



Inspire

The Newsletter of The Free Church (United Reformed) St Ives

Thoughts for the month ahead.

Christmas Greetings!

The season seems to have crept up on us this year! After a very mild October – suddenly, we have cold and frosty weather in November. Winter – and Christmas are coming! We are grateful that we can meet again this year to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus.



What wonderful time of year! Although it is cold and the nights are drawing in, we can find warmth and light in our worship and fellowship with others.

After the limitations of the past couple of years it is great to be able to get together again. Do come and join us in song at our Readings and Carols by Candlelight on the 12th December at 6 pm.

On Sunday morning of 19th December have fun making your own Christingle to take home as a Christmas decoration to place on a windowsill. One of the pleasures of this time of year is the many traditions we have developed over the years. Have you put up your Christmas tree yet? Will you bake your own Christmas cake? It is a joy to have some friends over with some sausage rolls and mince pies and perhaps some mulled wine. And apparently, after some uncertainty, it sounds like we will be able to have fresh turkey for Christmas dinner – along with a nut roast for our vegetarian son!

It is right to celebrate God coming amongst us in a baby boy – the angels heralded his arrival with songs of praises. They proclaimed, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among all people.'

It has become a tradition for us at the Free Church to have an all-age carol service on Christmas Eve. Invite family and friends to come and sing favourite carols and hear the familiar story of Jesus' birth. Although I recall the story every year at this time, I never grow tired of it. The joy and hope that Jesus' birth brings, over two thousand years ago and for us today! We know that God is with us, that God loves us, and that God can do marvellous and miraculous things - more than we could ever imagine!

Have a Happy Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

Catherine & Peter xx

December 2021

Services this month

THE FREE CHURCH, ST IVES:	
Sunday 5th	11:00 Holy Communion Collection of Festive Treats for Food Bank Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Sunday 12th	11:00 Morning Worship Mrs Geraldine Swain 18:00 Candlelight Carol Service Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Sunday 19th	11:00 Morning Worship Christingle Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Friday 24th	18:00 All-age Christmas Eve Worship Revd Dr Catherine Ball

FENSTANTON URC:	
Sunday 5th	09:30 Morning Worship Mrs Geraldine Swain
Sunday 12th	09:30 Holy Communion Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Sunday 19th	15:00 Praise Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Saturday 25th	09:30 Christmas Day Revd Dr Catherine Ball

Tapestry Singers
present their annual
Christmas Concert
An evening of Christmas music and readings
Monday 20th December at 7.30pm
St Ives Free Church
Free entry, with a retiring collection for local charity 'Maggie's Cambridge'

www.tapestrysingers.org.uk

MAGGIE'S
Everyone's home of cancer care

Tots and Carers
baby and toddler group

Includes: craft, video Bible story, large play
WEDNESDAYS 10 - 11.30am (term time only)
Revised Dr Catherine Ball, 07714 081 930
FREE CHURCH HALL, ST IVES

ST IVES CHORAL SOCIETY
MUSICAL DIRECTOR
Charne Rochford

Family Christmas Concert

Soloist Andrew DeLong
Accompanists
Olga Elbourn (Piano)
Julian Merson (Organ)

Tickets £8 accompanied children under 12's free
Book your tickets online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-ives-choral-society
Also available from the Fair Trade Shop in the Free Church

FREE CHURCH, ST IVES, Saturday 18 December, 6.30pm
Registered Charity No. 291640



A hundred years young!

Jean Grabaskey celebrated a milestone birthday in November. Here she is with a card from everyone at the church and, well, a card from another familiar face!

Saints Crafters
Local Artists and Crafters

ART & CRAFT FAIR
Saturday 4th December 2021

Free Church Hall, Market Hill, St Ives
9.30am – 3.30pm

Buy original, handmade items direct from the maker...

Free Admission
Textiles, greeting cards, jewellery, bead & button work, pyrography, fused glass and much more...

Tombola: Hunts Society for the Blind

Contact: saintscrafters@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook



Tookeys
Pre Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 8th December
from 12.30pm
Main Hall

If interested, please give your name to a volunteer.

Two courses, tea or coffee, mints and crackers £14

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

28th Nov: 11.00am	First Sunday of Advent; Induction of Elders
5th Dec: 11.00am	Holy Communion; Collection of Festive Treats for Food Bank
12th Dec: 6pm	Candlelight Readings and Carols
19th Dec: 11.00am	Christingle service
24th Dec: 6pm	All age Christmas Eve worship
25th Dec: 9.30am	Fenstanton URC



Our church is looking very festive and twinkly now.



Have a Happy Christmas and a Blessed New Year!



We are having a collection of Festive Treats for St Ives Food Bank at our service on Sunday 5th December.

Contacts

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January Edition

If you have anything that you would like us to include in the January edition of Inspire then please contact the church office or email it to inspire.sifc@gmail.com
Deadline to receive content for the January issue is 22nd December.

The Free Church is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.