

Last before Advent



20th November 2022

Christ the King and Safeguarding Sunday

Hello Everyone,

It is **Christmas** Fayre weekend! The hall is decorated and stalls have been set up and it all looks wonderful. Look great jewellery waiting to be rehomed. The 'train men' are very excited! If you can help please arrive c10am (or towards the end to help clear away.)

Doors Open at 11am tomorrow (Saturday) and we're open until 2pm. The Scouts are providing hot food and I've been busy baking for the Bell Ringers' Cake stall. The 'Lucky Mugs' and 'Lucky Bags' are back and I can't wait to see the new train set in action.

We're also starting to gather **Nativity Sets** for the Festival the following weekend – I've nearly finished my 'Pom-Pom' set. We're picking up a 74 year old hand carved set from Stratford next week and Germaine of Old Moat Drive is kindly lending us her 'Provence' set which includes over 100 pieces.

The NATIVITY FESTIVAL is from 24th – 30th November. Weekdays are reserved from schools (or other groups) but weekends we are open to ALL.

Saturday 26th November 10am – 3pm

Sunday 27th November 11am – 3pm

Not too late to get yours down from the attic . You can download the information/booking-in form <https://bit.ly/NativitySetForm> or ask me for one.

We do need a few more stewards too... sign up in the church porch or over Sunday Coffee.

This will be a fund raiser for the church fabric (probably further roof and ceiling repairs) and also for our Link Dioceses in Malawi.

Newly-weds Joan and Andrew Oldknow were in church recently. Unfortunately, they've discovered an error on their marriage certificate so they will need to resign the Marriage Document (registers in church were abolished in 2020) so we will do it during the 9.30am service this Sunday. It is a much quicker process than it was.

The fabulous display of Poppies will remain up until after the service. Thank you to all who knitted. Julie and Kathy have more ideas of how to expand it next year. Meanwhile Janice Wones asks...

Knitters – Fancy an occasional change from poppies?

A charity (BCHC) make up a memory box when a patient dies in one of our community hospitals. Included in the box is a knitted heart. An identical heart stays with the patient. I will bring some examples into church for the next few Sundays. I will make a few copies of the pattern, to begin with, for anyone who would like to knit a few hearts.

This Sunday is also **Safeguarding Sunday** and we are reminded "One Church, One Day, One message: Protecting Vulnerable People. Together."

We've recently sent out to those on e-mail the link for training for all church volunteers on of our many rotas. If you don't want to do it on-line or don't have access to a computer, please contact Revd Theresa as she is organising sessions in small groups. It takes about 75 minutes.

Jeff Carr reports that the **100 Club** prize draw number 11 took place at the Black Horse Tues 15 Nov. The winners have been congratulated. First prize Tony Jones £35 number 88; second prize Christine Evans £22 number 7; third prize £15 Jayne Bold number 64.

A reminder that that next month's prizes will be £40, 30, and £20. General updates about the 100 Club during 2022 can be seen by clicking the link :-

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/vv5cms6o9jq0zfn/AAAZWnPRvxVaY1jJo2r2jZB6a?dl=0>

For over 40 years Churches Together in Northfield has run "**Community Christmas.**" This year it will be an Afternoon Tea on 10th December. Jenny Shardlow of St David's is co-ordinating the **transport** and will be delighted to receive offers to help collect (pick up from 1.30pm) and return guests (from 3.30pm.) Please contact her direct ... jenny.shardlow@gmail.com 0121 475 7896 asap/ **BY end of 29th November 2022.** *Please let her know you are from St Laurence to make safeguarding checks easier.*

CAN YOU HELP PLEASE?:

- **BABY ITEMS** Thank you so much for those who responded to my request for a cot - the midwife delivered one this week and the mum is so very grateful. Lucy (midwife) has asked again for our help. She has a mum who has had a housefire and is need of a pushchair and car seat suitable for a child age 2. If anyone is able to help in anyway - please do let me know. Thank you. Rowena
- Our **Easy Fundraising** has jumped nearly £40 this week – I think between us we won about 40p on Spin to Win – so the rest is down to 'on-line spending.' Whilst we do want you to live within your means, please do sign up for this scheme especially as they are offering up to a £10 bonus at the moment. It is EASY! And here is the link <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stlaurencenorthfield/>

Have you picked up the '**Little Green Leaflet**' from church with details of what is going on in church between now and Christmas? The calendar section is available here <https://bit.ly/CalendarNovDec22> This is an updated version as inevitably we've discovered a few errors (including the omitting the zoom link for Sundays – now corrected.) We've also moved the Carol Service to 6.30pm on Sunday 18th December so everyone can enjoy the World Cup including Extra Time and Penalty Shoot-out!

Eco Tip: Peter and I had a lovely day off in the garden on Monday. We extracted the leaf mould we'd bagged up 2 years ago and it has turned into the most wonderful compost which is now on the raised bed for vegetables. We'd stored it in large builders bags which are excellent as they are slightly permeable. They also make wonderful homes for frogs – we'd never seen so many! As soon as we started to refill the bags with this year's leaves and pile them up they were soon hopping back to their luxury homes. We have some spare bags if anyone would like one.

What is happening about appointing a **new bishop**? This is known as 'the Vacancy in See' process. It is now under way and full information about the process can be found [here](#).

The Archbishops' and Prime Minister's Appointments Secretaries consultation will take place towards the end of November. This will be in the form of a listening exercise in relation to the future ministry and mission of the next bishop and the CofE Birmingham. There are two ways in which you can contribute:

- You are warmly invited to join a Zoom meeting on Wednesday 23 November 2022 from 7.00pm - 8.00pm when you can engage with the Archbishops' and Prime Minister's Appointments Secretaries directly.

To register in advance for this meeting, please click on the link [here](#).

and/or

- You are invited to provide your feedback via an [online form](#). The form will remain available until 24 November 2022.

If you have any questions relating to the Vacancy in See process, please contact the Executive Assistant to the Diocesan Secretary, [Nicola Booth](#).

The latest **Deanery Newsletter** came out last week and is available on the church notice board and also over at coffee in the Pastoral Centre. It can also be read here.. <https://bit.ly/KNMSOctNov22Newsletter>

Finally, I spoke with the wardens earlier in the week and have now written to Bishop Anne to give notice of **my retirement** as we have now bought our retirement house. Our daughter, Miriam, will be living in it until we need it.

I'm working towards my last Sunday being 18th June 2023 with the days until the end of June to tidy up any remaining loose ends. At the moment it feels a long way off but I wanted to give as much notice as possible to enable planning for the vacancy.

I know a lot of people have asked whether Revd Theresa could become the Rector. It is lovely that you are offering her this 'vote of confidence' but it is very rare for a curate to go on to become Rector. Theresa has recently 'passed' everything she needs in order to move on to become an incumbent of a parish and we offer her huge congratulations - it hasn't been easy under Covid! She is now exploring her next calling so please pray for her as this progresses as we pray for you, especially as we approach a period of change.

*Blessings,
Canon Janet*

For your prayers:

Those who are ill

Pete Coyne: still stable

Koby Thomas (age 10): great nephew of Rita and Brian Gardner. Koby has leukaemia and been very poorly. He is likely to be receiving treatment at the Children's Hospital for some considerable time.

Barbara Flight: back home and starting to walk and manage stairs. She is missing everyone but hopes to back at church soon – maybe with the help of a wheelchair.

Anne Stock: also out of hospital, gaining mobility and trying to sort things out post burglary whilst in the QE.

Richard Barbour: Was in QE but no further news this week.

Those who have died

Barbara Pryme Deykin: mother of Denise Carr *Funeral at Lodge Hill, Friday 9th December tbc*

Home Communions this week

Blanka Stevenson: Blanka is currently housebound due to a fall but found us on-line and joining us on Zoom on Sundays and for the Bible Study.

SERVICES AND MEETINGS COMING UP	
Saturdays <u>Church Open</u> 10 – 11.30am 9am More Setting up for Christmas Fayre <i>11am – 2pm CHRISTMAS FAYRE (19th Nov)</i>	In church Pastoral Centre
Sundays 8.30am Sunday School Service 9.30am Sung Eucharist 4pm Wild Church (<i>20th Nov, then 4th Dec</i>)	In the Pastoral Centre – please pre-book so we know numbers https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/170206735929 bookings close at 2pm the previous day. In church by zoom and zoom-phone https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84533030134 Meeting ID: 845 3303 0134 Churchyard
Mondays 9am – 11am Booking In of Nativity Sets (<i>21st Nov</i>) 5pm Evening Prayer by zoom	Church https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89992167638 Meeting ID 89992167638
Tuesdays 5pm Evening Prayer by zoom	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89992167638 Meeting ID 89992167638
Wednesdays 10am Holy Communion 4.30 – 5.15pm Bible Study on coming Sunday's readings by zoom 7pm Bishop Vacancy Meeting (on-line) 8.30pm Compline	In church and by Conference Call 0117 463 6922 Code 1139# https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89992167638 Meeting ID 89992167638 Need to register, <i>please click on the link here.</i> Use above phone number

<p>Thursdays</p> <p>Nativity Festival School Visits 9 – 3pm (max) (24th Nov)</p> <p>2-3pm Handbells</p> <p>3.15pm Larry's (after school club 11+)</p>	<p>Church</p> <p>In church (maybe vestry)</p> <p>In Pastoral Centre</p>
<p>Fridays</p> <p>Nativity Festival School Visits 9 – 3pm (25th Nov)</p> <p>7.30 – 9pm Bell Ringing Practice</p>	<p>In church</p> <p>In church</p>

Also - You can Phone a Service 24 hours a day!

freephone 0800 804 8044 for Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England. And to hear one of the **St Laurence Ministers preaching: 0121 270 4690** These are changed after the services on Sundays and Wednesdays (usually by early evening)

Peter Chapman is now making Sunday and Wednesday sermons available as **Podcasts**: via:

Spotify at <https://open.spotify.com/show/16wZUENutAJSTu5a4nPDde>

Apple at <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/sermons-from-st-laurence-church-northfield/id1603832487>

and on other Podcast players the generic address is <https://feeds.buzzsprout.com/1915174.rss>

ALSO there is now a player for the sermon podcasts at the foot of the 'Worship' page on the Church web site which allows the sermons to be played directly from that page.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Northfield Community Partnership (NCP) Hub is open Monday-Friday 9am-5pm for any advice or support:

0121 411 2157

email info@northfieldcommunity.org

or just drop in at the NCP Hub, 693 Bristol Road South, Northfield, B31 2JT

The Covid19 study report is now available as it makes some interesting points about how we all coped with the Covid lockdowns... [Final Report COVID-19 Social Study \(covidsocialstudy.org\)](https://covidsocialstudy.org)

Birmingham City Council produces regular e-mail bulletins. You can choose the areas of information you are interested in e.g. sports, refuse, arts, education

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKBCC/subscribers/new?preferences=true>

CONTACT DETAILS

PARISH OFFICE	
Lorraine Freeman (Parish Administrator) <i>Lorraine is working in the office Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri most weeks</i>	enquiries@saintlaurence.info (note this changed in October 2021)  0121 475 1518
RECTOR	

Canon Janet Chapman <i>Day off: Monday though not this week!</i>	janet.rectory@gmail.com ☎ 0121 477 3111
ASSISTANT CURATE	
Revd Theresa Morton <i>Day off: Friday</i>	theresa.curate@gmail.com ☎ 07557472096
READER	
Janice Wones <i>Day off: Friday</i>	janice.wones@talktalk.net ☎ 0121 459 7417

Church Website: www.stlaurencenorthfield.org

Twitter: @stlaurenceb31

Rector: @janetchapman5

Facebook www.facebook.com/StLaurenceChurchNorthfield

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/c/stlaurencenorthfield>

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. If you need to contact someone regarding a church safeguarding concern (adults or children), please call our Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator, Rowena Nicholls, on 07724 170448.

If you have an urgent concern for the safety of yourself or someone else, call 999. Sadly, some people have been **abused by someone from a church**. "Safe Spaces" is a free, independent support service providing a confidential personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused by someone from a church or as a result of their relationship with the Church of England, the Catholic Church in England and Wales, or the Church in Wales. Although funded by the churches it is run by the independent charity, Victim Support. If you have been affected, however long ago, they can provide you with support. You do not have need to have told the police or the church authorities. Your information will not be shared without your consent unless you or someone else is in danger. Telephone 0300 303 1056 for more information.

St Laurence Church Northfield is Registered Charity 1132975