

Notices

The Hitchhikers Guide to the Bible -

At St Philips 10am for 10.30am

- December 10th – The Letters of John and Revelation followed by Lunch.

Please note that there are some thirty events from schools and other organisations across the borough taking place in St. Philip's and All Saints Churches during December and lists will be available to sign if you can offer any stewarding duties. Thank you.

On Monday December 16th we will muster at Archbishop Courtenay School at 6:00pm for Community Carol Singing in the Tovil area. We will finish the evening with Hot Soup and rolls or Mince Pies & Coffee in the Dove Room.

Thursday December 12th...a REMINDER that the coach leaves for our day in London from the bus stop by The Archbishop's Palace at 10am. We still have a few seats left for those who wish to join us in Covent Garden and later at The Mildmay Hospital for afternoon tea with the opportunity to meet staff and patients and attend the Carol Service followed by seasonal refreshments before the journey home. The cost for the day excluding lunch is £50 per head paid on the coach.

Vicar: All saints, Maidstone with St. Philip's, and St. Stephen's Tovil

The Very Revd. John S. Richardson

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Please note Revd John will be on Leave on Wednesdays of each week.

Church Wardens:

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**The Parish of All Saints
With St Philip, Maidstone and
St Stephen, Tovil**

**Sunday 01st December 2024
Advent Sunday**



***10:00am All Saints Advent Sunday Parish
Communion and please return your
Smarties Tube***

***3:30pm All Saints Choral Evensong with
sermon in Advent Music played by Phil
Horley***

Next Week's Service

**Sunday 08th December 10.00am
Morning Worship with Making
Christingle at St Stephens-
Archbishop Courtenay School**

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.

Reading

Psalm 90

A Prayer of Moses, the man of God.
Lord, you have been our dwelling-place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn us back to dust, and say, 'Turn back, you mortals.' For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night.

You sweep them away; they are like a dream,

like grass that is renewed in the morning;
in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.

For we are consumed by your anger; by your wrath we are overwhelmed. You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

For all our days pass away under your wrath; our years come to an end like a sigh. The days of our life are seventy years, or perhaps eighty, if we are strong; even then their span is only toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

Who considers the power of your anger? Your wrath is as great as the fear that is due to you. So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

Turn, O Lord! How long? Have compassion on your servants! Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, and for as many years as we have seen evil. Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children. Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands— O prosper the work of our hands!

Gospel

Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36

The Coming of the Son of Man

'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Exhortation to Watch

'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these

things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

Post Communion

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.

Special prayers

*Matt 5.3 'Blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven'*

*Daphne Holland, Mary Wheeler, Jane Sadler,
Pamela Hocking, Paul Crease, Joan Bull,
Sheila Costello, Carol Winter, Rose Jarvis,*

December CHURCH Services as follows.

- **Sunday 15th 10:00am** St. Philip's Service of Carols and Lessons: *What's in a name?*
- **Saturday 21st 4:30pm** All Saints Borough and Church Carols and Lessons
- **Sunday 22nd 10:00am** All Saints Morning Worship with Carols and Reflection on *The Virgin Mary*
- **Tuesday 24th Christmas Eve**
3:30pm All Saints Christingles and Carols
5:00pm St Philips Christingles & Carols
11:30pm All Saints The First Holy Communion of Christmas when we will be joined by our friends from Maidstone Baptist Church
- **Wednesday 25th Christmas Day**
10:00am. All Saints Festival Family Communion
- **Sunday 29th 10:00am** St. Philip's Morning Worship. *Darkness overcome by light.*

A Christmas leaflet is available with the details of the Church services available for distribution to friends and family, neighbours, and colleagues.