



St. Christopher's Church

Growing together in Christ

# ***Advent Sunday*** ***December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018***

<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	
	<b>Service Leader:</b>	<b>Tom Thomas</b>
	<b>Preacher:</b>	<b>Debbie Ducille</b>
	<b>Readings:</b>	<b>Psalm 25:1-9</b>
		<b>1 Thess. 3:9-13</b>

## ***Welcome to St Christopher's***

Today we are celebrating the start of the season of Advent and also taking the opportunity of this special day to thank Debbie Ducille for her service as our Children & Families Missioner over the last three years. Debbie has done loads of different things to show how faith is something for all of us, whatever our age and that the family is a key place where faith is forged. We are immensely grateful to her!

After the service we'll be having a shared lunch to continue those celebrations. Please stay if you can.

# Advent

In Advent we are encouraged to look forward in hope and anticipation, not only to the celebration of Christmas but to the second coming (advent) of Jesus as Lord, Judge and King. It is a time of hope and prayerful preparation to remind us of the story of our salvation and our need to be ready for the coming of the King!

The 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.*



## Notices

1. The Springfield Project is offering Christmas presents to under privileged families in our area again this year. If you would like to contribute a **NEW** gift for a child aged 0 - 5 boy or girl (not wrapped) we'll be collecting them today and next Sunday. Presents should be limited to under £10.
2. Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 7.30pm PCC in the Springfield Centre.
3. **Joint Church Open Air Witness** - Carol Singing on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December 4pm at the corner of Ladypool Road and St Paul's Road (by the car park near Ladypool Road Congregational Church). Colourful clothes and banners welcome. Hot drinks and mince pies in the church afterwards.

4. Jaffa / Sunday School Christmas Party - Sunday Dec 16<sup>th</sup> 11am-12.10pm in the Springfield Centre. Games, food, stories, pressies....☺
5. There is a new prayer letter from Rachel Smith on the Mission noticeboard. Please take a look and pray for her and all our mission partners.
6. **Lloyd's Church Family Christmas Bonanza** is on Friday December 21<sup>st</sup>. Tickets are now available. £10 adults & £5 children. See Lloyd for more details. Have you practiced your swivel turns...?!
7. Women's breakfast change of date  
The next meeting for the women's breakfast was to be a Christmas lunch on 8th December 2018 at St Christopher's Church. Unfortunately this has had to be cancelled and has been rearranged for the 5th January 2019 at 12 noon at St Christopher's.  
More details to follow next week. Any questions see Ally Hartley, Hudda Rofaila or Debbie Gurling.

Today every household in the congregation will be offered a special Christmas candle, as a gift to give away to a friend or neighbour. We hope these will be a way of blessing other people and sharing the light and love of Christmas. It is a gift but also a discussion starter and an invitation!

Next Sunday there is no 10.45 service at St Christopher's. Instead we're joining our friends at St John's for our annual

***Christingle Service- Dec 9<sup>th</sup>***  
***St John's school hall at 10.30am***



Our notices are also available via our website:

[www.stchristopherschurch.co.uk](http://www.stchristopherschurch.co.uk)

Email: [stchristopherschurch@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stchristopherschurch@hotmail.co.uk)

For other church matters please contact the Vicar Revd Tom Thomas on 702 2745 (vicarage) or speak to Lucy or Rachel at the office on 325 5342.

*We do not take a collection at St Christopher's but if you would like to give a gift there is a box at the back of the church near the main entrance. If you are interested in regular giving or in finding out more about belonging to St Christopher's please speak to Tom or to one of our churchwardens.*