



St John's,
Tipton

Weekly Newsheet

13th December 2020

'Ronarag 38'

Dear Church Family,

With vaccinations having begun this week, we finally feel that we are on the road to the ending of this terrible pandemic. The waiting has felt interminable and the route out cannot come fast enough for us all. The Advent season of waiting has felt more poignant and profound than ever. The last few months has taught us patience if nothing else! It has also taught us to be grateful for the smallest things and we have perhaps realised afresh what is most important to us.

For many of us we have realised both afresh and with a renewed clarity that it is relationship that is key to everything. We have appreciated more than ever our contact with others. With Christmas approaching and our ability to meet with loved ones reduced, it is more important than ever that we continue to keep in touch with friends and family. Please do keep all in your prayers and phone calls!

We have appreciated too how important our relationship with Jesus is – He is the one who continues to sustain and strengthen us during the most difficult of times. As our waiting continues with the hope of both freedom from restrictions due to the vaccine but also the hope of freedom through life with Christ, may we share our hopeful waiting with others.

With every blessing,

With my prayers for you all,
Lynn.

Notices

Sunday Services 20th December

St Mary's Pilsley - 9.30am Morning Worship

To book please contact Katherine or Mark Ratcliffe:
Kratcliffe52@icloud.com or 01246 853901

St John's Tupton – 11am Holy Communion

To book please contact Colin and Rosemary Morton:
colin_rosemary@outlook.com or 01246 861888

St Bartholomew's, Clay Cross - 10am All Age Service

Carol Service 6pm Youtube (no booking required!)

(followed by zoom coffee and mince pies (Bring your own!))

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84638008620?pwd=ZGdyanlhRkNyeDRpROsvSEJZaXVKU>

T09

Meeting ID: 846 3800 8620

Passcode: 316731

Sunday 27th December - 10am Team Joint Service : St. Lawrence Church, North Wingfield

The Team Joint Service will take place at St Lawrence. ATo attend please phone or text 07885 730469. It will be on a 'first come' basis. As per Government Guidance, face coverings are mandatory, so please wear a face mask.

Christmas Services

As you know, this is a very strange Christmas and not one that we had anticipated. Therefore we are having to do things quite differently. With so few in-person services planned and with limited seating at each please can I ask that you **only book in for 1 of these services** to allow the greatest number of people to attend. The Crib service at Pilsley will be more informal and aimed at families (from any of our churches!) whereas the Midnight (at 9pm and 11.30pm) and will be aimed at adults. Christmas Day at Pilsley will be Holy Communion and at Clay Cross will be an all age service. Thank you for your understanding

24th Christmas Eve

3pm St Mary's Pilsley: Crib Service (families only please)

To book please contact Katherine or Mark Ratcliffe:
Kratcliffe52@icloud.com or 01246 853901

9pm St John's Tupton : Midnight (at Bethlehem) Communion

To book please contact Colin and Rosemary Morton:
colin_rosemary@outlook.com or 01246 861888

11.30pm : St Bartholomew's, Clay Cross : Midnight Communion

25th Christmas Day

10am – St Mary’s Pilsley : Christmas Communion Service

To book please contact Katherine or Mark Ratcliffe:

Kratcliffe52@icloud.com or 01246 853901

10am : St Bartholomew’s Clay Cross : Christmas Day Family Service

Nativity Trail – Pilsley Village

A huge thank you to everyone who has been involved in organising and setting up the Nativity Trail! They all look completely amazing! It is now up and running and you can find the guide [here](#) . I’d encourage you to find a time to walk it and engage with the Christmas story. Do take time to stop at each station and pray and reflect (if it’s not too wet or cold!). Some are lit and can be seen at night but not all of them. Please pray too for every person in the community who engages and that everyone will find out about it!

St Bartholomew’s Church – Placement

With the recent retirement of Richard Law, we are delighted to announce that we will be welcoming Rev Amanda Marshall to support St Bartholomew’s and the North Wingfield Team from January. Amanda is a curate in her third year, currently serving within the Ashbourne Group of Parishes. As part of her third year training Amanda is joining us on placement, initially for 3 months. We very much look forward to welcoming Amanda among us and pray that she will be blessed as she joins and that we will be a blessing to her too. Please pray for her during this busy Christmas period and as she prepares to come to us in the New Year.

Colin and Rosemary Morton – Congratulations!

I’m delighted to announce that Colin and Rosemary have been awarded the first ever Certificate of Thanksgiving by Tupton Parish Council. Colin and Rosemary have been recognised for the incredible contribution they make to the community through their commitment to St John’s Church, Tupton’s Buffet and History clubs and the ongoing support they make to village life and particularly the support of others. We join together in passing on our warmest congratulations to them both!

Readings for week beginning 14th December

Mon: Psalm 40;	Isaiah 49.14–25;	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Tues: Psalm 70;	Isaiah 50;	1 Thessalonians 5.12-end
Wed: Psalm 75;	Isaiah 51:1-8;	2 Thessalonians 1
Thurs: Psalm 76;	Isaiah 51.9-16;	2 Thessalonians 2
Fri: Psalm 98;	Isaiah 51.17–end;	2 Thessalonians 3

Collect for The Third Sunday of Advent

God for whom we watch and wait,
You sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son;
give courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.

A Meditation on Joy

Why not find some time during these busy season to set aside and reflect on where we find joy?

What is filling you with Joy at the moment?

What do you find Joy in?

What has made you sing for Joy this week?

What bible verses/stories can you think of that show joy?

Can you draw/write what Joy looks like to you?

When have you found it hard to be Joyful?

How can are you announcing Joy to others?

In what ways can our church be an expressions of joy at the moment?

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

Prayers

Heavenly Father, as once again we prepare for Christmas, help us to find time in our busy lives for quiet and thought and prayer, that we may reflect upon the wonder of your love and allow the story of the Saviour's birth to penetrate our hearts and minds. So may our joy be deeper, our worship more real, and our lives worthier of all that you have done for us through the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

We pray for the church:

- For the Christian family throughout our world who will be celebrating this festival in so many different ways, and for those who dare not celebrate openly.
- For Christians in countries where there is persecution.
- For churches finding new ways of celebrating in unusual times that these will be both blessed and joyful
- for our own church families

We pray for our communities

- For those who are grieving the loss of loved ones who find this time of year so difficult
- For those not able to meet up with loved ones this Christmas and feeling the pain of separation
- For those who are struggling with reduced finances and family issues.
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Grant that all who connect with church this Christmas time through the many different initiatives may be find you anew. Help us all to be glad of your presence, and to rejoice at the coming of Jesus.

May your blessing be upon all who worship with us, give us grace to live as faithful members of your family, that we may learn each day afresh to love and serve you

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer Amen

What's on this week!

Sunday - Coffee after Church

St Mary's Church – 11am

Join Zoom Meeting [here](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86854205991?pwd=YXVUQis4LzkxbHY2UitJWVEzMGpMdz09>

Meeting ID: 868 5420 5991

Password: 408468

St John's Church -12 noon

Join Zoom Meeting [here](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88939397383?pwd=eWt3dzRFdTJkQUV1eklrTVRLMVFwdz09>

Meeting ID: 889 3939 7383

Password: 581481

Sunday 6pm – Praying together

Join Zoom Meeting [here](#)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83764610729?pwd=TXo5UzhMRXUwN2tPbEFwTWJlYXVkdz09

Meeting ID: 837 6461 0729

Password: 703237

Tuesday 9am – Morning Prayer

Join Zoom Meeting [here](#)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89624129307?pwd=cjFjK21VV3FLem1iTGtKOUtEK1JBdz09

Meeting ID: 896 2412 9307

Password: 681530

Tuesday 10am – Totstop

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86921099801?pwd=dDBXS3FYakZLYm85RDNEdWFSSmJjQT09

Meeting ID: 869 2109 9801

Passcode: 574567

Thursday 10am – Pop-In for coffee

Join Zoom Meeting [here](#)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86210249687?pwd=ejAvUTNETGRneTBYVUhXeGh1L1ZQT09

Meeting ID: 862 1024 9687

Password: 046923