

This Week

Wednesday 27th December 2023
10 am – Holy Communion



Our Prayers are asked for:

World

For the leaders of the nations, that you will guide them in the ways of freedom, justice & truth. We pray for peace & the laying down of weapons in Ukraine. We pray for restraint on all sides in the violence in Israel & Gaza.

Church

Our Bishops David, Mark & Mathew. Archdeacon David & Area Dean Daniel Revd Paul, Revd Christine and all visiting clergy. All those who work in the background to provide a welcoming Church.

Community of the Parish

Staff & Pupils at Hey with Zion Primary School, Springhead Primary & Junior School. The staff & residents of Oakdene Care Home, Millfield Care Home.
The street of our Parish –
Shiloh Lane, Dirty Lane.

The Sick

Jean Smith, Grace Stansfield, Terence Davies, Reverend Canon Marcia Wall, Baby Jonah Wolfenden, Michael Brogan, Richard Makinson, Carole Owen and any one close to our own hearts.

Recently Departed

Roy Fryer

Anniversary of Death

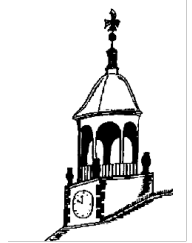
Maureen Langley, Albert Dobson, Eva Bardsley,
Lilian Southern, Annie Withers

What do I do at Communion?

If you receive Holy Communion at any Christian Church, you are welcome to receive it here. Otherwise please come forward with everyone else to receive God's blessing, keeping your head bowed. If you are unable to come forward, please speak to a warden to arrange for Communion to be brought to you.

Everyone is welcome to join us for coffee/tea and biscuits after the 9.30 service in the Church Hall.

St John the Baptist Hey



Receiving & Sharing the Love of God Everyday

Sunday 24th December 2023 Fourth Sunday of Advent/Christmas

8.00 am. - Holy Communion

9.30 am. - Holy Communion

Readings & Hymns

Processional	692	Tell out, my soul
First Reading		2 Samuel 7.1 – 11, 16
Second Reading		Romans 16.25 – <i>end</i>
Gradual	451	Long ago, prophets knew
Gospel Reading		Luke 1.26 – 38
Offertory	666	Sing we of the blessed Mother
Communion	59	Away in a manger
Communion	506	May the mind of Christ my Saviour
Choir Anthem	700	The angel Gabriel from heaven came
Final	584	Of the Father's love begotten

Collect

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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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.

#### Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life: keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Please take this pew sheet home to guide you in your bible study, aid your prayers and remind you of forthcoming events.*

## **Notices**

### **Poinsettias Flowers**

We will again be decorating the church with poinsettias this year, but rather than pay for a plant, you can make a donation in memory of a loved one, these names will be printed on the pew sheet on 24th December. If you would like to do this then please complete a slip which are at the back of church and hand in with your donation to the treasurer or any PCC member.

### **Christmas Card**

Rather than give individual cards, you can write your Christmas greeting to other congregation members in the large card made by Sunday School which is at the back of church and leave a donation in the box, which goes to The Children's Society and Francis House Hospice.

### **Pastoral Care**

If you know of anyone who is sick or unwell and would like a telephone call or visit or would like a name adding to the pray list, please contact Freda Davies 07901806748 or Ann Knowles 07751567645.

### **Food Bank Donations**

We have reinstated the box at the back of the Church for donations to the St Barnabas food bank. Please remember those in need when you are shopping and purchase an additional item which can be placed in the box.

### **Batteries & Printer Cartridges Recycling**

Used batteries & printer cartridges can be placed in the boxes at the back of the Church for recycling.

### **Candle Recycling**

We have agreed to trial the recycling of candles. Place any candles into the box at the rear of the Church. It doesn't matter if they are in a glass container etc., the wax will be removed and the container recycled.

### **Sunday School**

A list of when the Sunday School is operating is at the back of the Church.

### **Book Exchange**

We have a collection of books at the rear of the Church. You are welcome to bring your books you have read and exchange them for another. There is also a box for any cash donations.

## **Finances**

### **The Day-by-Day Scheme**

You can choose a date, for example in memory of a dear one, a birthday or wedding anniversary, or any day that has a special meaning to you, when you would like to give thanks by sponsoring the Church upkeep. We record that date and show it on the Pew Sheet and include it in the prayers of intercession. For further details, speak with Veronica Royle – 0755 2225220

### **Weekly envelopes**

If you would like to start donating by envelope each week, there are spare sets of envelopes available at the back of Church. Just take a set and fill in your name and contact phone number and add your name to the corresponding sheet.

### **Gift Aid**

Gift Aid is an arrangement that allows the Church to reclaim tax on donations made by a UK taxpayer. This means that every donation to St John's will be worth 25% more at no extra cost to the giver. If you would like to discuss or take forward gift aid, please contact our gift aid officer Stewart Morrish - 079 485 46097/email: giftaid.stjohns@gmail.com

### **Standing Orders/Gifts**

No cash and want to donate to Church? We now have a contactless donation device at the back of Church.

If you wish to set up a standing order or wishing to make a gift to the Church, are banking details are:

Hey, St John, the Baptist Church  
Virgin Bank  
05-06-46  
60865731



“Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD.” – *Psalms 150:6, NIV*

Please forward any items to be included in the pew sheets by the end of Wednesday each week to  
Stewart Morrish  
pewsheetstjohn@gmail.com  
079 485 46097

## **Additional December Services**

### **Christingle**

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 6pm.

### **Midnight Communion**

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December - St Thomas, Leesfield  
at 11.30pm.

### **Christmas Day**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> - St Agnes at 9.15am



### **A Prayer for Peace this Advent**

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world,  
the hope of the nations, and the peace of those who  
turn to you. As we prepare to celebrate your birth at  
Christmas, shine your light into our lives,  
bring healing to your world, and let peace break out in  
every heart and home. May our hearts be filled with  
your love and our mouths filled with the song of  
heaven: Glory be to you, our King,  
and peace to all people on the earth!  
Amen.

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and peace to all people on the earth!  
Amen.

## **Advent**

### **Advent Candle**

Advent candles tell their story,  
as we watch and pray,  
longing for the Day of Glory,  
Come, Lord, soon, we say.  
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness,  
changed for gladness on that Day.

Mary's gift, beyond all telling,  
Was to give Christ room.  
Timeless God as human dwelling  
In a mother's womb.  
Who could guess the final story?  
- cross and glory, empty tomb.

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