

ALL SAINTS NEWS

24th December 2023
Advent 4 & Christmas



We wish you Every Joy and Blessing this Christmas
Fr Charles, The Ministry Team, Churchwardens and the All Saints' PCC

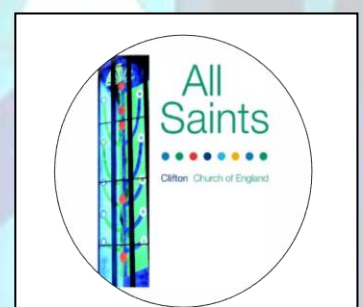
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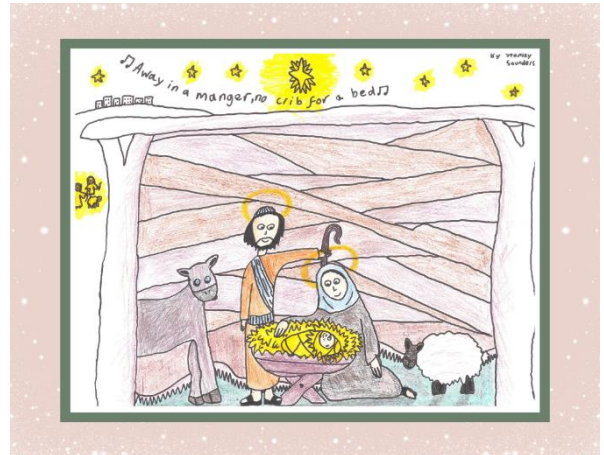


A Christmas message from the Bishop of Bristol

Transforming Church. Together



This nativity scene, designed by Stan, one of our younger diocesan artists, brings with it my prayers and hopes for you to glimpse again some of the simplicity of the birth of our saviour, and recognise in the bemused responses of the first witnesses how much God still has to reveal to us. I thank each one of you for the light and hope you bring in the name of Christ to your parishes and communities in these dark and perplexing times, and pray that you can find rest and new creation in the days after Christmas.



In October I met with the leaders of the faith communities and each one is praying fervently for peace. So may this Christmas bring Shalom, Salam, Peace especially to Bethlehem and Jerusalem, and in so many places torn by violence and hatred. I pray in the name of the Prince of Peace.

Yours in Christ,

Follow the Star: Join the Song

The Twelve Days of Christmas with the Church of England

You are invited to pick up a copy of the Follow the Star booklet and take it home to use.

For each day from Christmas Eve to the Eve of Epiphany (5 January), he offers a short reading from the Bible, a reflection challenging you to see the Christmas story afresh, an invitation to wonder what this Christmas means in your own life, and a prayer to help you treasure this story in your heart.

Richard Carter, has created the 12 days of Reflections and invites you to hear and respond to the angels' invitation to gather in the presence of the newborn Jesus.

You can also download the App (free!) from Apple App Store or Goggle Play.



All Saints Charities 2023

The two charities for our Missional Giving in 2023 have been selected as:

Young Bristol



Médecins Sans Frontières




Friends Together

@ All Saints, Clifton

A Dementia accessible café – for **all**.
Support, guidance, information and friendship.
Tea, coffee and home-made cake included.

When? 1st Thursday of **every** month
Time? 10.00am-12.00pm
Where? The Randall Room, All Saints Church

Join us for...

- Reminiscence activities
- Support, guidance, and information
- Tea, coffee, cake
- Fun, laughter – and friendship!

Café Dates 2024 ALWAYS THE 1st THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

• THURSDAY 4 th January	• THURSDAY 4 th July
• THURSDAY 1 st February	• THURSDAY 1 st August
• THURSDAY 7 th March	• THURSDAY 5 th September
• THURSDAY 4 th April	• THURSDAY 3 rd October
• THURSDAY 2 nd May	• THURSDAY 7 th November
• THURSDAY 6 th June	• THURSDAY 5 th December

A PROUD DEMENTIA AWARE ORGANISATION

For further information, please call All Saints Parish Office on 0117 974 1355 or see the website for latest updates.

All Saints
Clifton Church of England
www.allsaintsclifton.org



"we always leave the Friends Together Café feeling better!"

"my husband always receives a supportive and sympathetic welcome"

"a welcoming and relaxed atmosphere and a delightful group of volunteers"

"a great way to meet other carers and share thoughts and experiences"

A PROUD DEMENTIA AWARE ORGANISATION

All Saints, Clifton has achieved Bristol Dementia Action Alliance Gold Award status in 2023

900k | there are over 900,000 people living with dementia in the UK

5000 | an estimated 5,000 of which are living in Bristol

5% | of people under 65 years old have young-onset dementia

Friends Together Café
First Thursday of every month: 10am-12pm
All Saints Church, Ferrisbur Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 3ED
ADMISSION FREE | allsaintsclifton.org

All Saints
Clifton Church of England

The first meeting of Friends Together for 2024 will be on Thursday 4th of January

The Christmas Charity

All Saints Pop-Up Food Station

Despite the assumptions often made about those who live in 'leafy Clifton' there is real need amongst many who live within our local and wider community. These are people who might live on the Downs, in shop fronts along Whiteladies Road, under the RC Cathedral or in and around the churches and offices in Clifton, Redland and Cotham. It also includes those who live in rental or provided accommodation on the very edge of need driven by poverty. And it most certainly includes those whose needs cover a wide range of other issues; mental health and addiction to name but two.

Clifton is not an area that could be defined as deprived. Clifton is an area in which there is a significant number of people who do fit the deprived definition.

The Pop-Up Food Station under the tower provided a selection of food stuff and hygiene products to those who make use of it. It is rarely abused and often topped up several times a day. Topping up is randomised so that no pattern of refill is established and those who come have roughly equal chances of finding items regardless of the time they arrive.

Content comes from gifts given by the church community which often come from extra elements within the delivered shopping or trips to the supermarket; deliveries from the **Sisters of the Church** (in St Pauls); and, when reserves run out, deliveries made straight to church.

Financial gifts given this Christmas will go straight to that part of our account reserved for the purchase of food items and hygiene products for the Pop-Up Food Station.

A National Trend

This Christmas it is expected that there will be approximately more than 40,000 people who will be homeless, compared with last year. This 14% increase has been obtained from official figures and freedom of information requests (Guardian 14 December 2023).

Additionally, in the last year there has been a 26% increase in rough sleeping and 140,000 children are currently living in temporary homes. (Shelter – the housing charity).

These are disturbing numbers.

ASC Walks – everyone welcome New Year's Day leg-stretch Beat the Bounds of the Downs. The walk will take us all round the edge of the Downs.



Meet outside the Church, to leave at 11am. We should be back by about 1pm, and of course anyone can go home earlier.

Dogs are most welcome.

This is not a Guided Walk, just a chance to stretch our legs.

Led by Georgina Harford georginaharford@hotmail.com



Bring and Share Lunch for Epiphany January 14th 2024



The very first event of the All Saints 2024 social calendar.

A Bring and share lunch for the Epiphany Celebration on Sunday 14th January 2024.

Please book the date in your new diary and ask your family and friends.

More information to follow soon

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}



New Years Day Mass
– Monday 1st January 2023 will be held at 12 noon



The Parish Office will be closed from 5.00pm on Friday 22nd of December 2023 and will reopen on Wednesday 3rd of January 2024.

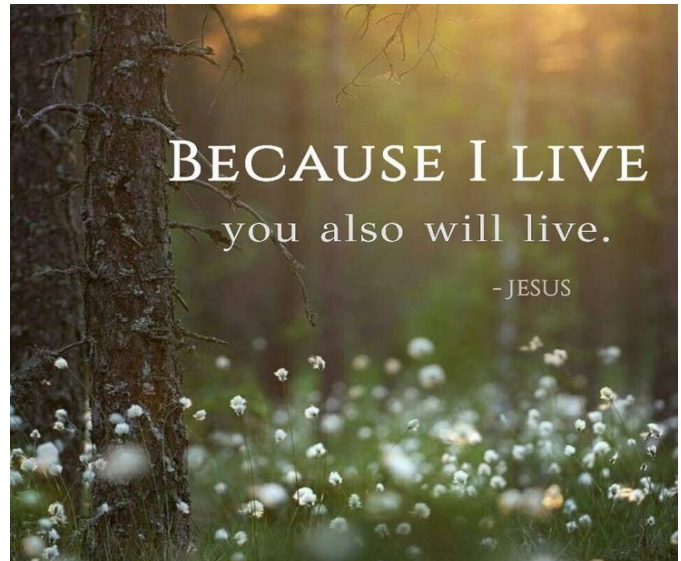
Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

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 June Matthews Sathia Aruliah Ryan Lindsey Nick Atkinson

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

Joanne Wilkins Eileen Davies Len Hughes John Morley-Bunker (Pr)) Albert Loveday Ruth Burrows O.M.C Erna Sacof Betty Shaw Nick Ball (Pr) Richard Sleaford Irene Cameron

Years' Minds - this week we remember

Deborah James Caryl Fox Jim York Jo Drewett Hayden Rees Mae Skerrett Fred Nickalls Phoebe Oakley Garn Lee Bons

ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon 25	<p>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.</p> <p>Christmas Eucharist with Carols 10.00am</p>
Tue 26	<p>Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr We pray for all those who are in preparation for ordination and those who will be ordained this year. May they and your whole Church have a rich outpouring of God's grace. We pray also for their families, friends, for all those who support and encourage them on their journey and for those with whom they will serve.</p>
Wed 27	<p>Mass 10.00am John, Apostle and Evangelist We pray for our friends. John was the 'disciple whom Jesus loved', we pray for and give thanks for those who are close to us, whose opinions are important to us and for whom we care.</p>
Thurs 28	<p>The Holy Innocents Remembering the infanticide of Herod the Great, we pray for all children who suffer death, injury and loss in the war zones of this world. A child, 'Nour', in Syria aged 6 described: "Nour was such a kind, friendly girl, but I watched her go crazy. She is always alone. She won't talk. She won't eat. She wakes the neighbours with nightmares. The fear stopped her mind. She is too shocked to have a personality anymore."</p>
Fri 29	<p>Mass 10.00am Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1170 We pray for Archbishop Justin. We pray for the three priorities on which he focuses his ministry: 1. Prayer and the Religious Life, 2. Reconciliation, and 3. Evangelism and Witness. Enable us to work with him in bringing positive change in these areas of priority.</p>
Sat 30	<p>God, thank you for a new year. May everyone in our family be willing to begin anew with a clean slate. We know that you are always ready to forgive us. Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another. As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time.</p>
Sunday 31	<p>1st Sunday of Christmas Holy Family</p> <p>Father help us to live as the holy family, united in respect and love. Bring us the joy and peace of your eternal home.</p> <p>Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Early Worship 9.00am Parish Mass 10.30am</p>

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