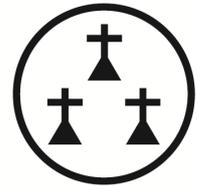


We are an inclusive church, called to be caring, loving and welcoming to all

Parish of Harpenden



The Second Sunday of Advent 4 December 2022

Services in the Parish

- 8.00am **Said Holy Communion at St Nicholas'**
President & Preacher - Revd Canon Dennis Stamps
- 9.30am **Sung Eucharist at St Nicholas'**
Live streamed on [facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden](https://www.facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden)
You can also join by telephone: 02034815240, enter ID#: 81402722773, followed by # (no password needed).
President & Preacher- Revd Canon Dennis Stamps
- 9.30am **Family Worship at St Mary's**
President & Preacher - Revd Sally Goodson
Live-streamed on www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen
Also accessible via parish website or email sent to St Mary's Members
- 10.00am **All Age Advent Service at All Saints' & on Zoom**
Leader – Philip Le Riche; Preacher - Revd James Brown
Zoom details available in the weekly email sending the pew leaflet or from associate.vicar@allsaints.harpenden.org
- 11.00am **Said Holy Communion at St Mary's**
President & Preacher - Revd Sally Goodson
- 11.30am **Morning Praise at St Nicholas' with activity trail:** Leader - Suzanne Rose;
Preacher - Revd Canon Dennis Stamps; Theme - St Nicholas
- 3.00pm **Advent Through Art** - see Parish Notices
- 4.30pm **Christingle at St Nicholas'** - see St Nicholas' Notices
- 6.30pm **Choral Evensong at St Nicholas'**

CONNECT, BELONG, SHARE, GROW

Our mission is to build connections, encourage belonging, and share an appealing faith that grows a vibrant Christian community at every stage of life.

Please contact the parish office on :
01582 765524 or office@parishofharpenden.org
You can also find information on www.parishofharpenden.org

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

MONDAY– FRIDAY

10.00am - 2.00pm

SATURDAYS (manned by volunteers)

9.30 -11.30am

●●● | **Collects, Readings, Psalm, Gospel and Post-Communion**

COLLECT

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through the sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and forever.

ALTERNATIVE 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.

FIRST READING Isaiah 11.1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

SECOND READING Romans 15.4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

CLERGY AND MINISTERS CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR YOU AND FOR THE PRAYER LIST for the parish. If you have anyone you would like to add to the prayer list, contact the parish office or the clergy.

ADVENT PROSE

(8am congregation to read text; 9.30am congregation sing the Antiphon between verses; the choir will sing verses)



¹Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity forever:
Thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation:
Our hold and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee.

²We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing, and we do fade as a leaf:
And our iniquities, like the wind have taken us away; Thou hast hid thy face from us:
And hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.

³Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen;
That ye may know me and believe me: I, even I, am the Lord,
And beside me there is no Saviour: and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.

⁴Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry;
I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions:
Fear not, for I will save thee: for I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

GOSPEL Matthew 3.1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

POST COMMUNION

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of this first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Diocesan 'Living God's Love' Topic for the Week: *Going deeper into God:* those who participate in weeks of guided prayer

The Sick: John Steele, Mike Clasby, Lewis Bowles

The Recently Departed: Margaret Lawrence, Pauline Tedder, Monte Copas

First Anniversary of Death: Joyce Bridgeman, Robert Bowman-Clarke

Parish Notices

SING A FEW CAROLS, hear a few readings and enjoy some soup in St Nicholas' Church on Fridays 9th, 16th & 23rd December at 1pm. Lasts about half an hour.

ADVENT STUDY GROUP - THURSDAY 8TH, 15TH AND 22ND DECEMBER AT 7.30PM Join us face to face, over a warm cuppa and a slice of cake at the Curate's house or via Zoom to go bit deeper into some of the themes drawn out in the BBC production 'The Nativity' (you do not need to have watched the film to attend). Contact Cath to sign up on 07961 564385, assistant.curate@stnicholas.parishofharpenden.org

ADVENT FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY ON SATURDAY 17TH DECEMBER FROM 2-4PM AT ST NICHOLAS' HALL All welcome - Join us for an afternoon of Advent fun, for a story themed afternoon tea and crafting Jesse Tree decorations, as we discover more about Jesus's family tree. Suggested donation £2 per person / £5 per family. Booking is essential so book your place soon to avoid disappointment by phoning or emailing Cath on 07961564385 or assistant.curate@stnicholas.parishofharpenden.org

THE TRAVELLING CRIB is making its way around the Parish, stopping at a new home each night until Christmas Eve. There are still a few places left on the rota for the child-friendly, knitted, Mary, Joseph and Donkey to rest in your home for a night.

THE TRAVELLING KINGS will also be making their way around the Parish, from Christmas Eve until Epiphany Sunday, 8th January. The Three Kings and their Camel (& Star!) also need resting places on their journey to Bethlehem. All ages/groups are welcome to host. Please Contact Pamela Woodford-Smith 01582 764368 / 07752082992 pamelaws@btinternet.com or sign up on the lists on the Welcome Table in St. Nicholas.

ADVENT THROUGH ART - Sundays 4th, 11th, 18th December, 3pm-4pm. We explore the themes of Advent through wonderful paintings from across the centuries. Join on Zoom via this link: shorturl.at/cnzDY or browse to zoom.us/join and enter Meeting ID: 847 3130 9486 and Passcode: 584545

JOURNEY TO NEW LIFE - Wednesdays 7th, 14th, 21st December, 7.30 - 8.20pm. Candlelit silent meditation and reflections for Advent; at All Saints' Church and on Zoom via this link: shorturl.at/dehiY or browse to zoom.us/join and enter Meeting ID: 824 4498 8770 and Passcode: 418958

TEA, CAKE AND CHAT on Tuesday 20th December at 2pm at All Saints'. There is a Christmas concert by Sir John Lawes School followed by a special tea. This is particularly for local senior residents. Please come along and invite any friends or neighbours who might appreciate it. Lifts can be arranged. Please contact Christine on 01582 764930

MEMBERS OF HARPENDEN CONCERT BAND will be carolling at Cornelia's **each Saturday in December 10am - noon** starting this weekend, 3rd December. Please join us for some festive music while you enjoy your coffee and cake. If weather is good they will be outside, so wrap up warm, if raining/overly cold we will use the hall.

WEEKLY SAS YOUTH GROUP: The parish youth group for anyone in school years 6-9 now meets every Sunday, including half term, 5-7pm at All Saint's Church Hall.

FREE LOCAL CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY FOR THE ELDERLY: Harpenden District Cubs are pleased to offer a free Christmas card delivery service for the elderly again this year. This service allows elderly residents to post cards for free to others in Harpenden, Batford and Redbourn only. The post boxes will be available until **this Thursday 8 December** in the Parish Office, St Mary's Church and All Saints' Church. Please contact Jackie Agg (Tel: 769680) if you have any questions.

THE MAYOR OF HARPENDEN'S CAROL CONCERT - TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER AT 6PM AT ST NICHOLAS' followed by mulled wine and mince pies. Come along and enjoy this traditional sing-along Christmas Concert featuring performances by local schools and the Church Choir. Tickets £6 per adult, free for children, with all money raised being donated to the Mayor's charities.

CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARDS SHOP Is open in the United Reformed Church, Vaughan Road, Harpenden. Monday to Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm and Saturday 1-3pm. We have a large range of Christmas cards available representing a wide range of charities, as well as Advent calendars and candles, stocking fillers, wrapping paper, decorations and other festive gifts. Helen Mellor, Shop Manager 07761 720896

SUPPORT FOR UKRAINIAN FAMILIES: the Parish Support Group held a successful **coffee morning** on 12th November at Cornelia's. Following generous donations, we were able to distribute **gift vouchers** for the 'Mountain Warehouse' store. For Parish queries, please email parishsupportgroup@parishofharpenden.org

PARISH GIVING: If you do not already make a regular donation to the Parish, please consider doing so. It is now easier than ever to set up a Direct Debit with The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). Follow this link <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/harpenden-st-nicholas-st-albans/> or simply scan the QR code from your mobile device. Any queries can be sent to Claire Petevinos: giving.recorder@parishofharpenden.org



TEXT GIVING is a simple, quick and convenient way to give on a one-off or occasional basis. From your mobile phone, just type CHURCH followed by an amount of up to £20 and text to 70085, to donate to the Parish. For example, text CHURCH 10 to donate £10. You can do this as many times as you wish. For every text sent, you will be charged the amount you have chosen to give plus your standard network rate.

RECORD OF CHURCH ATTENDANCE FOR ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL APPLICATION
Please remember to bring your 'passport' to church and get it stamped at least one Sunday a month, for the duration of school years 4 and 5. You can pick up a new copy of the passport from the back of church.

St Nicholas' Church Notices



MUSIC TODAY

9.30am **Sung Eucharist**

Setting: New English Folk Mass

Hymns: 26 Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding; 58 Long ago, prophets knew
309 Let all mortal flesh keep silence; 37 The Lord will come

Anthem: This is the truth from above (Vaughan Williams)

6.30pm **Choral Evensong**

Responses: Plainsong **Setting** Byrd 2nd Service

Anthem: Hear my prayer (Purcell)

OUR 9.30AM SERVICE IS NORMALLY LIVE STREAMED ON FACEBOOK (also available as a recorded service afterwards). We are a public page and you do not have to sign up to Facebook to access (just keep saying no to joining until you get to the page (<https://www.facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden>)). Any problems, do contact us.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE: Do join us for this annual fund-raising event in aid of The Children's Society, to be held on Sunday 4th December at 4.30pm at St Nicholas Church, Harpenden. There will be a Christingle orange for all the children in the congregation and we will all join together to sing Away in a Manager by candlelight, which is a lovely start to the Christmas season

OUR POPULAR CHRISTMAS FAYRE WILL BE ON SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER, 10am till noon. Everyone is invited. The church will be beautifully decorated, there will be lots of Carols, festive stalls and a breakfast café. Proceeds of the Fayre will be shared half to Rennie Grove and Christian Aid, and half to the church. We will be taking advantage of our space, so some stalls will be outside so please wrap up warm. Congregational carols will also be outdoors if weather permits. We will need lots of help to set up the festival on the Friday afternoon between 1.30pm till 3pm (straight after soup & carols) and on the Saturday morning from 8am - a sign up list will be at the back of church. Please come and join in, your help and support would be very welcome.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE CAKE STALL – MU are in charge of this popular stall and would welcome cakes to sell please. Bring along on Friday 9th Dec. from 2.00pm or on Saturday 10th from 9.30am. It is a requirement that ingredients are listed please. Thank you.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH VOLUNTEERS WANTED – either to help on the video desk Sunday mornings during the 9.30 services or as 'junior wardens' helping with practical tasks around the church on Saturday mornings. Please email rachaelthrealfall@btinternet.com if interested.

A KEY WAS FOUND in the church hall after coffee a couple of weeks ago. Please contact the parish office if you think it might belong to you.

All Saints' Church Notices



ALL SAINTS' LOCAL MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT TEAM

exists to support every member of our church family in:

- enabling people to encounter God in worship and prayer
- encouraging and teaching people to grow as His disciples
- equipping people to live as Christians in the community.

Emergency Prayer Chain: jenny.britt@yahoo.com

GOOD LIVING As part of our Eco Church project one of our young people, Alex Lovell, is presenting a series of good ideas for an environmentally healthy lifestyle every couple of weeks. She began last Sunday by encouraging us all to take a personal environmental audit. Here is the link to a short questionnaire Alex recommended we use

www.footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/questionnaire

HELP WITH IRONING? One of our congregation who has been struggling with health in recent weeks would love help with a pile of ironing. Could you spare an hour to chat and iron in the coming weeks or days? Relevant safeguarding checks will be in place. Please get in touch with James if you can help 01582 363789 /

associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpenden.org

CAROL SINGING We will join the residents of Lea Springs for a festive time of carol singing on Monday 19th December at 3pm. Can you lend your voice? Please let James know if you can. 01582 363789 / associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpenden.org

A WARM WELCOME We are now opening the church hall and offering it as warm space for any who might need it, Thursday afternoons 2 - 4.30pm. The hall will be set up with tables, chairs, a few toys, board games, and refreshments including soup to be heated in the microwave. Any volunteers to help host or set up these afternoons over the winter months please contact James at associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpenden.org

St Mary's Church Notices



TUESDAY 10AM HOLY COMMUNION: 6th & 20th December

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE - SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER 4.30PM - Start Christmas early with this lovely service which is particularly suitable for families with children.



What's on This Week

Monday 5

9.15am Morning Prayer at All Saints

Tuesday 6

9.00am Morning Prayer at St Mary's; live-streamed on St Mary's facebook page

10.00am Holy Communion (BCP) at St Mary's

5.00pm Evening Prayer live-streamed on St Mary's facebook page

6.00pm Mayor's Carol Concert at St Nicholas' - see Parish notices

Wednesday 7

9.00am Morning Prayer at All Saints': live-streamed on All Saints' facebook page

10.30am Holy Communion at St Nicholas'

5.00pm Evening Prayer at All Saints': live-streamed on All Saints' facebook page

7.30pm Candlelit silent meditation and reflection for Advent at All Saints & on Zoom

Thursday 8

9.00am Morning Prayer at St Nicholas': live-streamed on St Nicholas' facebook page

2.15pm MU Christmas Event in Cornelia's - non-members welcome

5.00pm Evening Prayer at St Nicholas': live-streamed on St Nicholas' facebook page

Friday 9

1.00pm Soup and Carols at St Nicholas'

Saturday 10

10am-noon St Nicholas' Christmas Fayre see St Nicholas' notices

Sunday 11 The Third Sunday of Advent/St Nicholas' Patronal Festival

8.00am **Said Holy Communion at St Nicholas'**

President: Revd Canon Dennis Stamps; Preacher: Jacquie Hibbert (Reader)

9.30am **Sung Eucharist at St Nicholas'**

Live streamed on [facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden](https://www.facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden)

You can also join by telephone: 02034815240, enter ID#: 81402722773, followed by # (no password needed).

President: Revd Canon Dennis Stamps; Preacher: Jacquie Hibbert (Reader)

9.30am **Family Communion at St Mary's**

President & Preacher - Revd Sally Goodson

Live-streamed on www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen

Also accessible via parish website or email sent to St Mary's Members

10.00am **Holy Communion at All Saints' & on Zoom**

President: Revd James Brown; Preacher: Roy Mutlow (LMDT)

Zoom details available in the weekly email sending the pew leaflet or from associate.vicar@allsaints.harpenden.org

11.30am **Morning Praise at St Nicholas:**

Leader - Chris Powell; Preacher - Alan Gilliam; Theme - Isaiah 35

3.00pm **Advent Through Art** - see Parish Notices

3.00pm **Holy Baptism at St Nicholas:**

Louis Oliver Campbell, Darcy Jacqueline Olive Hayes

4.30pm **Christingle at St Mary's** - see St Mary's Notices

6.30pm **Choral Evensong at St Nicholas'**

Isaiah 61.1-3 1 Timothy 6.6-11 Mark 10.13-16 (St N)

Readings Isaiah 35.1-10 James 5.7-10 Matthew 11.2-11 (AS & St M)