

NEWSLETTER

Sunday 5 December: Advent 2

Readings: Malachi 3.1-4; Philippians 1.3-11; Luke 3.1-6 (St. Nicholas: 1 Timothy 6.6-11; Mark 10.13-16)



Today

- 8.00am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington
Rev Nick Bird
- 9.00am Holy Communion: St Mary, Warthill
Rev Nick Bird
- 10.30am Christingle Service: Holy Trinity, Stockton
Judith Hewitt
- At St Nicholas**
- 9.30am Church open for quiet prayer and reflection
- 10.00am Coffee, reflection, prayer and music
- 10.30am Holy Communion: Rev Jane Speck, chaplain of
York St John University
- 4.00pm Christingle Service: Judith Hewitt
- 7.00pm Re-Ignite Youth Group

 [Online Benefice Worship](#) (YouTube)

This week

Monday 6 December

- 9.00am [Morning Prayer \(zoom\)](#)
- 1.30pm Sewing and Art Groups: St Nicholas Tower
Room

Tuesday 7 December

- 9.00am Morning Prayer: St Mary, Warthill
- 1.45pm Little People, Play and Praise: St Nicholas
Tower Room
- 7.00pm PCC Get Together: St Nicholas Tower Room

Wednesday 8 December

- 9.00am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 9.45am Coffee Time: St Nicholas Tower Room
- 10.00am Holy Communion: Holy Trinity, Stockton
- 7.00pm [Compline \(zoom\)](#)

Thursday 9 December

- 9.00am [Morning Prayer \(zoom\)](#)

Saturday 11 December

- 10.00 am Community Café: St Nicholas Tower Room
- 10.00am Christmas Coffee Morning: Holy Trinity,
Stockton

Sunday 12 December: Advent 3

Readings: Zephaniah 3.14-end; Philippians 4.4-7; Luke
3.7-18

- 8.00am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 10.30am Morning Worship: St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 10.30am Morning Worship: St Mary, Warthill
- 12.30pm Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 4.00pm Carol Service: Holy Trinity, Holtby
- 6.00pm Carol Service: Holy Trinity, Stockton

 [Online Benefice Worship](#) (YouTube)

A reflection from Revd Mark Poole

The Holly and the Ivy

The season of Advent has begun. It is a time of waiting, anticipation and hope. We mark this time with Advent calendars, Christmas trees, garlands and twinkly lights; we make 'to do' lists, shop, for food and presents; we (hopefully) gather for parties, carols and concerts. All joyful stuff. But life gets busier, which can potentially rob us of the gift that the season of Advent has to give. That is, space to pause each day, to be still, just for a moment, maybe even as you open a window on your Advent calendar (you are never too old for an Advent Calendar!) And in a moment of prayer listen. Listen to our own inner voice. Listen to the still, small voice of God that dwells within each of us. Allow the wonder and the mystery of the incarnation to sink deep into our hearts and souls. God with us. And in my experience, this can lead us to an encounter that is transformative, because it connects us with ourselves and with God.

And this connection is at the heart of Advent and the Christmas event it anticipates. God became one with us in the life of Jesus Christ connecting heaven and earth. The truth is that God is earthed, rooted and grounded in human lived experience – yours and mine, all its joys and all its messy bits too.

So here is a thought to kick start your advent reflection. This theme of connection is symbolised in the evergreen leaves of the holly and the ivy. They remind us of the eternal, unchanging love of God for each of us and the promise of resurrection life. Ivy usually grows up some form of physical support: it has to rely on another to grow. How are you showing your gratitude to those you rely on and how are you showing others that they can rely on you too?

God bless you in your journey through Advent.

Revd Mark



Grapevine Reminder: The deadline for January's edition of the Grapevine is a little earlier than normal, to account for the Christmas break. Please send any items to Lou at: grapevine.rey@gmail.com by **Monday 6th December (tomorrow!)**



Parish Churches News & Events

Stamford Bridge Chapel: Invite you on Tuesday 14th December 2021 7-30pm to 8-30pm to join in with Barmby Moor Praise in Stamford Bridge Chapel. The Christmas Story, a selection of Carols, Messages and readings.

Christmas concert: Heworth Methodist Church will give a Christmas Concert Thursday 16th December at 7pm. No charge or tickets but funds for charity will be for the church's charity this year which is YOYO.

Decorating St Nicholas' Christmas Tree: We will be decorating the Christmas tree after school (3.20 onwards) on Wednesday 15th December. We would love to have your help. Please enter via the old Church door.

Tea and Chat: On Wednesday 14th at 2.30pm, Rev Dr John Schofield will be meeting our Methodist brothers and sisters in the Tower Room.

Tuesday 7th December: We are looking forward to gathering together with PCC (plus) members and their partners, from across the benefice, from 7.00pm in the Tower Room. To help with having the seating it would be helpful to let Judith know if you are coming.

Tombola and Community Café: On Saturday 11th December the Community Café will have a tombola, with prizes from the recent Christmas Fayre, for Church Funds.

Christmas Fayre: Thank you to all who supported this event which raised nearly £900 for Church/roof fund.

Carol Service at St Nicholas: We are planning to serve mulled wine, to take away or drink in, on Sunday 19th December. If you can provide mince pies and shortbread, they will be gratefully received. If you have access to large flasks, that we could borrow, to keep the mulled wine warm, please could you speak to Judith, thank you.

At the heart of Christmas



Advent Resources: The Church of England has a wealth of resources available on their website to help us mark the season of Advent. This year's theme is 'at the heart of Christmas', and the reflections, printed materials, and services will be available here www.churchofengland.org/resources/advent-and-christmas-2021-resources-heart-christmas.

Advent at St Nicholas Church: In the Lady Chapel there are some prayer stations to help you through the season of Advent. Do explore them either on a Sunday or during the week. The Church is open daily from 9.00 until 4.00pm. On the first Sunday in Advent, we remember that Advent is a time of waiting and longing. What are you waiting for?

To receive newsletters by email, contact grapevine.rev@gmail.com. Also available on the St Nicholas Church website and in St Nicholas Church.

To receive the Methodist Circuit News, please contact the office by email yorkcircuitoffice@gmail.com or phone 07984 019995.

Next newsletter on **Sunday 12th December** [Email items to grapevine.rev@gmail.com](mailto:grapevine.rev@gmail.com) by **9.00 am on Thursday 9th December**.

Christmas Gifts for IDAS: If you would like to support the work of IDAS (Woman's Refuge), this Christmas, they would once again like supermarket vouchers, so the 'mums' can do their own shopping. They can accept a limited number of toys and toiletries. Please take your donation to a Benefice Church service, or leave at 7 Water Lane, Dunnington, by **9th December**.

Christmas Menu Parish Lunch: I am sorry the list for this lunch is now full, therefore it is very important if you find you cannot come to cross your name off, as I am sure we will have a waiting list.

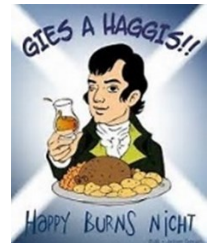
Burns Night: Informal Burns Supper Friday 28th January 2022, 7.00 pm in the Tower Room, Dunnington.

Haggis, tatties and neeps (alternative veggie haggis option) plus soup and dessert.

Bring your own drink

Dress – Smart Casual (but feel free to wear your kilt if you wish)

Tickets £7.50 - numbers are limited so don't delay! - contact Judith Hewitt 488331; Eve Scoreby 489008; Joan Verrier 481626 or Diane Benson 07951 582672.



Christingle Services: Today!



We warmly invite you to join us at our two services today, with Christingles which were lovingly prepared on Friday afternoon.

Holy Trinity, Stockton

10.30am

and

St Nicholas, Dunnington

4.00pm

Lectionary Corner at St Nicholas

5 December: Patronal Festival

6 December: Nicholas, Bishop of Myra c.326

7 December: Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Teacher of the Faith 397

8 December: The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary