



Serving the community of Bedhampton
by sharing God's love and friendship

Sunday 18th December 2022
Fourth Sunday of Advent

St Thomas'
9.00am Morning Prayer
Isaiah 7: 10-16
Matthew 1: 18-25
Service streamed at 5.00pm
www.bedhampton.church
4.00pm Celtic Prayer

St Nicholas'
10.30am Holy Communion
Isaiah 7: 10-16
Matthew 1: 18-25
Service streamed at 6.00pm
www.bedhampton.church

Collect

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Rector's Reflection

Christmas is a time of joy and celebration. I find myself bouncing off the walls as I share the fact that God loves us so much that we find ourselves celebrating the birth of Jesus who came to this earth for us. Christmas is joyous! Except of course when it is not. When we are mourning the loss of a loved one who has died. When we are in fear of heating our homes. When turkey is not on the menu because the price has risen beyond our ability to afford it. If you find yourself sad, then know it is OK to be in that place even when everyone else is not. God knows and loves us in our highs and lows and when we don't feel him near that does not change the fact that He is near. If we are blessed enough to not know that sadness then perhaps we might use some of that energy to lift others to God in prayer.

Prayer

Street Prayer

Please pray for the residents of Littlepark Avenue this week.

Those requesting prayer:

Peter, Michael, Marjorie, Anne, Valerie and Eric, Malcolm, Mick, Kerry, Kirsty, Donna, Andy, Joyce and family, Marilyn Browne, Bonnie, Celia Smees

We pray for the families and friends of those who have died and of those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

What's on

Wednesday 21st December

8.00am Parish Prayer: Facebook or Zoom

9.30am Holy Communion: St Thomas' Church

Tea, coffee and biscuits available after the service

Thursday 22nd December

10.00am Online Holy Communion: www.Bedhampton.tv or Facebook and available afterwards

Saturday 24th December Christmas Eve

3.00pm Crib Service: St Nicholas' Church

11.30pm Midnight Holy Communion: St Thomas' Church

Zoom meetings - www.zoom.us Meeting ID is 239 248 3013. You will be placed in a waiting room and let in by the leader of the meeting. Going to Bton.uk/zoom will redirect you to the correct place.

Stamps

Please save your stamps from any Christmas cards. Deb is collecting them for the RNIB.

Frontline Opportunity

We want to encourage our schools and so we are asking, could you read with a school child at one of our local schools? If you could spare an hour or two a month speak to Max or email Hello@Bedhampton.church for more details.

Street Angels

Could you adopt a street, or part of one? The only qualification is the ability to look out for others. Let us know if you spot someone who might need a hand. Let us know when someone moves into your street so they can be welcomed to Bedhampton. Contact the office with the name of the street you want to adopt. Details at bton.uk/angel

Beacon Food Bank

The food bank are in need of:
Tinned meals
Tinned fruit & veg
Tinned puddings
Pot noodles/ Packet noodles/Rice
Jams, spreads, coffee & sugar
Shower gel & shampoo

Reveal

If you have completed or are considering Alpha, or simply have questions about God and life, Reveal may be the place for you. From February we will meet fortnightly for soup, pastries, chat, music and time for reflection. We don't have all the answers, what we have is a friendly place in which to ask the questions and explore the answers together. Whatever your experience is of life, God or church, we welcome you to join us for a chat. Speak to Max or Suzy to find out more.

Hospitality Team

We are aiming to form a hospitality team. Our church community have amazing gifts in the making of cakes.. providing emergency meals.. catering for and helping at church socials and ministry events. With this in mind there will be lists in both churches where you can sign up to help.

All help will be welcomed!
If you would like any more information please contact Sally on 07981385155 or speak to Sandra, Christine or Elaine

Holy Communion at St Thomas'

Perhaps you have completed one of the service survey papers at St Thomas' recently. We asked for input because we received requests from some of the congregation that they would like Holy Communion more often. It is clear from the results that there is a congregational preference to have an opportunity to receive Holy Communion weekly.

For this reason, from January, there will be a Holy Communion service at St Thomas' on the first, second and fourth Sundays.

Holy Communion will be at St Nicholas' on the third Sunday which means that it is possible to receive Holy Communion, in the parish, every Sunday.

The third Sunday at St Thomas' will not be Holy Communion, which will also allow for baptisms within the service to continue. The name 'Morning Prayer' has caused some confusion for visitors as it is a specific service which ours does not resemble so the service will be renamed 'Morning Praise' but the format we currently use will remain the same.

Thank you to all who have contributed to this process.

Next week: Sunday 25th December 2022
Christmas Day

St Thomas'

8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Family Celebration
Isaiah 52: 7-10
John 1: 1-14

St Nicholas'

Shared at St Thomas'

Contact us

Parish Office

Deb Vears
Usual hours

Mon-Fri 9.30-12.30

Hello@Bedhampton.church
023 9248 3013

Church Leader

Rev Max Cross
Day off: Friday

Max@Bedhampton.church
023 9245 0955

Assistant Curate

Rev Jill Kingston
Day off: Thursday

Jill@Bedhampton.church
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