

NEWSLETTER

Weeks beginning Sundays 26th November and 3rd December 2023

Last Sunday before Advent – [Christ the King](#)
and 1st Sunday of Advent



Welcome to the Newsletter

Sunday 26th November - Sunday next before Advent – [Christ the King](#)

- Holy Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw**
- Family Communion at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth**

Sunday 3rd December – First Sunday of Advent

- All Age Worship at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw**
- Holy Communion at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth**
- Service of the Word at **11.15am** at **St John's, Middleton**

Sunday 10th December – Second Sunday of Advent

- Family Communion at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth**
- Holy Communion at **11.15am** at **St John's, Middleton**
- **CAROL SERVICE** at **6.30pm** at **St Chad's, Wishaw**



DIARY

Date	Time	Event	Note
Sunday 26th November Last Sunday before Advent Christ the King <i>Green</i>	9.15am	Holy Communion	St Chad's, Wishaw
	11.15am	Family Communion	St Nicholas', Curdworth
Tuesday 28 th	7.00pm	Middleton Christmas Choir	St John's Church
Wednesday 29 th	6.00pm	Children's Choir	Curdworth Church Hall
	7.15pm	Choir Practice	
Sunday 3rd December 1st Sunday of Advent <i>Purple</i>	9.30am	All Age Worship	St Chad's, Wishaw
	11.15am	Holy Communion	St Nicholas', Curdworth
	11.15am	Service of the Word	St John's, Middleton
Monday 4 th	8.30pm	Choir singing for Erdington Rotary	Grounds Farm
Tuesday 5 th	7.00pm	Middleton Christmas Choir	St John's Church
Wednesday 6 th	6.00pm	Children's Choir	Curdworth Church Hall
	7.15pm	Choir Practice	
Thursday 7 th	2 - 6pm	CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL	St Nicholas' Church
	7.00pm	Choir singing Carols	The Fig and Olive, Middleton
Friday 8 th	2 - 7pm	CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL + CHRISTMAS MARKET	St Nicholas' Church and the Church Hall
Saturday 9 th	1 - 5pm	CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL	St Nicholas' Church
Sunday 10th 2nd Sunday of Advent <i>Purple</i>	11.15am	Family Communion	St Nicholas', Curdworth
	11.15am	Holy Communion	St John's, Middleton
	<u>6.30pm</u>	CAROL SERVICE	St Chad's, Wishaw



CAROL SERVICES 2023 – St Chad’s 10th December 6.30pm

St John’s 17th December 6.30pm

St Nicholas’ 18th December 7.30pm



Thursday, 7th December 2-6pm

Friday 8th December 2-7pm

Saturday 9th December 1-5pm

Plus..... CHRISTMAS MARKET in the church hall on Friday from 2-7pm

Put the dates in your diary and if you would like to enter a Christmas Tree, the cost is £5. Choose your own theme. If decorating a tree isn't for you, then come along and support the event at **St Nicholas' Church, Curdworth.**

More information from Eileen 07931 774713



A message from Anton and Eileen

We have collected and emptied all the Children's Society blue boxes. The total collected was £330.34, which is slightly up on last year. Many thanks to all those who contributed.

If anyone would like a box to deposit loose change for a very good cause, please contact Anton or Eileen Rawson on 01675 470221.

TRANSFORMING CHURCH and OVERSIGHT AREAS

PCC members have spent much time over the last few years discussing our **Transforming Church Action Plan** (TCAP). This was all part of the **People and Places** initiative, first introduced by the then Archdeacon of Aston some five or more years ago.

Aside from considering how we could transform and re-enliven our churches at a local level, from which we developed our Transforming Church Action Plan, we also learned that we would see changes to how ministry might be delivered within Deaneries. The first part of this saw the appointment of new Area Deans and in our area, the combining of the former Aston and Sutton Coldfield Deaneries into one much larger Deanery, with the appointment of Rev Ann Richardson as our Area Dean.

The next matter to be considered was what are termed 'Oversight Areas'. This has taken several years. Parishes would be grouped into an Oversight Area, with one person appointed as Oversight Minister and potentially other ministers, lay or ordained, in a full or part-time capacity to support. Larger Deaneries and Oversight Areas are seen as a means of sharing resources more fairly in our diverse, urban and rural region.

We now know that the Parish of Curdworth, Middleton and Wishaw will be grouped with the Parish of Castle Vale and Minworth into one Oversight Area, with Rev Noel as Oversight Minister.

This does not mean that the Parishes are to be joined or that clergy or lay ministers will be leading services across the whole Oversight Area. The Parishes will retain their distinct and separate nature.

It may mean sharing of resources within the Deanery. It may mean collaboration on, for example, industrial chaplaincy, work in schools, training and administration.

For many of us, there may be no discernible change as a result of this re-organisation. However, there is still our Transforming Church Plan. This is intended to be a 'live' document which we refer to, add to and edit as appropriate. It includes information about our three villages of Curdworth, Middleton and Wishaw, their resources, businesses, opportunities and much more. 2024 may just be the perfect time to share it more widely with our

congregations and other interested parties. Be assured the aim will always be to make the most of our resources and serve our communities to the best of our ability.

COMING SOON.....SILENT AUCTION

Look out in future editions of the Newsletter for information about a new Silent Auction, to run from early January 2024. In the meantime, please start to look out items which you might like to put into the Auction – unwanted gifts, items you no longer need - and also consider what you could offer, such as, for example two hours ironing, an evening’s babysitting, four hours gardening. Hopefully, that is enough to get you thinking! Full list of suggestions in the New Year.



PRAYER LIST – Please remember in your prayers all who are sick and those who mourn the loss of a loved one.

Prayers for the sick																									
Curdworth	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Sharon Brown</td> <td>Adrian Cionnagh</td> <td><i>Yvette Crawford</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Jean Eldridge</i></td> <td><i>Amanda Emerson</i></td> <td>Jean Giddings</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>John Henson</i></td> <td>Caroline Lee</td> <td><i>Isabella Murphy</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Helen Parry</td> <td>Jenny Phillips</td> <td>Ellie Reeves</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lucinda Shelley</td> <td><i>Cathy Smith</i></td> <td>Barbara Vaughan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Margaret Vaughton</td> <td>Andrew Walker</td> <td><i>Elizabeth Walsh</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Peter Wiggins</i></td> <td>Barry Wiltshire</td> <td>Gillian Wiltshire</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hollie Wiltshire</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Sharon Brown	Adrian Cionnagh	<i>Yvette Crawford</i>	<i>Jean Eldridge</i>	<i>Amanda Emerson</i>	Jean Giddings	<i>John Henson</i>	Caroline Lee	<i>Isabella Murphy</i>	Helen Parry	Jenny Phillips	Ellie Reeves	Lucinda Shelley	<i>Cathy Smith</i>	Barbara Vaughan	Margaret Vaughton	Andrew Walker	<i>Elizabeth Walsh</i>	<i>Peter Wiggins</i>	Barry Wiltshire	Gillian Wiltshire	Hollie Wiltshire		
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Hollie Wiltshire																									
Middleton	<i>Jean Nixon</i>																								
Wishaw	<i>Isabel Brown</i> Pat Harris <i>Cae Hayes</i>																								
Prayers for those who have died																									

Finance – Here are the bank details for each church for your reference:

St Nicholas': 30-92-75 00610273 (PCC of St Nicholas Curdworth)

St John's: 05-09-42 57896460 (St John the Baptist PCC)

St Chad's: 30-98-37 00152981 (Parochial Church Council Wishaw)

The Newsletter – if you would like anything added to the Newsletter, here are the details you need: margaret_allen69@yahoo.co.uk 07778 458 789 or n.w.phillips@live.com 07498

Link for online services and meetings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84233355603?pwd=bmxQMHpCT3RlM28ybFBHRzGdzO9>

Meeting ID: 842 3335 5603 Passcode: 746923

You can join us on the phone by dialling 0203 481 5237

Then Entering: 842 3335 5603## Then: 746923#

Readings for Sunday 26th November 2023

Last Sunday before Advent – Christ the King

Collect

Eternal Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Old Testament Reading

is from the book of the prophet Ezekiel chapter 34

¹¹Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the

mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The New Testament Reading

is from Paul's letter to the Ephesians chapter 1

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Post communion

Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,
may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Readings for Sunday 3rd December 2023

First Sunday of Advent

Collect

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Old Testament Reading

is from the book of the prophet Isaiah chapter 64

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence –
²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil –
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
⁵You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,

and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
⁷There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity for ever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The New Testament Reading

is from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians chapter 1

My brothers and sisters: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind – ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you – ⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: ²⁴In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and

glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

