



# st luke's church, sway



## WELCOME TO THE PARISH NEWS FOR ST LUKE'S CHURCH, SWAY SUNDAY 1st December 2024 - Advent Sunday

Please find our live-streamed or recorded services on YouTube:

[Youtube.com/@StLukesSway](https://www.youtube.com/@StLukesSway)

### Welcome to this weeks Parish News.

The bible message this Sunday is from St Luke: Chapter 21, verses 25-36.

### Prayer

As we begin this season of Advent, let us pray that the joy and excitement the children feel in the run-up to Christmas spreads to all of us, and to all those with whom we are in contact. May all those present for services and celebrations (including those joining online) be blessed, whatever their involvement, situation, and

connection; and may the blessing reach others, who cannot be present.

### **love and prayers**

**Bernice Alexander, on behalf of Jane**

## **WORSHIP**

### **SUNDAY 1st December - Advent Sunday**

Psalm 25. 1-9

Luke 21. 25-36

#### **9.30am Informal Service**

Leader and Speaker Taiwo Ogunjimi

#### **10.30am Coffee time**

#### **11am Morning Service**

Leader Lisa Thomas. Guest Leader & Speaker Revd Anne Elliott.

Music: Rosemary and the choir

Please click [HERE](#) to view our Worship for December.

Printed copies can also be found in church.

Occasional changes may arise due to unforeseen circumstances in the rotas of who is speaking and leading. Thank you for your your understanding in these situations. .

## **Prayer**

Almighty God,  
as your kingdom dawns,  
turn us from the darkness of sin to the  
light of holiness,  
that we may be ready to meet you  
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

This week please pray for -

- Continuing Advent and Christmas preparations
- Church Administrator interviews on Wednesday
- The choir and all musicians - for rehearsals and services
- The Christmas Tree Festival

## **CHURCH NEWS**

**Christmas card deliveries needed!! - Please help if you can**

Christmas card deliveries needed.. - Please help if you can...

Thank you to all those of you who have delivered literally hundreds of Christmas Cards in Sway. We post these through the doors of every household in Sway each year. There are still plenty of bundles for roads without a waywarden on the right hand side of the table in Church - please just take one and deliver them- THANK YOU!!

### **CHURCHSUITE support for all church information:**

<https://support.churchsuite.com/article/385-my-churchsuite-user-guide>

Please ask if you would like some help.

### **How do I see the Church Diary and Church Rooms bookings? -**

check it out on our website <https://www.stlukeschurchsway.org.uk/> the full church diary into next year is all there.

## **Children & Family News**

### **PRAISE AND PLAY for 2025!**

After a successful trial in Sept when 12 children came along with their families - the PCC agreed to hold a **PRAISE AND PLAY** service in the church rooms every half term in 2025 as the 9.30 service on that day. This service is seen as a next step to encourage those who are part of the bump baby and toddler groups or Messy Church to gather on a Sunday morning in an informal setting to worship and to get to know one another. The first one is 12th January.

### **Bump, Baby and Toddler Group - Christmas Nativity and Party**



We are very excited for our Nativity and Christmas Party on Monday 16th December. We invite all Parents, Grandparents, Carers and Children (pre school) who come along to our Bump, Baby and Toddler Groups on a Monday or Friday to join us. Last year it was a joyful morning and the children had a wonderful time in church singing and

was a joyful morning and the children had a wonderful time in church singing and hearing the Christmas story.

There will be Nativity fun in St Luke's Church followed by a party in the Church Rooms. Along with a very special visit from Santa and a small gift for every child. Please do book online to let us know you are coming as this helps greatly with catering.

<https://stlukessway.churchsuite.com/events/j1zjcdtq>

## **Mission News**

### **Love - in - a - Box - Message from Janet Lealan**

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards the shoe box appeal. We sent off 201 boxes.

It could have been more as I had a little money left and some items but we ran out of boxes. Please could you start saving boxes NOW. This will help to spread things out during the year. If you pop into any shoe shop, they are usually quite happy to give you a couple of empty boxes. If possible we prefer the ones with separate lids as the hinged lids are almost impossible to cover. They can be left at the back of church, on my doorstep or with Barry in the Post Office.

Thank you again for helping to make 201 children in Moldova happy over Christmas.  
Janet

## **Other News**

### **The LIGHTING of Sway's VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE at Sway Village Hall will take place from 6pm on Saturday 7th December.**

There will be Carols, Hot Dogs and Refreshments.

Choir members and any other parishioners will be more than welcome!

Please note time this year of 6pm.

### **Christmas Tree Festival**

Calling all volunteers needed for serving refreshments in church and stewarding for 3 days! Please contact Janet Kirk to offer help if you can and cover an hour or so or bake a cake. Thank you!

### **Pastoral visits**

The Pastoral team had their monthly meeting this week. Do you know anyone who would like a visit this Christmas or to receive communion at home? Please let Sandra know as soon as possible. We would be very please to visit anyone in the parish.

## **Church Land**

The PCC agreed to set up a working party and to continue to seek legal advice on the use of the land.

## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK?

<b>Monday 2nd Dec</b>	9.30am	Bump, Baby & Toddler Group
<b>Tuesday 3rd Dec</b>	10am - 11.30am	Community Gardening
	10.30am - 11.30am	Swag Community Cafe
<b>Wednesday 4th Dec</b>	9am - 9.30am	Parish Prayers (in Church)
	12pm	SWAG Lunch Club
	2.45pm	Open the Book
<b>Thursday 5th Dec</b>	9am	Online Morning Prayer
	6pm	Band Practice
	All Day	Setting up of Christmas Tree Festival
<b>Friday 6th Dec</b>	9.30am - 11am	Bump, Baby & Toddler Group
	10am -4pm	<b>Christmas Tree Festival DAY ONE</b>
	7pm	Christmas Choir Practice

**PLEASE NOTE: On Friday 6th Dec there is NO FRIDAY SERVICE. This has been moved to 13th Dec because of Christmas Tree festival.**

check out [www.stlukeschurchsway.org.uk](http://www.stlukeschurchsway.org.uk) to see the church diary with all the services and events and church room booking availability

Here is the link for Thursday online parish prayers -

<https://zoom.us/j/95044393409?pwd=ekVMbFBachHZaeDF0aUM4bTluWU14QT09>

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY..

### DECEMBER

**Saturday 7th December 10:00 - 16:00 - Christmas Tree Festival DAY TWO**

**Saturday 7th Dec 18:00 - Village Christmas Tree Lighting at Sway Village Hall**

**Sunday 8th Dec 8:00** Holy Communion

**Sunday 8th Dec 9.30** Informal Service

**Sunday 8th Dec 11:00** Advent Morning Service

**Sunday 8th December 13:00 - 16:00 - Christmas Tree Festival DAY THREE**

**Monday 10th December 10:00 - Sunday Bible Club**

**Tuesday 10th December 19:00** - Drop in Bible Study  
**Wednesday 11th December 12:30 - 15:00** - School Christmas Service Rehearsal  
**Friday 13th December 9:00** - Church led School Assembly  
**Friday 13th Dec: 10:00** Friday Service  
**Friday 13th December 19:00** - Christmas Choir Practice  
**Sunday 15th December 09:30** - **Messy Christingle**  
**Sunday 15th December 11:00** Advent Communion Service  
**Sunday 15th December 18:30** - **Carols by Candlelight**  
**Monday 16th December 09:00 -11am** - **Baby and Toddler Christmas Nativity and Party**  
**Tuesday 17th December** **School Carol Services 2pm and 6pm**  
**Wednesday 18th December** Meditation Group Christmas special  
**Thursday 19th December 11.30** - **Birchy Hill Christmas Carols**  
**Friday 20th December 10:00** - **Friday Service**  
**Friday 20th December 10.30** - **Sway Place Christmas Carols**  
**Saturday 21st December:10am** Christmas Flowers an church preparation- all welcome.  
**Sunday 22nd December 8:00** Holy Communion  
**Sunday 22nd December 10:00** **Carols and Cake**  
**Christmas Eve 16:00** **Family Nativity Service**  
**Christmas Eve 23:15pm** **Midnight Holy Communion**  
**Christmas Day 10:00** **Christmas Day Service followed by 10.45am Short service of Holy Communion**  
**Sunday 29th Dec 11:00** Holy Communion- Led by Rev Felicity Boot.

## Contact Information

**VICAR:** REVD JANE MITCHELL (Rest day: Monday) vicar@swaychurch.com | 07885 505532

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St Luke's Church

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