

Connected

Sunday 23rd November 2025

Sunday Next Before Advent

'Blue Christmas' Healing & Wholeness Service Sunday 30th November 6pm at Christ Church

I think it's the earliest we've ever had - on 12th November - a Christmas card popped through our letterbox! And no doubt you've seen, along with me, how the supermarkets and TV adverts are becoming increasingly Christmassy!

Some of us love this time of year but get caught up in the busyness, and others of us find this season a difficult one.

I'm inviting you to join with me in preparing for this season so that we may live the next few weeks more consciously in God's company.

We have a 'Healing & Wholeness' Advent service at 6pm on Sunday 30th November at Christ Church -

it's a quiet, reflective service and you would all be very welcome.



Tom

Sermon Snippets

Christ Church *John 14: 1-7*

John 14 v6 is the sermon verse choice of our very hard-working Safeguarding Officer.

In reply to Thomas' very good question about not knowing the destination or the way, Jesus replies I am the Way. Not which road to take, or to which town to find directions, Jesus simply says "I AM the Way".

He calls us to follow him. It is as different from having a human guide sitting next to the driver and giving instructions as to having a large scale map to follow without anything but general directions. Jesus calls us to have a personal relationship with him, our guide, and he whispers to us by the Holy Spirit that loving our neighbour, caring, and showing concern - true safeguarding - is living his way.



Emmanuel Colossians 1: 11-20

Jesus the Christ.
King of Kings.
Lord of Lords.
It's all about Him.



**SAFEGUARDING
SUNDAY**
2025

**thirtyone:
eight** 
Creating safer places. Together.

We will be marking Safeguarding Sunday at Christ Church this week (23rd).
For more information regarding this, please see last week's Connected.

Watch the Morning Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk
Go to the 'Church Life' menu and click on the 'Sunday Services' page

Prayer Pointers

MONDAY – Our Saviour Jesus, as we look forward to your coming to your world that first Christmas, we ask you to help all who will be involved in preparing for our witness to our parish and town, especially our Vicar, Tom, all our leaders and ministers, and our music group and musicians. We pray that other volunteers may be forthcoming, thus helping to lighten the load.

TUESDAY – We pray that all those new to our churches may already feel at home. Lord, we pray that you will add to our numbers through our loving witness. Inspire us continually to cater for everyone, young and old, in all our services and activities.

WEDNESDAY – Many will have mixed feelings as we move nearer to the Christmas season – rejoicing for many but others dealing with the loss of loved ones or deterioration of health or other challenges. Father God, overwhelm them with your continued fellowship, also by our church members loving deeds and prayers.

THURSDAY – Father, we thank you for our Locking Deanery. We pray that our churches may grow in fellowship and cooperation, and in influence, to all communities that the Deanery seeks to serve.

FRIDAY – Father God, we thank you for our new Curate who will be joining us in the near future. May she feel our Christian love, encouragement and practical support. We pray for our Life Groups – may the leaders and members adjust quickly to any changes and grow together in love and God's living Word.

SATURDAY – We pray, once again, for those who minister to us weekly. Help us, Lord, never to take them for granted and to pray for them continually. We pray against the ever earlier commercial Christmas and its worldly values. Lord, may we, inspired by you and empowered by our prayers, point your world to Jesus, our Saviour and Lord.

What's On This Week

Saturday 22nd November

Active Men's Skittles at 7pm at 49 Social Club
(for those who have signed-up)

Monday 24th November

Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Tuesday 25th November

Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel
The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

Wednesday 26th November

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10:15am at Christ Church

Thursday 27th November

Craft & Chat at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre
Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

Saturday 29th November

Emmanuel's Christmas Bazaar from 10:30am-1:45pm

Sunday 30th November

'Blue Christmas' Service at 6pm at Christ Church

Notices

Carol Service Choir Rehearsals

Carol Service Choir rehearsals continue this Sunday, 12:30pm-2pm at Christ Church. Bring a packed lunch to church and then join us for rehearsal.

Church Office Closed

Please be aware that the Church Office will be closed from Thursday 4th til Monday 8th December inclusive.

Verse For The Week

"The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

Colossians 1: 15-17

Coffee after the Service...

EMMANUEL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

SATURDAY
29TH NOVEMBER
10:30AM TIL 1:45PM

- VARIETY OF STALLS
- HOMEMADE CAKES
- REFRESHMENTS
(INCLUDING LUNCHES)



IF YOU ARE ABLE TO DONATE ANY
ITEMS FOR THE GIFT BAGS PLEASE
PUT THEM IN THE BOX AT THE
BACK OF CHURCH AT EMMANUEL.

GRACE WILL BE SELLING SCARVES AS
WELL AS JEWELLERY SO DO LOOK
OUT ANY THAT SHE CAN HAVE.

ALSO, ANY BRIC-A-BRAC ITEMS
WOULD BE APPRECIATED.
THANK YOU.

Christ Church Christmas Fayre

Saturday 6th December
from 10am-2pm
(light lunches will be available)

Donations for the stalls can be
brought to the Church Office
from Sunday 23rd November:

- Cakes (& other edibles)
- New/nearly new gift items
- Jigsaws
- Books
- Craft



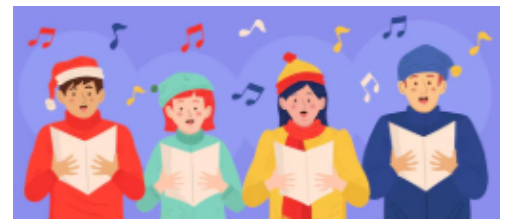
Volunteers are needed for
various tasks - please pop
your name on the sign-up
sheet at the back of Church
if you can help in any way.
Thank you.

Carol Singing in Care Homes

We are again planning to
visit a few of the Care
Homes within Christ
Church Parish for some
carol singing during the
afternoons of:

Friday 12th December
Wednesday 17th December
starting from 2:15pm
(folk to meet at Christ
Church at 2pm)

Please do sign-up on the
sheet at the back of church
if you would like to take
part on either one or both
of these afternoons.



**We would love for you
to join us!**

The 'Go Team' published an article on
the Diocese website which included
LightFest. To take a look, please go
to (or click on):

<https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/news/lighting-up-the-half-term-holiday.php>



Mince Pies - Emmanuel



We will be in need of boxes of
mince pies for all the various carol
singing events at Emmanuel -
please do bring them to church
over the next couple of Sundays.

Contact Details

Rev. Tom Webber (Day Off - Tuesday)
t: (01934) 709343
e: revtom@ccwsm.org.uk

Church Office (09:30-12:30 Mon-Fri)
t: (01934) 641016
e: office@ccwsm.org.uk
w: www.ccwsm.org.uk

Christingles

Saturday 13th December
(from 10am) in the Spire
Centre (Rooms 1+2).

We will be preparing oranges
for the Christingle Service on the morning of
Saturday 13th December.

If you can help with this, please contact Nicky
(family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk)



SAVE THE DATE

**Church Weekend
At Home 2026**

When: 9th-11th October
Speaker: Bishop Mike Hill
(Tom's Bishop from his
Bristol days) who is an
excellent speaker.

More details to follow...