



**St Nick's, Allestree  
& St Paul's, Quarndon**

*December 2022 and January 2023*

Dear Friends,

Once again this year has flown past and by the time you read this, we will be into the season of Advent and the preparations for Christmas will well and truly have begun. I am conscious that for many people Christmas may well be difficult this year, as the economic crisis has begun to bite.



As I have been reflecting on that, it seems to me that perhaps this year it is more important than ever for us to think about the true meaning of Christmas. Yes, I do mean the coming of the Christ child, but I also mean really thinking about the gifts that we are giving to people, perhaps gifts that give something of ourselves as well. I know that personally the gifts that have meant the most to me, and that I have treasured for many years, have been those that people have made for me. Not only has the time and effort gone into that gift, but it is also the fact that someone knows me well enough to know how much I would appreciate the gift.

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**Rest Day:** Friday

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**Office Hours:** Thursday and Friday 9am –3pm



Two gifts stand out in my memory, one being a small knitted shawl made by my daughter-in-law which I often wear to brighten my clothes up. The other is a wooden memory box made by my late son, which I have filled with postcards, reflections, Bible verses and poetry.

During Covid I had great fun making gifts for my family and friends. Rediscovering knitting meant that many were recipients of scarves, shawls and hats. And whilst I think that I've rather exhausted that skill now, these homemade gifts and the time I put into them were appreciated.

Giving the gift of memories, giving the gift of a small part of ourselves is something that we can all do and it is what God has done for us in the giving of His son, a gift that is freely given to each of us and that God longs for us to receive. The Bible tells us in John 3:16 that God loved the world so much that He gave his only Son so that if any of us will believe in Him we won't perish but we will have everlasting life in Heaven! That's a gift that can't be beaten.

With my love and prayers for a truly blessed Christmas and New Year.

Rev Dawn x

# Celebrate Christingle December 4th at 4pm



Refreshments will be available after the service in the church room.

We would like help please to prepare the packs for making the Christingles on Saturday Dec 3rd at 9am in the church room.

A quilt is being raffled to raise funds for the Children's Society. Tickets £1 each, sold after Sunday services, at Coffee and Chat, on Tuesday mornings at Play and Praise and on Wednesday at Knit and Natter or contact me on 01332 559237.



The winning ticket will be drawn on Sunday Dec 18th in the Church Room In January I will start emptying the Children's Society boxes. Can you please take your box to church on Sundays during January, or contact me on 01332 559237 to arrange collection. I have some forms if you would prefer to make your donation by Direct Debit

Helen Illingworth

This article was seen by Judith McNab in her 'My World of Life ' Bible and thought it was very interesting:

## COVENTRY

The writer to the Hebrews draws a strong connection between prayer and the ability of believers to “keep on encouraging each other to be thoughtful and to do helpful things” (He 10.24) One church that has a long history of linking prayer for its people with the work they carry out is Coventry Cathedral in England. Since 1043, when a Benedictine monastery was established there parishioners at Coventry have applied the Lords Prayer to their own work for God in the marketplace.

In the fourteenth century the Merchant Guild of St Mary built a cathedral in the town to support the laity in their work, and the prayers continued.

Twice during World War II German air raids demolished the town centre, including Coventry Cathedral. The building lay in ruins until the mid-fifties, when work on a new cathedral was started. Finished in 1962, the new structure incorporates prayer panels that were preserved through the war. The panels, representing various industries in the town, bring together worship and work in a powerful way. They read:

Hallowed be Thy Name in Industry  
God be in my hands and in my making  
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts  
Heaven and Earth are full of your glory

Hallowed be thy Name in the Arts  
God be in my senses and my creating

Hallowed be Thy Name in the Home  
God be in my heart and in my loving

Hallowed be thy Name in Commerce  
God be in my desk and in my trading.

Hallowed be thy Name in Suffering  
God be in my pain and my enduring

Hallowed be Thy Name in Government  
God be in my plans and in my deciding.

Hallowed be thy Name in Education  
God be in my mind and in my growing

Hallowed be thy Name in Recreation  
God be an my limbs and in my leisure

Coventry's fame as a centre of commerce and industry dates to the 11th century monastery.

By 1400 the town had become the centre of the Midlands cloth industry, renowned for its excellent dyeing processes. It also boasted a theatre.

In 1545 the government chartered the first public school there.

In the seventeenth century industry shifted to watch and clock making for the next 200 years.

By the late nineteenth century the manufacture of bicycles and automobiles rose to prominence, followed later by the rayon industry, telephone manufacturing, and electrical equipment. In 1958 England's first civic-funded theatre was built there.

This vibrant economic life is reflected in the prayer services at Coventry Cathedral and its support for the various guilds.

Believers there have found an important way to “keep on encouraging each other”

## **Food Donations**

Just a thank you to those who have donated food and toiletries for the homeless in Derby. I have taken 3 large boxes to Centenary House over the last few weeks and they are very grateful for it all.

In case you are wondering how to donate, the blue box at the back of church is the place to put anything you feel is suitable.

Thanks Graham

## **St Nicks PCC News**

Here are some highlights from our PCC meeting in November :-

- The collection plate will be re-introduced starting from Advent Sunday
- The piano in the vestry is broken and it was agreed it be disposed of as there are 2 other pianos in the building.
- Christmas cards containing a welcome leaflet have been posted to all the houses in the new estate to welcome the residents and inform them of what is happening at the St Nicks and St Pauls over Christmas
- The community payback team and a local farmer have trimmed the Allestree road hedge and the team are continuing to help maintain the grounds and do some external painting .

## Prayer Requests:

*Please pray for*

- Sue Ball's family as they mourn her loss.
- Those who are seriously ill and in need of comfort and healing.
- For progress in the calling of a new vicar to our parishes

### St Nick's Prayer Circle

St Nick's have a prayer circle as part of their pastoral care set up.

For those unfamiliar with the practice, it is simply a circle of people who are committed to phone along a chain when people request prayer, or a situation arises that needs communicating and praying for. You can rest assured that you are being covered in prayer when you approach someone who is on the contact list.

***If you would like to be added to the prayer circle,  
please get in touch with the church office.***

***For more details, please see the poster at the back of St Nick's***

## Teams4U Shoeboxes

Thank you everyone who has donated a shoe box this year. St Nicks is contributing 54 boxes going to Ukraine or other

European countries. They will give much needed pleasure to these children this festive season.

Happy Christmas to you all

Anne Cartmell



## Church Prayer @ St Nick's

**Pre-church prayer** has now resumed in the chapel from 9.30am to 9.45am on a Sunday morning. We pray for the service to follow and anything else the Holy Spirit prompts us to bring to our Father.

**Monthly prayer** has returned to Zoom during the winter months on Wednesdays 7.30-8.30pm  
The next meeting will be January 25th.

Contact Graham if you are interested in joining us in prayer.



## Coffee & Chat @ St Nick's

A reminder that Coffee & Chat meet every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, in the Church Room, 10:30am -12noon. All are welcome to join in and enjoy this lovely social, which is much appreciated



## St Nick's Pub Lunches

Join us after church for a pub lunch social once a month. The next ones will be December 11th and January 15th.

A yellow sticky note with a red pushpin at the top right corner. The text on the note reads "LET'S DO LUNCH!" in black capital letters, with a wavy line underneath.

## Knit & Knatter @ St Nick's

Meetings are held in the Church Hall on the 1st, 3rd, and where there is a 5th Wednesday of the month, 2-3:30pm.

*Membership fee*—£5 each quarter, then £1 per session.

Contact Sandra on 557114

Come and join us for tea, biscuits, and chat.

## **Newsletter Information - Deadline!**

Please be aware that the deadline for any news you'd like to be included in the next Newsletter is always the 23rd of the month before.

Any info should be sent to the church

## **St Nick's Birthdays**

If you've got a big birthday coming up, maybe 80, 90..... 100?! We'd love to know so that we can celebrate with you!

Speak to Sarah Tupling, who keeps our birthday records up to date.

## Upcoming Services (December and January)

<b>Dates/Services in December</b>	<b>Leaders</b>	<b>Readings</b>
<b>Sunday 4th December</b> St Nick's: 4pm All Age Christingle St Paul's: 10am Holy Communion	<i>Anna</i> <i>Lee</i>	TBD Isa 11:1-10, Matt3:1-12
<b>Sunday 11th December</b> St Nick's: 10am Holy Communion  St Paul's: 3:30pm T-Time Christingle	<i>David</i>  <i>Anna</i>	James 5:7-10; Matt 11:2-11 TBD
<b>Sunday 18th December</b> St Nick's: 10am Informal Carols St Pauls : 10am Holy Communion 6pm Carols by Candlelight	<i>Anna</i> <i>David</i> <i>Dawn</i>	TBD Romans 7:1-7; Matt 1:18-end
<b>Wednesday 21st December</b> St Pauls: 7pm Blue Christmas/ The Longest Night- (a service for those for whom Christmas is difficult)	<i>Dawn</i>	TBD
<b>Saturday 24th December</b> St Nick's: 4pm Christmas Story St Paul's: 4pm Christmas Story 11.15pm First Communion of Christmas	<i>Phil/Bruce</i> <i>Anna</i> <i>Dawn</i>	TBD TBD Isa. 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-14
<b>Sunday 25th December</b> Joint Service : 10am All Age Family communion	<i>Dawn</i>	Isa. 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-14

<b>Dates/Services in January</b>	<b>Leaders</b>	<b>Readings</b>
<b>Sunday 1st January</b> 10am Joint said Communion at St Paul's	<i>Dawn</i>	Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:15-21
<b>Sunday 8th January</b> St Nick's: 10am Together @ Table St Paul's: 3:30pm T-Time Christingle	<i>Lee</i> <i>Anna</i>	Isaiah 42:1-9 Mark 1:7-11
<b>Sunday 15th January</b> St Nick's: 10am Morning Praise St Paul's : 10am Holy Communion	<i>David/Sarah</i> <i>Lee</i>	Isaiah 49:1-7; John 1:29-42
<b>Sunday 22nd January</b> St Nick's: 10am Bible Study 3pm Traditional Holy Communion St Paul's: 10am Morning Praise	<i>Bruce</i> <i>Dawn</i> <i>Dawn</i>	1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23
<b>Sunday 29th January</b> 10am Joint Service at St Nicks	<i>Dawn</i>	Malachi 3:1-5; Luke 2:22-40

### **Handy Contacts for both churches:**

**Church Office**                      Anna Oldknow      **Contact:**      01332 550431

#### **St Nick's**

**Church Warden:**                      Paul Taylor                      **Contact:**      01332 556020

**Safeguarding Lead:**                      Miriam Chappell                      **Contact:**      01332 550782

**Licensed Lay Reader:**                      Sarah Tupling                      **Licensed Lay Reader:** Phil Moncur

**Licensed Lay Reader:**                      Bruce Innis

#### **St Paul's**

**Church Wardens:**                      Mike Annable                      **Contact:** [mike@stpaulsquarndon.org.uk](mailto:mike@stpaulsquarndon.org.uk)

Jan Calladine                      **Contact:** [jan@stpaulsquarndon.org.uk](mailto:jan@stpaulsquarndon.org.uk)

**Please get in touch if you'd like to organise a Baptism at St Nick's or St Paul's, or would like to get married or celebrate a special anniversary with the renewal of wedding vows.**