



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

Sunday 3rd December 2023
Advent Sunday

St Thomas'
9.00am Holy Communion
Psalm 40: 1-10
Luke 2: 8-20
4.00pm Compline

St Nicholas'
10.30am Messy Church

Collect

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.

Rector's Reflection

Happy New Year! Now you might be thinking I have gone a bit off the rails and that I am a month early. However the first Sunday of Advent, which is this Sunday, marks the beginning of the liturgical calendar for the Church. It is a Sunday when we remember the patriarchs. We focus upon Abraham, a man of great faith and David from whose line Jesus came. It is also the week when we remember hope. Humans have a built in need for hope in our lives, and to paraphrase scripture without hope people perish. Naturally for those of us who choose to follow Jesus our hope is wrapped up in this season and the arrival of the Christchild. Thankfully that hope is available to all who reach out for it. This season I want to encourage you to pause and reach out for it. Have a Hope filled Happy New Year and enjoy the rest of Advent.

Prayer

Prayer Pointers

1. Children, young people and families
2. Our Christmas Journey and Tree Festival
3. Residents of The Elms
4. Co-operative Funeralcare
5. Ukraine and the Middle East

Those requesting prayer

Richard, Malcolm, Judith Clemo, Alan Newman,
Phil, Chris & Jacqui, David & Linda, Val Norman, Gerry

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

What's on

From Sunday 3rd December

Christmas Tree Festival: St Thomas' Church, daily 9.00am-4.00pm

The Christmas Experience: St Thomas' Church, daily 9.00am-7.00pm

Tuesday 5th December

6.00-8.00pm Parish Carol Singing: Starting at St Nicholas' Church
Any money raised will go to the Children's Society

Wednesday 6th December

8.00am Parish Prayer: Join us in the Zoom room by going to www.bton.uk/meet, use meeting ID 2392483013 or go to www.facebook.com/BedhamptonNews to join us on Facebook.

9.30am Holy Communion (Mothers' Union): St Thomas' Church.
All are welcome. Tea, coffee and biscuits available after the service.

Thursday 7th December

9.00am Fun Club: St Nicholas' Church

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

Friday 8th December

10.30am Coffee & Cake: St Nicholas' Church small hall

Scouts Post Box

We'll be putting the post boxes out in St Nicholas and St Thomas this week and the final collection is Wednesday 13th December.

This is a free "good turn" service we do each year for the elderly and infirm. Delivery is only within the Bedhampton Parish Boundary by Scout footsteps (it's a long walk to Aberdeen!)

Easy Fundraising

You can help us to raise funds for our church without it costing you a penny! Go through Easy Fundraising to your favourite online shops and we will receive a small donation per purchase. If you click on the following link and once you've raised £5 using your account we get another £5!

<http://bton.uk/easy>

Christingle

There will be no Christingle in January, but it will return in December 2024 as the Messy Christingle. If you would like to donate any money to the Children's Society or to champion this wonderful charity for us please see Deb in the office.

Christmas Eve Service

The service on Sunday 24th will be a 10am all together Holy Communion at St Nicholas'

Beacon Foodbank

The food bank are in need of:
Coffee, tea, sugar, squash
Cereals, jam, marmalade
Soup, baked beans
Tinned meat, fish, fruit & vegetables.

Christmas Day Communion

If you would like to attend a 9am Christmas Day Said Communion please contact the parish office this week. If there is insufficient interest there will instead be an opportunity to receive Holy Communion in a short 11:15am service after the main service.

Camino Primitivo Pilgrimage

For a couple of weeks in May and June 2024 Max is leading a walking pilgrimage on the oldest route to Santiago de Compostela in northern Spain. We shall be staying in traditional pilgrim albergues and carrying backpacks. There are options for a variety of abilities and time commitments. Speak to Max for more details.

New Wine Celebration

Sunday 3rd of December, 6.30pm, Church of the Good Shepherd, Crookhorn
Neil Smart from St Jude's, Southsea will share with us. Feel free to come along from 6.15pm to catch up with others.

Christmas Fayre

Our Christmas Fayre raised £1012.85!

Many thanks to everybody who worked so hard to make this happen.

Next week: Sunday 10th December 2023

Second Sunday of Advent

St Thomas'

9.00am Holy Communion

Isaiah 40: 1-11

Mark 1: 1-8

6.00pm Carol Service

St Nicholas'

10.30am Morning Worship

Isaiah 40: 1-11

Mark 1: 1-8

Prayer Is Vital

Our Wednesday morning prayer is at 8am every week online. We meet to pray for half an hour that God might use us in Bedhampton. I encourage you to join us, you can find details in the "What's on" section. Whatever you do, please do pray for God's mission in Bedhampton.

The Bible Is Key

The Bible is one major way that God communicates with us. To aid us to better understand the Bible in context and its impact on our lives we have a new sermon series over the autumn. The Bible Series introduces the overarching story of the Bible. Each week touches on key themes and relates them to universal human needs. You can find out more at <https://bedhampton.church/bible> where you will also find details of the book behind the series, which is an easy-to-read text by Bible Society's Andrew Ollerton. I encourage you to consider reading it.

Contact us

Parish Office

Deb Vears

Usual hours

Mon-Fri 9.30-12.30

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Usual day off: Saturday

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