

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Sun	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Parish Communion
	Reading:	O Come Let Us Adore Him: "Waiting" Luke 2: 25-35
	3pm	No Christmas Choir Practice
	6.30pm	United Service at St Francis' Church
Mon	9.30 – noon	Coffee Morning at SJ's
	8.00pm	Prayer Meeting at SJ's
Tue	6.15pm	CRU2 (Urban Saints (&-11s) at the Assembly Rooms
	7.30pm	Club 2000 (11-13s) meet at Coney Hill Baptist Church
Wed	9.30am	Open Door for mothers & children at SJ's
	1pm-4pm	CareerCafé drop-in at SJ's
	4pm-7pm	CareerCafé appointments
Thur	7.30pm	14 Plus – 44 Windermere Road
Fri	10am – noon	Craft Club at SJ's

NEXT SUNDAY – 3rd December

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Church Parade
3pm	Christmas Choir Practice at Coney Hill Baptist Church
3.15pm – 6pm	Friends & Heroes Christmas Special in church
6.30pm	No prayer meeting



THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Elijah was going up the road to Bethel when some youths from the city taunted him. How did the prophet respond?

Read 2 Kings 2: 23 - 24

MONDAY EVENING PRAYER MEETINGS

8-9PM @ SJ'S

Remaining prayer meetings in 2017 will take place at 8pm at SJ's on 27th November & 11th December. All welcome.



26th November 2017
Sunday next before
Advent



WAITING FOR GOD

The word 'Advent' only really enters the public conscience at one point these days – Advent Calendars.

And my, it's a booming industry.

Long gone are the days when a chocolate advent calendar was the height of decadence. Nowadays, you can now get cheese advent calendars, beauty product versions, and the 'Ginvent' calendar competes with its Malt Whisky rival. Retailers, it would seem, have left no calendar door unopened to flog their wares. Advent Calendars originated in Germany in the mid-nineteenth century. The basic idea was to build a sense of anticipation. Opening a door each day to count down the numbers to Christmas is a small way to build suspense and increase expectation for the approaching celebration. The latest offerings rather miss that point, extending instant gratification, rather than the delayed sort that can make the final festivities all the sweeter.

Will we forego anything this advent to draw deeper into the waiting that comes with following Christ?

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WELCOME

If you're a visitor this morning and wish to find out more about what goes on then introduce yourself to one of our leadership team, or **fill in one of our Connect Cards**. Equally, help yourself to any of our packs, which explain a bit more of what's going on in our church family.



SERVICE BOOKS

A small change: we are now fully digital with our orders of service, so when we need words for prayers, confession or communion, these will appear on our various screens. We have put away the blue order of service books, apart from the chapel where they will still be used for our 8am communion service. We will also hand them out for communion services after the main service and on special occasions, as needed.



WW PANTOMIME SOCIETY

The WWPS are performing on 7th Jan 2018, 1:30pm at Wickham Hall in Sussex Road. Tickets £9 each, 50% of which will be given to Link to Hope. If you would like tickets please contact Karen 07809228415 or Milly Johnson.



CHRISTMAS

FAYRE

Bencurtis Park,
Corkscrew Hill

Saturday, 2nd December 10.30am – 2pm. Entrance £1, children free.

Cakes, games, food, children's corner, stalls, music, raffles. Great for families. All welcome.



MICHAEL COOK

Tina would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and messages of support following Michael's death.



Amber CPC invites you to join them at their next regular bi-monthly prayer meeting on Tuesday 28th November at 7.00pm at SJ's. All welcome.



CAKE SALE NEXT WEEK

It's our Parade Service next week and our Uniformed Groups will be selling home-baked goodies after the service to fund-raise for Scouting opportunities for our young people.



CHRISTMAS

CHOIR

Rehearsals for the carol service will be held on Sunday

afternoons as follows:

26th November – No practice

3rd December - **Coney Hill Baptist**

10th December - St John's

17th December - Carol Service

All rehearsals will be 3pm - 4.30pm. All welcome.

NB Correction to previous information: no practice today (26th). Next one 3rd Dec at Coney Hill Baptist Church.



FRIENDS &

HEROES

Christmas Special

3rd Dec 3.15pm-6pm
in church.



BIG CHRISTMAS SING

4pm on Saturday, 2nd December

@ St Francis' Church
in aid of Christian Aid. All welcome.



SENIOR CITIZENS' CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Saturday, 2nd December. Drivers **needed** – If you could

help by picking up guests at 12 noon

and taking them to the Assembly Rooms, and taking them back home at 3pm please let Jonathan Tickner know.



JENNY GAVED

Anyone who was unable to attend Jenny's thanksgiving service may like to know that the tributes to her at the service can be heard on our website on the sermons page.



PRAYERS

Please pray for:

- The persecuted church, our mission focus this month;
- Tony Holloway and Barry Clements, as they continue to recoup from treatment;
- Sybil Nundy and the rest of Jenny's family as they continue to mourn her death;
- The developments in Zimbabwe as new leaders step into roles of influence;
- The drawing up of a job description/advert for the Young People & Families' Worker & those who will respond to it;
- Our engagement with the community in the run to Christmas;
- How we embrace Advent as a church and ready ourselves for Christmas.