

CONTACTS

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LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday 22nd December

0800 CCP Holy Communion 1 (*Revd Andy Wilson*)
 1000 SJP Carol Service (*Revd Andy Wilson*)
 1030 CCP The 10.30 Service
 (*Revd Laura Cameron / Sandra Morgan*)
1800 CCP Carols by Candlelight (*Revd Andy Wilson*)
 1800 SJP Compline

CHRISTMAS EVE

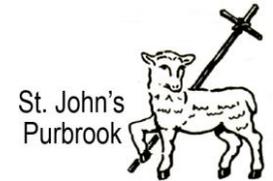
1500 CCP Family Carols: The Greatest Journey
 (*Revd Laura Cameron / Sandra Morgan*)
 1600 SJP Crib Service (*Revd Andy Wilson*)
 2330 CCP Midnight Communion (*Revd Andy Wilson*)
 2330 SJP Midnight Communion (*Revd Laura Cameron*)

CHRISTMAS DAY

0800 SJP Holy Communion (*Revd Andy Wilson*)
1000 CCP Family Communion (*Revd Andy Wilson*)

Sunday 29th December

0800 CCP Holy Communion 1 (*Revd Andy Wilson*)
 1000 SJP Holy Communion (*Revd David Lindsay*)
 1030 CCP The 1030 Service (Baptism) (*Revd Andy Wilson*)



Welcome to everyone attending our Services today
 Please join us for refreshments after the 10.00 & 10.30 services

Sunday 15th December 2019 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

0800	CCP	The 8.00 Service (Holy Communion 2)
1000	SJP	Holy Communion
1030	CCP	The 10.30 Service: Christingle
1800	SJP	Compline

This Week's Activities

Monday	1030	CCP	Homegroup (Dave Fowler)
	1800	SJP	Evening Prayer
Tuesday	0800	SJP	Morning Prayer
	1500	SJP	Carol Singing at Shilling Place
Wednesday	0900	CCP	Morning Prayer (Church)
	1300	CCP	Homegroup (Jacqui Wilson)
	1600	SJP	Carol Singing at Latham Lodge
	1700	SJP	Carol Singing at Oaklands Care Home
Thursday	1900	SJP	Evening Prayer
	1930	SJP	Bible Study (Broadways Coffee Shop)
	1000	SJP	Task Review Meeting (Vicarage)
Friday	1900		Joint PCC Social (Vicarage)
	1415	CCP	Friday Friends (Church)
	1400	CCP	Memorial Service for Tom Dale
Saturday	1800	SJP	Evening Prayer
	0900	CCP	Church Cleaning
	0900	CCP	Who Let the Dads Out? (Church Hall)

CHRIST CHURCH
www.christchurchportsdown.org



Mission of the Month: *The Children's Society*

Mince Pies: Contributions of Mince Pies please, for after the Carol Service on **22nd December**. Many thanks.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES at CHRIST CHURCH

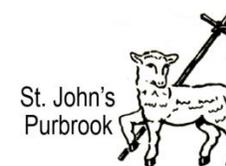
Sunday 15th 10.30am:	Christingle
Sunday 22nd 6pm:	Carols by Candlelight
Christmas Eve 3pm:	Family Carols
Christmas Eve 11.30pm:	Midnight Communion
Christmas Day 10am:	Christmas Day Communion

NOTES AND NEWS

Our next **united service** will be on **Sunday 12th January**, 10.30am at Christ Church. There will be **NO SERVICE** at St John's on that day.

If you would like to receive this notice sheet each week by email, please send a request to parish.office@christchurchportsdown.org

ST JOHN'S
www.stjohnspurbrook.org.uk



The Remembrance **poppy collections** in St John's church and coffee shop raised a combined total of £62.74 for the Royal British Legion contributing to the district total of £28,884. Thank you to all who donated.

The Christmas Tree Festival continues in the Church until 6th January

Carol Singing: Please come and join us as we sing carols at the following venues. In each case we will gather in the foyer at the establishment:

- Tuesday 17th Dec 3pm:** Shilling Place
- Wednesday 18th Dec 4pm:** Latham Lodge Care Home
- Wednesday 18th Dec 5pm approx:** Oaklands Care Home

New Year's Eve Party: Tuesday 31st December 2019
Please come to this party to help us welcome in 2020. Venue St John's Church Hall at 8pm.
All church members welcome – just turn up on the night. Please bring some food to share. Bring your own drink and a glass.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES at ST JOHN'S

Sunday 22nd 10am:	Nine Lessons and Carols
Christmas Eve 4pm:	Crib Service
Christmas Eve 11.30pm:	Midnight Communion
Christmas Day 8am:	Christmas Day Communion

have good news brought to them. ⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' ⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." ¹¹ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.*

Post Communion

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

Amen.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

COLLECT

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 35:1–10

³⁵ The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ² it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. ³ Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the

speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸ A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. ⁹ No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146:4–10

⁴ Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the Lord their God; ⁵ Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them; who keeps his promise for ever; ⁶ Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong and bread to those who hunger. ⁷ The Lord looses those that are bound; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; ⁸ The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous; ⁹ The Lord watches over the stranger in the land; he upholds the orphan

and widow; but the way of the wicked he turns upside down. ¹⁰ The Lord shall reign for ever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Alleluia.

NEW TESTAMENT: James 5:7–10

⁷ Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:2–11

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord***

² When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' ⁴ Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor