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9 December 2018

2nd Sunday of Advent

Welcome!

We are delighted to see you, especially if this is your first visit.

Please do join us for refreshments at 10.30am today.

Today	
8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Kitchen Table Project <i>in the Pine Room</i>
10.30am	<i>Coffee in the Hall</i> with 'Christmas Shop' & 'Matts Knits' goods
11am	United Family Service
5.30pm	Evening Holy Communion
During the Week	
Tues	9am Morning Prayer <i>in church</i>
	9-11.30am Open House Parents and Toddlers <i>in the Lounge</i>
	12.30pm Matt's Knits <i>in the Lounge</i>
	5.30-7pm Christmas Choir rehearsal <i>in the church</i>
Wed	9am Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee in the Lounge</i>
	7.30pm Matt's Cats <i>in the church</i>
Fri	6.30pm Youth Club Christmas Party <i>in the Hall</i>
16 December	
8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Growzone
10.30am	<i>Coffee in the Hall</i>
11am	Holy Communion (CW)
3.30pm	Christingle planning meeting
5.30pm	'Route 66' – youth-led service

Collect

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ
comes again as judge and Saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God. **Amen**

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Readings

Malachi 3: 1-4

'I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,' says the LORD Almighty.

² But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, ⁴ and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.

Luke 3: 1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar – when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene – ² during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

'A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

"Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight,
the rough ways smooth.

⁶ And all people will see God's salvation.'"

For our prayers and praise this week

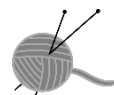
Sun	Thank God for all the families that come to Church. Pray for those meeting for " the Kitchen Table Project " - may they have some good ideas on how to build the faith of the children.
Mon	Thank God for Matt's Knits and for the knitting they were able to send out to Uganda. Pray they will be a blessing to Nicci Maxwell and her work with young children.
Tues	Pray for the Prime Minister and all members of Parliament with some critical votes today. Pray they will have honesty and wisdom for the good of

	our country. Pray too for Kevin Foster as he plays his part in our democracy.
Wed	Pray for our Church Schools as they prepare for their Nativity Services , praying they will understand the real meaning of Christmas.
Thurs	Pray for the ' Wellspring Project ' and for all the funds still needed.
Fri	Please pray for all who are ill, or finding life a burden at the moment, that Jesus will meet their needs and aspirations.
Sat	Pray for those experiencing loneliness and sadness at this time.
Sun	Pray for the services today and for the Staff Team at this very busy time of year.

What's on and news

- **Do you like ironing?** Is there anyone who loves ironing and would like to take on the ironing of the altar cloths? Please contact Sylvia if you can help. Thank you.
- **Welcomers** requested for the Schools Christmas services. Please sign up on the noticeboard at the back of church if you would like to help.
- **Part time** cleaner required for the Pre-School 3.30-4.30pm Monday to Friday in term time. Please contact Liz for more information on 07812 941029.
- **Blue Light Prayer Phone** (07579 030681) for life-threatening or potentially life-changing emergencies – pick up a leaflet from the back of church.
- **Tearfund** £500 is going to Tearfund's Yemen Project from our 'mission tithe' (10% of our regular giving income). Thank you.
- **SMARTIES** Pick up a tube today, enjoy the Smarties and return it full of pound coins for the Wellspring Project! (Sorry, we aim to only buy Fairtrade chocolate but we made a mistake with the Smartie tubes.)
- **Matt's Knits** are having a stall of handmade items at coffee time on Sunday 9 December.
- **Torquay Community Larder** ...has written to thank us for our regular donations and those at Harvest time. They have recently celebrated the second anniversary of their opening and in this year alone have been giving out an average of 29.3 food parcels each week. They would be grateful for further donations so that they can continue this much needed work.
- **Minibus drivers** Would anyone like to help to provide lifts to church on Sunday mornings on a rota basis? You would need to be aged 30 to 75 and have a category D1 on your driving licence. For more information please see Andrew Stilliard or email acstilliard@gmail.com.

TODAY!



Christmas



- **Christmas Choir** Would you like to help lead the singing at the carol service here on 23rd December? Rehearsals 5.30–7pm on **27/11, 4 & 11/12**. Sign up on the sheet in church or see Lindsay Glazebrook for further details.
- **Shop here for Christmas!** Last chance to visit the Christmas Gifts 'pop-up shop' which will be open in the Hall today. This is a trial venture with Choice Words Christian Bookshop, organised by Dave and Val Burch. Come along and see the selection of lovely gifts for yourself. **New stock every week!** All gifts at reasonable prices - cash or cheque payments only - with profits to the Wellspring Project.
- **Christmas Services dates and times** – leaflets available today.
- **Would you be able to deliver a few Christmas leaflets** to the houses in your road (in the parish)? If so please pick up a pack from the back of church today. Thank you.
- **Christmas Gift?** Inspirational and encouraging. Please sign-up if you would like copies of the illustrated *Faith, Family & Fun* Poetry Booklet produced by Merrillyn & Nina. ALL proceeds are to raise funds for the church reordering.
- **Christingle Making** 11am on 23 December in the Hall
- **Carol Singing around the Residential Homes on 17 & 21 Dec** – please sign up at the back of church.
- **Wellwood Christmas Street Party on 20 December.** We will be having a stall and doing some carol singing. Could anyone help please to put up the gazebo? If so please see Steve Vans Colina.

Thanks...

to the sound team and staging crew – who are about to be very busy over the Christmas period. We may not know who they are but we appreciate the important job they do for us all 😊