

ALL SAINTS NEWS

3rd December 2023
Advent Sunday
Year B begins

The Season of Advent

Advent is a season of expectation and preparation, as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming (*adventus*) of Christ in his incarnation, and also looks ahead to his final advent as judge at the end of time. The readings and liturgies not only direct us towards Christ's birth, they also challenge the modern reluctance to confront the theme of divine judgement:

Every eye shall now behold him
robed in dreadful majesty.

(Charles Wesley)

The Four Last Things – Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell – have been traditional themes for Advent meditation. The characteristic note of Advent is therefore expectation, rather than penitence, although the character of the season is easily coloured by an analogy with Lent.

The anticipation of Christmas under commercial pressure has also made it harder to sustain the appropriate sense of alert watchfulness, but the fundamental Advent prayer remains 'Maranatha' – 'Our Lord, come' (1 Corinthians 16.22). Church decorations are simple and spare, and purple is the traditional liturgical colour.

In the northern hemisphere, the Advent season falls at the darkest time of the year, and the natural symbols of darkness and light are powerfully at work throughout Advent and Christmas. The lighting of candles on an Advent wreath was imported into Britain from northern Europe in the nineteenth century, and is now a common practice. The Moravian custom of the Christingle has similarly enjoyed great success in Britain since the latter part of the twentieth century, with the encouragement of the Children's Society; Christingle services may take place before or after Christmas.

The Third Sunday of Advent was observed in medieval times as a splash of colour in the restrained atmosphere of Advent (*Gaudete* or 'Rose Sunday'), and the last days of Advent were marked by the sequence of Great 'O' Antiphons, which continue to inspire modern Advent hymns and meditations.

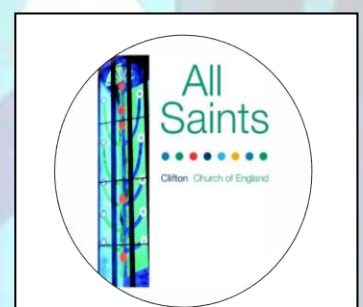
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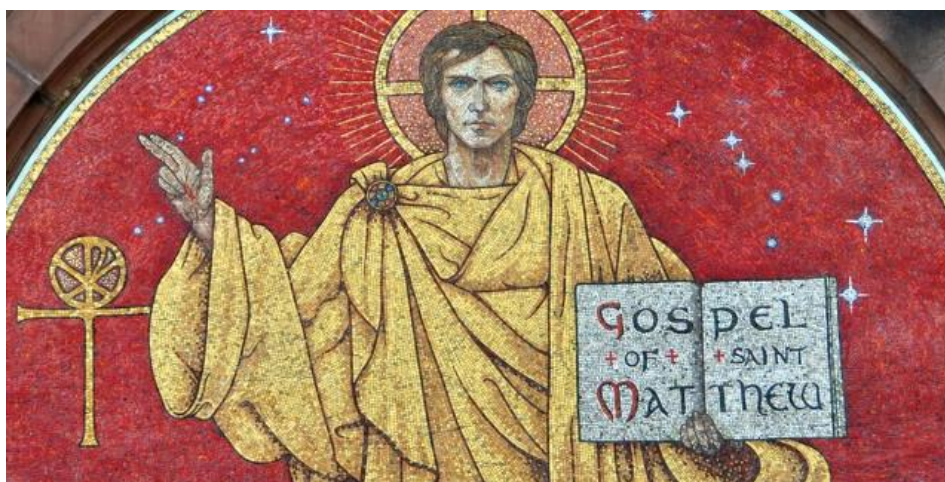
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The Liturgical Year – Year ‘B’



Prior to the Second Vatican Council, the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church had a yearly cycle of readings that didn't change from year to year. While there were certain advantages to the yearly repetition of readings, the Church thought it prudent to provide a much more varied selection of readings from the Bible, creating a three-year cycle.

This was established to put more emphasis on the Word of God and open up the riches of the Bible to the lay faithful. This resulted in the creation of the Common Lectionary. This is a selection of readings for **Mass on Sundays and Principal Feasts** that is shared across the Anglican Communion, Roman Catholic Church, Lutheran Church, United Reformed Church, Methodist Church, and so forth. It is now known as the 'Revised Common Lectionary'.

According to the introduction to the Lectionary, "The present Order of Readings for Mass, then, is an arrangement of biblical readings that provides the faithful with a knowledge of the **whole of God's word**, in a pattern suited to the purpose. Throughout the liturgical year, but above all during the seasons of Easter, Lent, and Advent, the choice and sequence of readings are aimed at giving Christ's faithful an **ever-deepening** perception of the faith they profess and of the **history of salvation**."

However, it can be confusing to know which year in the cycle it is, especially if we want to read the readings prior to arriving at Mass on Sunday.

First of all, each of the three years is dedicated to a different **Gospel**.

- **Year A** – Gospel of **St. Matthew**
- **Year B** – Gospel of **St. Mark**
- **Year C** – Gospel of **St. Luke**

The Gospel of St. John is typically used for solemnities and during Holy Week, and the shorter Gospel of Mark is usually supplemented with readings from Matthew and Luke in Year B.

A simple way to determine the cycle year is to **add the digits** of the calendar year and see if they are **divisible by three**. If it is divisible by three, then it is "**Year C**." Once you figure that out, the rest of the years are easy to determine.

Here's 2022 to use as an example: $2 + 0 + 2 + 2 = 6$. Since 6 is divisible by 3, **2022 is "Year C."**

This means that **2024** will be "**Year B**," since it is a three-year cycle. (However, it's important to note that the **liturgical year** begins in **Advent**. As a result, the 2024 liturgical year **started in December 2023**.)

Daily Readings and the Psalter

The daily readings within the 'Revised Common Lectionary' expand the range of biblical reading in worship and personal devotion by providing daily citations for the full three-year cycle of the Revised Common Lectionary. This means that through the cycle of the three years attention is given to pretty much the whole of Scripture.

These readings are also intended to complement the Sunday and festival readings: Thursday through Saturday readings help prepare the reader for the Sunday ahead; Monday through Wednesday readings help the reader reflect on and digest what they heard in worship.

Psalms are also read in cycles. The Cranmerian Book of Common Prayer (BCP) set out the whole Psalter to be read in a thirty-day cycle which had a monastic style. The modern lectionary has a seven-week cycle. However, the intention is the same which is that the opportunity exists to read through and reflect upon the whole Psalter on a regular basis.

St John's Artwork in the Atrium.

The children in Years 3 / 4 studied Banksy's work in their Art classes and produced their own interpretations on the themes of Love, Kindness, Joy, Saving the Planet, Fun, Art /colour/ life, Saving the planet, Values for life and Making the world a better place. Their work will be on view in the Atrium throughout December.



Candlelight Christmas: Love Actually, Home Alone & More 6:00pm - 7:00pm and 9:00pm -10.00pm Sat 9th December



- Let It Snow
- Christmas Song
- Have Yourself A Merry
- Winter Wonderland
- Last Christmas
- The Christmas Waltz
- The Little Drummer Boy
- Sleigh Ride
- Jingle Bells
- Somewhere In My Memory
- Glasgow Theme
- Rocking Around The Christmas Tree
- Love Is All Around
- All I Want For Christmas
- White Christmas
- I'll Be Home For Christmas
- It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas



Friends Together

@ All Saints, Clifton

Christmas Café

Thursday 7th December,

10am-12pm



Join us on Dec 7th for two hours of seasonal fun including
Festive art activities and Christmas Carol Singalong – led by
Jan Bartlett on the piano

And not forgetting our famous FREE home-made cakes, tea and coffee

SEE YOU THERE!

Bristol University Music Society Chamber Choir

7:00pm - 8:30pm, Mon 4 Dec

 All Saints, BS8 3ED [📍](#)



The Bristol University Music Society (BUMS) Chamber Choir present their annual winter concert, featuring a festive programme of choral classics and Christmas tunes, curated and conducted by Millie Whittle.

Tickets

- £5 for regular entry
- £3 student
- FREE for BUMS members.

Tickets are available to purchase online via the SU or at the door.



LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Tuesday 5th December, 1.00pm
All Saints Church, Pembroke Road

Featuring the Male Voice Choir and soloists from Year 9 to 13

Open to parents, staff and the public

For more information, contact Mrs Johnson,
mjohnson@cliftonhigh.co.uk

All Saints Advent Carols

Sunday 3rd December
2023

at 6.00pm



A Service of Advent Readings,
carols and hymns,
reflecting on the longing,
expectancy and waiting of this
Season of Advent

Advent Pilgrimage

Sunday 10th December at 6.00pm

Our Advent Pilgrimage is a special act of worship which includes carefully chosen readings and music designed to help people reflect on the meaning of Advent and prepare for the coming of Christ this Advent season.



Everyone is welcome to attend this beautiful, reflective service.

ASC Advent Calendar:

Each day of December the ASC Advent Calendar will have a new window on the website – do have a look!!



The ASC Saturday morning
Walks For Everyone are now
on the 2nd Saturday of every month

Everyone is most welcome to join the walks
and friendly dogs are very welcome!

The next walk will be on Saturday 9th of December.

Led by Mary Benton the walk will be an exploration of Terraces and Crescents of Clifton

We will leave from outside ASC at 10.45 and be back about 12.30

Contact: georginaharford@hotmail.com 07767 746168

Christmas 2023 Events
@ All Saints, Clifton

3RD-25TH DECEMBER

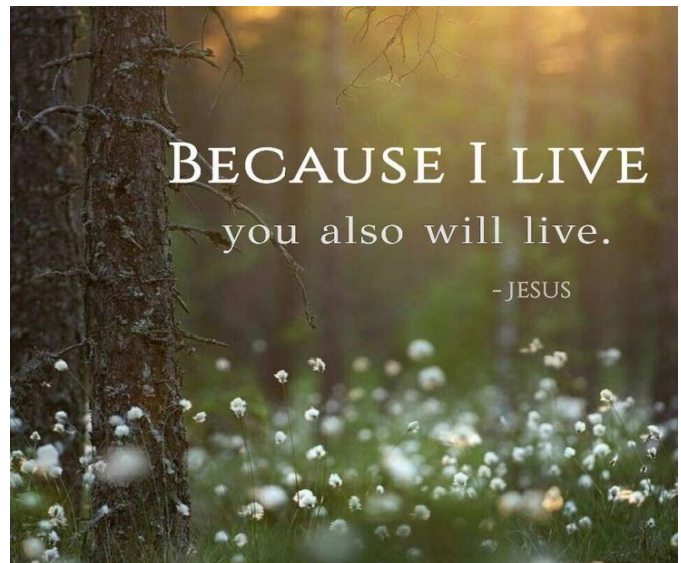
SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER	
- Advent Carol Service	6.00 ^{PM}
THURSDAY 21ST DECEMBER	
- Christmas Carol Service	6.00 ^{PM}
SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER	
- Christmas Story	4.30 ^{PM} FOR 5.00 ^{PM}
SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER	
- Midnight Mass	10.30 ^{PM}
MONDAY 25TH DECEMBER	
- Christmas Eucharist with Carols	10.00 ^{AM}

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, Joyce Shepherd, Cynthia Ashford Sue Hilliar Mary Greenacre Nadine Benn Lorna Osbon Elisabeth Morgan Andrew Casimir Rev. Melvyn Matthews Sathia Aruliah Ryan Lindsey

Monday

Tuesday.

Wednesday , Katrina and Katherine King, Philip Miles, Diana Verity, Samantha Tucker, Hugh Farry Maureen Mumford George Lymeropoulos

Thursday

Friday Charlotte Hopkins, Andy & Gina Ford, Caroline Semon, Nicole Kaneza.

Saturday

The Departed

Ron Gale Valerie Donkin Hugh Barron Chris Benton Helen Campbell
Chris Chamberlain Rob Dalton Tom Duncan Joanne Wilkins Eileen Davies Len Hughes
John Morley-Bunker (Pr)

Years' Minds - this week we remember

Iris Gillard Hilda Smith Peter Sturdy Sister Rhona CSMV Elsie Flay
Andrew (John) Norton CRPr Kathleen Smith

ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon 4	Pray for Christians who live and work in Japan. 1% of the population is Christian (though eight Prime Ministers have been Christian). Pray for the people of Japan who follow the 'way of the Gods' – Shinto.
Tue 5	Blessed are you, Lord of all creation, it is through your goodness that we have so many gifts which the earth has given, and that human hands have made for our benefit. We pray for our farming communities, all who work on or with the land, and that we may learn the meaning of responsibility in terms of your gift of creation.
Wed 6	Mass 10.00am Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c.326 We remember those whose circumstances mean that Christmas will not be a time of celebration. People who through poverty, homelessness, fear, illness and many other adversities are unable to experience any joy in their lives.
Thurs 7	Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Teacher of the Faith, 397 We pray for our Jewish brothers and sisters (Ambrose did not have a positive attitude to Jews). Today we pray for Rabbi Monique and the Progressive Jewish Congregation in Bristol.
Fri 8	Mass 10.00am The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary We give thanks for the gift above all gifts, that God became man, the Word became Flesh, in the person of Jesus Christ for our salvation. At this time of Advent we pray that we may prepare ourselves for the Feast of the Nativity and be enabled to see the incarnate presence in the faces of our brothers and sisters.
Sat 9	Corruption is dishonest or unethical conduct of those in authority. We pray for victims of corruption and for those who work in roles of prevention. We pray for those in authority that they may not be tempted by personal objectives.
Sunday 10	2nd Sunday of Advent O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us Early Worship 9.00am Parish Mass 10.30am

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

We are committed to safeguarding children, young people, victims of domestic abuse and vulnerable adults.

If you have any Safeguarding concerns please contact :
The Parish Safeguarding Officer - Stephen O'Keefe
stephen.c.okeefe@gmail.com and Caroline Davenport
c2davbristol@hotmail.com