

Weekly Briefing - Sunday 18th December 2022

In this week's briefing:

- 4th Sunday of Advent "Hybrid" Service - Sunday 18th December 2022
- Nine Lessons and Carols - Sunday 18th December 2022
- Are you feeling unwell?
- E-Christmas Card
- Christmas Crib Service - Saturday 24th December 2022
- Christmas Day Eucharist Service - Sunday 25th December 2022
- Messy Christingle - Saturday 7th January 2023
- #followthestar
- Vaccination Centre - Update - Job Done!

4th Sunday of Advent "Hybrid" Service - Sunday 18th December

We are holding a "Hybrid" Eucharist Service this week on Sunday 18th December @ 10am. This is a hybrid service and will be at 10am as usual, in the church and on Zoom. All are welcome to attend.

The order of service for this week can be found on the website by following this link: <https://www.stchristopherschurch.org.uk/service-sheet>

The Zoom ID for the service is: 689 343 005. The passcode is 2021.

Nine Lessons and Carols - Sunday 18th December 2022 @ 6:30pm

Our Annual Carol Service has been moved back to 6:30pm to avoid any overlap with the World Cup Final.

Are you feeling unwell?

As we have been reviewing our guidelines for worship services it has become apparent that COVID is no longer the threat it used to be, but there are now at least three highly transmissible diseases in circulation in our community that can make us feel unwell: Common Cold, Flu and COVID. The general advice is if you have symptoms you are probably contagious, and therefore it is prudent to stay at home and join us online instead.

This guidance has come home to roost! On Sunday afternoon, I started to develop a rasping sore throat, which developed to include a streaming runny nose and chesty cough. So while I am not completely incapacitated and would in the past have simply battled on, I now feel I need to isolate, as no-one needs my cold over Christmas. Thankfully, Caroline has stepped up and will be covering for me this weekend. I hope I will be better sometime next week.

E-Christmas Card

As part of our efforts towards an eco-friendly Christmas, the EcoChurch Lifestyle Group has set up an e-Christmas card. The idea is that you can send a greeting to everyone in the Church and wider Church community in an eco-friendly way. Just follow this

link <https://www.groupcards.co.uk/AddMessageFromLink.aspx?EventCode=ep6nYUkTVdKfbY2LvZe6> and add your message by the 22nd December. If you would prefer not to do this online,

please call or email Liz Hammond (lizhammond2003@gmail.com) with your message and we will ensure it is added to the e-card for you. You may choose to do this instead of, or in addition to, sending a physical card to your particular friends in the St Christopher's community. Sending a message via our e-card will let you send your Christmas wishes to everyone.

If you have any questions or have any trouble accessing the link please email Julia Bowden (jlbowden@gmail.com)

Christmas Crib Service - Saturday 24th December 2022 @ 3:00pm

Crib services on Christmas Eve are traditionally family events with lots of engagement for children of all ages. This Christmas we are able to welcome families, and there is no need to worry about social distancing.

Unfortunately, due to safeguarding concerns, this will not be a "Hybrid" Service.

Christmas Day 'Hybrid' Eucharist Service - Sunday 25th December 2022 @ 10am

We will be holding a Christmas Day Eucharist at 10am this year, which is really popular with families and visitors to Hinchley Wood. This Christmas we are able to welcome families, and there is no need to worry about social distancing. If you or your family are feeling unwell, please join us from home. See the website for more details.

Messy Christingle - Saturday 7th January 2023 @ 3:30pm

Our usual family activity and service is being moved to the new year, and is closer to the Epiphany (when the kings arrive). All are welcome and there is no need to book.

#followthestar

Follow the Star - The Great Invitation is the theme of the Church of England Advent and Christmas Season. Some flyers are available in Church with more information about extra resources that are available during this time.

Vaccination Centre - Update - Job Done!

For twenty months St. Christopher's Church has been functioning as a Vaccination Centre in partnership with the Wallis Jones Pharmacy in Hinchley Wood. When we started this project back in April 2021 we were only envisioning it continuing for a few months, but it has been renewed and renewed. Now it is time for the service to come to an end as we no longer need such a large space for the vaccinators to work.

So Friday 16th December was the last day you could get a vaccination at St.

Christophers. Vaccinations should continue to be available at the Wallis Jones Pharmacy but you will probably have to book.

It really felt like the right thing to do, get our entire community protected from COVID. We are incredibly grateful to Jay, Janvi and Steph from Wallis Jones, and all the volunteers both local and from the Royal Voluntary Service who have made this possible.

Wishing you every blessing.

Peter Jenner

Vicar of St. Christopher's, Hinchley Wood