



Portsmouth Parish News December 2007

On top of the hill, at the heart of the Community



Christmas message

I'm greatly looking forward to my first Christmas at Christ Church, following my arrival in the parish at the end of October. Christmas is always a special time as we celebrate God's love for his people, demonstrated in the sending of his son to live among us.

It's easy for us to lose sight of that as we get caught up in the mad rush to get the right presents for our family and friends, or making sure that we've got the right food and drink in for the family party.

I hope that our services at Christ Church will provide an opportunity to slow down; to stop and reflect for a while - and to start to really enjoy Christmas. For some of you, I know that Christmas will be a sad time. Perhaps you are separated from those whom you love. If that is so, then perhaps one of our Christmas services will give you the chance to be part of a larger family, and to consider God's love for you. Whatever circumstances you find yourself in, I wish you God's blessing, and invite you to join us in our celebration.

Revd Andy Wilson - Vicar

A prayer for Christmas

God our Father, you spoke to the prophets of old of a Saviour who would bring peace. Help us, as we prepare to celebrate his birth, to share with those around us the good news of your power and love.

Parish Magazine

Once a month we publish our magazine "Portsmouth Post". If you would like to receive a copy at the modest price of 35 pence per month (£4.20 per year) please drop a mail to magazine@christchurchportsdown.org or call our parish office on 023 9237 9992 and leave a message on our answering machine.

Parish Web Site

Have you visited our web site recently ? If you have not visited recently why not do so now. The web address is <http://www.christchurchportsdown.org/>

You can find information on up coming services, news and events, details and links to the missions we are supporting, who to contact, Kairos information and on line copies of our Parish Magazine. For Church members there is a list of who is on what rota for each service. There is also a full history of the church and parish, maps and details of graves in our churchyard and much, much more. Take a look today and see what you can find. *Nigel Wheatley - Webmaster*

Friends of Christ Church

Christ Church has started a scheme called "Friends of Christ Church" which is open to everyone. On the 15th March we will be formally launching the scheme so keep that date free and watch out for the invitation to join - it will drop through your letter box in early March.

The Church is not only there as the centre of Christian worship in Widley, it's a beautiful building, with an interesting history, set in a nature reserve and green space. As well as regular worship the Church is used to give thanks for new life at baptism, to celebrate marriage and to commit loved ones to the eternal presence of God. The hall is available for private hire for parties and celebrations, or for clubs and societies to meet.

The "Friends of Christ Church" will be there as a group of people who appreciate the importance of the buildings to the community and who want to ensure they continue to be there for the use of future generations.

Maybe you are interested in helping to maintaining these facilities, helping with our Church Watch, want to use them yourself or just want to know what's going on. Maybe you are able to help financially, practically or just want to meet other people locally - We hope that joining the "Friends of Christ Church" is for you.

From Christ Church Portsdown



Christmas Blessings

HAPPY CHRISTMAS 2007

This card comes with Christmas Greetings from your local Parish Church of Christ Church, on Portsdown Hill.

Inside are details of our services over the Christmas and New Year period. We hope you will be able to join us in worship. Please contact us if you are unable to get to church and would like a home visit.

If you unfold the card you will find our latest News Letter inside with information about the Parish.

A very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year to you all, have a great time celebrating the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Christ Church Ministry Team and Church Wardens
Andy (Vicar) Sandy (Curate), Cynthia (Reader), Rosemary and Sylvia (Wardens)

Vicar : Andy.Wilson@christchurchportsdown.org 023 9237 5360
Church Office : parish.office@christchurchportsdown.org 023 9237 9992

Services in December 2007

DATE	TIME	SERVICE
Sunday 2	08:00	Holy Communion
	10:30	Holy Communion
Wednesday 5	10:00	Holy Communion
Sunday 9	08:00	Holy Communion
	10:30	Toy & Nativity Service
Wednesday 12	10:00	Holy Communion
Sunday 16	08:00	Holy Communion
	10:30	Holy Communion
	15:00	Christingle Service
Wednesday 19	10:00	Holy Communion
Sunday 23	08:00	Holy Communion
	10:30	Family Service and Baptism
	19:00	Carols by Candlelight
Monday 24	15:00	Carols around the Tree
Christmas Eve	23:30	Midnight Communion
Tuesday 25	08:00	Holy Communion
	10:00	Crib Service with Holy Communion
Sunday 30	08:00	Holy Communion
	10:30	Family Service
Monday 31	23:30	Watch Night Service
New Years Eve		