



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

Wishing you a very happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas

Sunday 22nd December 2024
Last Sunday of Advent

St Thomas'
9.00am Holy Communion
Micah 5.2-5
Luke 1.38-55

St Nicholas'
10.30 Morning Worship
Micah 5.2-5
Luke 1.38-55

Prayer

Prayer Is Vital

Our Wednesday morning prayer is 8am most weeks. You can join online in your web browser at www.bton.uk/pray or Facebook at www.fb.me/BedhamptonNews
Whatever you do, please pray for God's mission in Bedhampton.

Prayer Pointers

1. Children, young people, and families
2. The homeless
3. Gwatkin Close
4. Those working over Christmas and the New Year
5. Ukraine and the Middle East

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

Joy to the world the Lord has come.” Words that no doubt we shall sing out a couple of times over the next week or so. At face value, it may seem an odd sentiment as we look around our world right now, and you too might be going through some tough times. However, this carol, like the Bible itself, recognises that God does not work in splendid isolation but instead calls upon us to voluntarily turn to him. “Let Earth receive her King; Let ev'ry Heart prepare him room”, continues the first verse. It is our hearts that have the opportunity to open and receive Jesus. To receive his Kingdom in the here and now where we live. It is our hands and resources that Jesus will use to bring that joy to the world. I am confident that God's Holy Spirit is on the move in Bedhampton and worldwide. Despite what we may see in our news broadcasts and headlines there is a revolution of Kingdom joy and love happening. I see it in those whose hearts are open to receive their King. As we head into 2025 let us double down on sharing that joy with our neighbours, friends, family and all people. Then we shall truly hear “Heav'n and nature sing”.

Merry Christmas love Max & Suzy

What's on

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

Christmas Eve

3.00pm Crib Service. St Nicholas' Church

11.00pm Midnight Holy Communion. St Thomas' Church

Christmas Day

10.00am Christmas Celebration Service. St Thomas' Church

This will be followed by a short service of Holy Communion.

St Thomas' Church

News

Men's Walking Trip

All men are invited for a week of chilling and walking in Keswick, 8th-15th March 2025.

Walking options are available for all abilities. Max will be there, contact him for more details.

Alpha or Confirmation?

From Wednesday 5th February we will be hosting open and informal dialogue sessions about faith, the person of Jesus, and what it all means. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation.

Everyone is welcome.

Alpha is also a great preparation if you are looking to be confirmed as an adult.

Contact Max for more information

Lunchtime Psalms

Monday to Saturday during 2025, Max will stop at midday to read a Psalm and pray for God's Kingdom to come in Bedhampton Parish. If you would like to join him and read through the Psalms twice in a year, email him at Max@Bedhampton.church. Just before noon, the Psalm for the day will be emailed to you, as a reminder to read and pray.

Midweek Communion

Our usual Wednesday, 9.30am Holy Communion service *will* take place on 1st January (New Year's Day)

Mission Opportunity

A key part of our mission is to families and young people, and an opportunity has arisen in this area. Bidbury Junior has a vacancy for a governor who can be an important influence and play a vital role in shaping the future of the school. You are invited to consider if you might join Rev Max, who is a long-term governor, in this rewarding role in our local school. For more information, please contact Max.

Beacon Foodbank

The foodbank are always in need of tinned and dried food.



Next Week. Sunday 29th December 2024

1st Sunday of Christmas

St Thomas'
10.00am Holy Communion
(said)

St Nicholas'
Shared at St Thomas'

Sunday 5th January 2025

Epiphany

St Thomas'
9.00am Holy Communion
4.00pm Compline

St Nicholas'
10.30am Messy Church

Vision - Identity - Purpose

In Bedhampton Parish we seek to be with Jesus, become more like Jesus and do what Jesus did. We are people whose identity is in:

Prayer

- We seek to have a daily rhythm of prayer.
- We seek to have a daily habit of spending time in The Bible.
- We seek to worship God in song, thought, word, and action.

Helping

- We seek to serve one another.
- We seek to serve within God's church.
- We seek to serve our neighbour.

Giving

- We seek to give of ourselves, going the extra mile.
- We seek to give of our time in our community and God's Church.
- We seek to be generous with our resources and finances.

Read more about our Vision, Identity and Purpose at: www.bton.uk/vip

Contact Us

Parish Office
Deb Vears
Usual Office Hours
Monday-Friday 9.30-12.30
[Hello@Bedhampton.church](mailto>Hello@Bedhampton.church)
023 9248 3013

Church Leader
Rev Max Cross
Usual Rest Day
Friday
Max@Bedhampton.church
023 9245 0955

Assistant Curate
Rev Jo Lorimer
Usual Ministry Days
Wednesday & Sunday
Jo@Bedhampton.church
07588 713665