first coming of Jesus. We begin in a very earnest way by looking at the historical reality of the fact that God became incarnate in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

We will look at the events leading up to His birth, we will look at the events of His birth in the Christmas season and celebrate them as the gradual epiphany of the miracle of God's love for us is made manifest in human history.

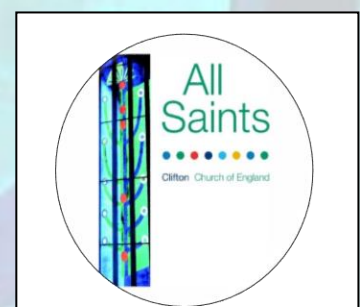
And a sign that we have begun that second half of Advent are the prayers used at Evening Prayer that accompany the Magnificat. These are called the O Antiphons. These are the great antiphons that make up the song O Come, O Come, Emmanuel. There are seven of them leading up to December 25 and then into our Christmas season, that each highlight a different aspect of the mystery of the Incarnation.

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The "O" Antiphons

The Church has been singing the "O" Antiphons since at least the eighth century. They are the antiphons that accompany the Magnificat canticle of Evening Prayer from December 17-23. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfilment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well.

Their repeated use of the imperative "Come!" embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.



December 17

O Wisdom of our God Most High,
guiding creation with power and love:
come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18

O Leader of the House of Israel,
giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai:
come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19

O Root of Jesse's stem,
sign of God's love for all his people:
come to save us without delay!

December 20

O Key of David,
opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom:
come and free the prisoners of darkness

December 21

O Radiant Dawn,
splendour of eternal light, sun of justice:
come and shine on those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death.

December 22

O King of all nations and keystone of the Church:
come and save man, whom you formed from the
dust!

December 23

O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law:
come to save us, Lord our God!

Bristol North West Foodbank The Christmas Charity

The Bristol North West Foodbank operates within the Deanery of Bristol West and is part of the parish work of St Andrew's. Fr Charles is Area Dean of Bristol West and All Saints is within this Deanery.

Bristol North West Foodbank is an Anglican Charity and affiliated to the Trussell Trust network of over 430 Foodbanks across the UK.



The Foodbank has been open for 11 years and during that time they have helped more than 60 000 people crisis with the provision of emergency food parcels. People suffer a crisis for many reasons, such as benefit changes, debt, redundancy, ill-health, family break up or just unexpected large bills.

All Foodbank clients are referred to by local care agencies who identify individuals and families in crisis. Anyone in crisis from North West Bristol, stretching from Avonmouth to Henbury, Hotwells to Lawrence Weston and areas in between, can have access to this Foodbank. This is pretty much all of the Deanery of Bristol West.

There are also four outlets that provide access to food support in Avonmouth, Henbury, Hotwells and Lawrence Weston.

In 2019 they opened a Social Justice Hub in Avonmouth, with the vision of extending support and providing a more holistic service. The Hub now houses the office and warehouse and our growing services include:

- Homebank
- Free-advice Appointments
- Cookery Courses
- Dancercise Classes
- Support for Homeless
- Woodwork Class

Much of this is designed to help tackle social isolation.

Bristol North West Foodbank is the All Saints 2022 Christmas Charity

Christmas 2022 Homelessness



For the first time in 30 years, apart from during the COVID pandemic, Crisis at Christmas will not be offering a 24/7 service over the Christmas period.

As a consequence the Julian Trust have stepped up to the mark and are going to offer a late evening and overnight facility. I shall be doing the overnight shift on the 25th and 26th of December.

If any member of the congregation would care to join me or learn more about the Julian Trust please do not hesitate to speak to me at Church or telephone on 01275 814002, please leave a message.
Thank you . **Vera Sanders**

Christmas Card Exchange



If you would like to exchange cards this year with other members of the congregation please leave them on the exchange table in the Atrium for collection.



Fuel Costs: the £66 discount and redistribution

New figures released on 18 Nov 2022 show the Energy Bills Support Scheme successfully provided a £66 discount for 97% of eligible households in England, Scotland and Wales in its first month. This is the first payment made through the EBSS since it launched in October and will see households receive a £400 discount on energy bills paid in 6 monthly instalments.

Vouchers were sent to all 2 million customers with traditional pre-payment meters.

At All Saints, a process has been set up for any of us who might like to redistribute some of this money so that it reaches those who really need it.

Sister Teresa, of the Sisters of the Church, already gives £20 a month (specifically for the pre-payment meters) to around 23 people who are on very low incomes. This £20 tends to last about a week.

If anyone would like to redistribute this discount, or any part of it, to top up these payments, please email martinrobinson56@yahoo.co.uk for details of the Sisters of the Church bank account. Gift Aid can be claimed

Thank you. Georgina Harford and Martin Robinson

All Saints Christmas Carol Service followed by mulled wine

6:00pm to 7:00pm,
Thursday 22nd December

The All Saints' annual Christmas Carol Service

A service of readings and carols followed by mulled wine and mince pies

All are welcome!



All
Saints
Clifton Church of England

**December
24th**

**4.30 pm
refreshments from
4.00 pm**

**The
Christmas
Story**

A short service
for all ages
telling the story
of the first
Christmas, with
familiar carols
around the Crib,
Come at 4.00
for hot
chocolate and
festive nibbles

Christmas at All Saints

CHRISTMAS 2022 SERVICES AND EVENTS

THURSDAY 22ND DECEMBER

All Saints Christmas Carol Service 6:00pm-7:00pm

The All Saints' annual Christmas Carol Service. A service of readings and carols followed by mulled wine and mince pies. All welcome!

SATURDAY 24TH DECEMBER

• Christmas Eve – The Christmas Story 4:30pm

Join us in the Atrium at 4pm for refreshments before The Christmas Story, a short service for all ages, telling the story of the first Christmas with familiar Carols and Blessing of the Crib.

• Christmas Midnight Mass All Saints 10:30pm-11:30pm

Join us for the first Mass of Christmas

SUNDAY 25TH DECEMBER

• Christmas Day Parish Mass 10:00am-11:00am

Christmas Eucharist with Carols All-ages welcome!

It's time to decorate the All Saints Christmas Tree !



If you would like to help put up and decorate the tree for Christmas please come to Church on Saturday 19th December at 10.00am.



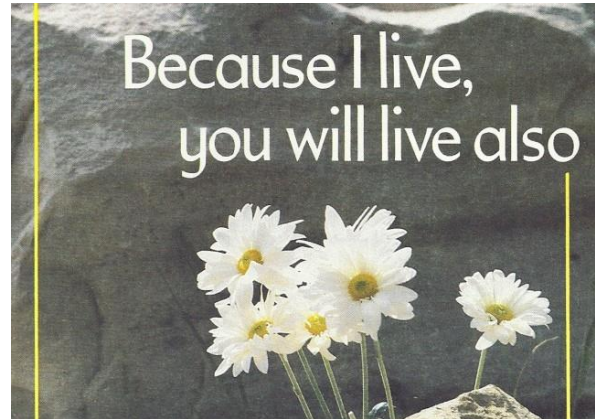
Strong people, tall people and small people are needed to fulfil this important task !

Prayers Requests

'In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.'

(John 14: 19).

Please let Fr Charles know of anyone who would like to be remembered within the weekly prayer list or anyone who you would like to be remembered in prayer



Those who we remember in our Prayers

Sunday Tabitha Clark, Ruth and Richard Harding, Katie Norman, Neal Gordon, Jean Callow, Joyce Shepherd, Cynthia Ashford Sarah Bradley Sue Hilliar Steve Cooper Ruth Marson Valerie Donkin Alexander and his family

Monday

Tuesday. Diana Verity

Wednesday , Katrina and Katherine King, Philip Miles, Samantha Tucker, Hugh Farry, Ros Hawkins

Thursday

Friday Charlotte Hopkins, Andy & Gina Ford, Elisabeth Morgan, Caroline Semon

Saturday

The Departed

Drusilla Esam Peter Butterfield Molly Sharpley James Johnson-Brown
Jane Selby Rio Fisher

Years' Minds - this week we remember

Michael Houghton (Bp) Christine Malet Chellathurai Arulanantham
James Ostler Alec Benton Geoff Knott Samuel Racy Leslie James
Deborah James Caryl Fox

ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon 19	O Clavis David (O Key of David) O Key of David, and sceptre of the house of Israel, who opens and no man shuts, who shuts and no man opens: come, and lead forth the captive who sits in the shadows from his prison.
Tue 20	O Oriens (O Dayspring) O dawn of the east, brightness of light eternal, and sun of justice: come, and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.
Wed 21	Mass 10.00am O Rex Gentium (O King of the nations) O King of the gentiles and their desired One, the cornerstone that makes both one: come, and deliver man, whom you formed out of the dust of the earth.
Thurs 22	O Emmanuel (O With Us is God) O Emmanuel, king and lawgiver, desire of the nations, Saviour of all people: Come and set us free, Lord our God.
Fri 23	Mass 10.00am Pray for refugees and migrants. People have been migrating to all different parts of the world for hundreds of years in search of a better place to live, worship and raise their families, motivated by everything from religious prosecution to hunger and poverty in their own countries, to taking part in great wars that made our world what it is today, so it stands to reason that everyone would find something interesting about their own family history.
Sat 24	Christmas Eve Almighty God, as we prepare with joy to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child, embrace the earth with your glory and be for us a living hope. Christmas Eve Festival 4.30 pm Christmas Midnight Mass 10.30 -11.30pm
Sunday 25	Christmas Day You have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit. Christmas Day Parish Mass 10.00am

If you would like to give regularly to the Church, please set up a standing order to the church account, details below ;

Parochial Church Council of All Saints

Account No. 65256747

sort code 08 92 99

Gift Aid forms are available from the office

office@allsaintsclifton.org

