



ADVENT

Church e-Bulletin 5th December 2021 ADVENT 2 www.smso.org.uk

The changes in COVID regulations this week have not legally affected churches. Because we have been cautious in asking people to continue wearing masks indoors, and organising two Carol Services outdoors, we are not intending to change the way we are doing anything at the moment. The seats in the side hall will remain more socially distanced for those who need that option.

JESUS CENTRED, GOD DEPENDENT

Upcoming Services

Sun 5 Dec	10.30am All-Age Worship "Preparing for the Coming King"
Sun 5 Dec	7.00pm Praise, Word, Prayer & Baptism
Tues 7 Dec	10.15am Holy Communion Luke 3:1-6
Sat 11 Dec	5pm Outdoor Carol Service @ Buchanan Park, Overslade
Sun 12 Dec	10.30am Holy Communion Luke 3:7-18 ADVENT 3.
Sun 12 Dec	5pm Outdoor Carol Service i@ St Oswald's

Baptism Pool: Stacey-May will be baptised in our new baptism pool on Sunday evening. Do come and support her.



Boiler Room Prayer: The Boiler room prayer meeting is online this week at 7.30pm. Zoom meeting ID: 876 2496 9997 Passcode: boiler.

The current plan is to go back to live fortnightly meetings on Wed 5th Jan 7.30-8.30 in church. Put it in your diary and arrange fortnightly Connect Groups around the dates.

MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

Christmas Services:

Let some light into a dark year.....

Our printers had a problem which means that while most of our Christmas publicity is here, crucially the A6 flyers with all the services details on will not arrive until Monday. We have a handful of photocopied versions you can pick up on Sunday, but to ensure we tell as many people as possible about the Outdoor Carol Services next weekend, **we need your help.**

We will leave the **flyers on the vicarage doorstep** from Monday evening (7 Vicarage Road, CV22 7AJ). Please come and take as many as you can helpfully give to friends or neighbours. The emphasis is on putting them into the hands of people you know, rather than just cold-drop leafletting, but you can do that too in your street if you live in the parish. We have plenty.

The outdoor services are key mission opportunities. They are only 30 minutes long and will be followed by free hotdogs and non-alcoholic mulled punch - please come to help create an atmosphere and invite as many people as you can. Bring an umbrella if you need it!

- **Sat 11 Dec 5pm Outdoor Carol Service. Buchanan Park, Overslade**
- **Sun 12 Dec 5pm Outdoor Carol Service. St Oswald's Church Green.**
- Sun 19 Dec 6.30pm Carol Service
- Fri 24 Dec 5pm Crib Service
- Fri 24 Dec 11.30pm First Communion of Christmas
- Sat 25 Dec 10.30am Christmas All-Age Communion



Social Media: If you are a social media user, please push the 'Oswald Penguin' and 'Christmas Service' posts that are appearing on our FaceBook page as much as you can. @smsorugby.

Have you looked at www.OswaldPenguin.org.uk yet?

Mission Partnerships: Sue Williams is returning from Herrnhutt House of Prayer to the UK for a few weeks. Her latest newsletter can be read [HERE](#).



SERVING GOD IN HIS WORLD

English for Asylum Seekers: Following previous messages about this, Ian Sydenham is going to be teaching English to some of the asylum seekers based in Dunchurch and needs volunteer helpers to be in conversation groups. If you would like to know more, speak to Ian or email isydenham@talktalk.net. There will be an introductory session for them on Monday 13th am, starting the programme properly in the second week of January.

EVENTS AND TRAINING

Living in Love and Faith: is the C of E's 5 part course to help us engage with issues of human sexuality and gender. This is advance warning that a deanery run course will happen in January. Thursday 13 Jan, 7.30-9.30 online for session 1, followed by a full day (9.30 -17.00) on Saturday 15 January for sessions 2-5. Venue: St Mark's Bilton. Booking details will be available soon.

PRAYER POINTS FOR W/C Mon 6 Dec

1. That the Christmas story would grab our hearts once again, and that we wouldn't be so distracted that we fail to rejoice in God's amazing gift.
2. For the Outdoor Carol Services on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th December, that people would be drawn to come and worship Jesus, and that everyone would be kept safe.
3. For those entering the church building for the first time this Christmas season - that they would find a good welcome and would encounter the Lord.
4. For Gail Long, currently undergoing daily radiotherapy and chemotherapy. Please pray for good sleep for Gail, for mobility and for healing of the brain tumour.

REGULAR REMINDERS AND LINKS

Office Opening

The church office at 1a New Street is open from 9.30am - 1.30pm Mon - Thursday.

To keep office staff safe, we are still asking visitors to remain in the foyer and not enter the offices.

Contacts:

Office: 01788 330440 theoffice@smsso.org.uk
Vicarage: 01788 330442 alanhulme@smsso.org.uk
janehulme@smsso.org.uk

Church Services: If you are having to self-isolate and cannot attend live services you can join in at 10.30 on Sundays from the worship and prayer page of our website www.m20.org.uk/worship

EMMANUEL - GOD IS WITH US IN THIS PANDEMIC...

