



**27<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

Today's readings are Romans 13: 11 - end & Matthew 24: 36 - 44

### **Advent Carol Service TODAY 6.30pm St John's Church, Boldre**

A very warm welcome is extended to all. This is a beautiful service and a wonderful way to begin the season of Advent.

### **World-wide 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence**

**25<sup>th</sup> November – 10<sup>th</sup> December**

At least **one** in **three** women globally will experience some form of gender-based violence at some point in their lifetime. Please join Mothers' Union members at Brockenhurst Railway station from **8.30 - 9.30am on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November** as they hand out literature to raise awareness.

There will also be a display and prayer station in St. Saviour's Church for the 10 days, so please visit and spend a quiet few minutes, to reflect and learn more of the facts and gain a greater understanding of gender-based violence. For more information about GBV visit [mothersunion.org](https://mothersunion.org) or [UNwomen.org](https://unwomen.org)

### **Church Website Advent Calendar.**

This will start to be revealed **from Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December.**

If you would like a daily e-mail please ask [sue.moss@littleoaks.net](mailto:sue.moss@littleoaks.net).

If you prefer, the daily entries can be found on the website in the prayer blog section using this

link <https://brockenhurstchurch.com/churchlife/prayer/prayerblog>

### **The Advent Spiral – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 4.30pm St Saviour's**

Please could you bring any conifer greenery prior to the Advent Spiral Service, and leave it on the grass by the patio benches outside the Church Hall.

See separate flyer for full details of the Service.

### **Little Flames - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 10.30am St Saviour's**

An informal Service for the under 5's. Come along and bring your friends.

There will be the usual refreshments and activities after the service. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **'O Little Town of Bethlehem - Welcome to a stable in Bethlehem some years ago .. setting the scene with carols.' - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 6-8pm**

Everyone is welcome around our nativity stable at about 6.30pm during the Brockenhurst Village Christmas Fun Event in Brookley Road. Why not come dressed as shepherds, angels or kings ready to join in with singing carols!

**St John's Church, Boldre** are holding a **Christmas Market** on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 11am – 3pm in Boldre Memorial Hall. Cash only.

**St Nicholas' Patronal Service – Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 9am**

**Toy Service Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am St Saviour's**

Please bring a **NEW** toy (unwrapped) which will help brighten Christmas for a child who would otherwise have no presents. This year the toys are being distributed by Scratch, a Southampton Christian charity working with families in need, providing toys and gifts for children and young people who otherwise might go without presents. Donations can also be left at 9am service at St Nicholas'.

**Traditional Carol Service - Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December 6pm St Nicholas'**

A traditional Christmas celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

**Christingle Making - Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 10.45am St Saviour's Hall**

After the Holy Communion Service at St Saviour's come and join us in CAMEO for Christingle making from 10.45am. There will be mince pies for volunteers.

The **Christian Aid team** will be hosting their annual **Christmas Carol Singing** on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December from 10am – 11am in Brookley Road to raise money for the work of Christian Aid and would welcome vocal and instrumental support.

**Christingle Service - Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December 3pm St Saviour's**

An informal service for the young and young at heart. The collection will support the valuable work of The Children's Society.

**Contemporary Carol Service – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 6pm St Saviour's**

All are welcome to this festive Carol Service.

### **Help Needed Over Christmas Period**

Your help would be appreciated at all our Christmas services; there are sign-up sheets at the back of both churches detailing the help that is needed.

**Christmas Day Lunch** – this lunch is open to anyone, but it is especially for those who live alone and would like to share this special meal in the company of others. If you would like to join us, please contact the Church Office on 624584. Cost £10 per head. Transport can be arranged, if necessary. We need one more person to join a small group of volunteers on the day – from 11.45am – 2.45pm approx. Please contact Church Office or Lindy Waight if you can help.

As part of the community warm hub initiative, join our free '**Winter Warmer**' Soup Lunches available on Thursdays 1st, 8th & 15th December from 12.00 - 2.00pm. These will follow on from the CAMEO coffee mornings which starts at 10.15am. Why not join us for both! A warm welcome awaits. If you want to volunteer as a 'server', please contact the Church Office, or Ros Dennison or Liz Dodwell.

### **Brockenhurst Warm Welcome Hub - Village Hall - Monday 10am – 4pm**

This event is open for anyone in our community. Hot refreshments and light snacks will be available. Packs of cards and games, puzzles will also be on hand to encourage everyone to stay and socialise.

### **Flower Pot Sunday**

Next Sunday, is our opportunity to donate towards the weekly cost of the beautiful flowers that adorn our churches.

### **By-Gone Brockenhurst Hard-back edition**

The first six volumes of By-Gone Brockenhurst have been compiled and re-edited into an attractive hard-back copy, price £18. This book would make an ideal present or coffee table book. Now on sale at Pot Pourri, Cards and Candies, or from Jane Forrest, tel, 624287 and Janet McDonald tel. 622144. Volume 8 is now also available price £5.

### **Christmas stamps**

Save your Christmas stamps and all proceeds will go towards Christian Aid charity. Please leave ¼ inch (1cm) of envelope around the stamp. Donations can be taken to the Church Office or left at the back of either church.

### **EcoChurch Weekly tip – November's theme is 'Around the home'**

Find out if you have any unfilled cavity walls and, if yes, have them filled. This extra insulation can make a significant difference to the comfort of your home and save over 1 tonne of CO<sub>2</sub>e.



## Collect

Almighty God,  
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and to put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life,  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;  
that on the last day,  
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty  
to judge the living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Pray for the many Dioceses within the Canterbury Province and the Bishops and Clergy who minister in these places.

Please pray for all those involved in planning the Christmas services.

Please pray for our church family. Pray that we will continue to grow together in our love of Jesus. Pray for a real sense of unity as we learn and share together.

We give thanks and pray for the work of the Agisters within our forest.

Pray for all who live in Armstrong Road

**Mission of the Month – A Rocha UK Caring for God’s Earth.** A Rocha UK is part of A Rocha International, a global family of Christian organizations which, inspired by God’s love, engages in scientific research, environmental education and community-based conservation projects in more than 20 countries and across six continents. Please pray for the work of A Rocha worldwide, and particularly for those who live in areas of the world that are already suffering the devastating effects of climate change.

## The Advent Spiral – St Saviour's, Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 4.30 pm



**And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:  
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown".**

**And he replied:**

**"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.  
That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way".  
So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.  
And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.**

**Minnie Louise Haskins**

*Advent signals a time of wakeful preparation for the birth of the Christ child; heralding the arrival of the world's true light.*

*The Advent spiral symbolises our journey from darkness towards and into Christ's light and the sharing of that light with our fellow travellers on their journey.*

*Upon arrival, you will find a beautiful green spiral with a single lit candle at its centre. With gentle instrumental strands filling the air, you are warmly invited to walk the spiral at a pace appropriate to you. As you journey to the centre to have your candle lit from the central candle, hold in your heart those absent and so draw them near. On your return journey, find a spot to place your lit candle and so provide light for those still to come. When everyone has made the journey, the whole spiral is aglow with light, reminding us that light is more powerful than darkness, that love is stronger than hate and that the Prince of Peace is with us.*

***If you can help with some greenery from your conifers at home, please leave it on the grass by the patio benches outside the Church Hall before Wednesday. If you need help getting it to the church please let me know, via the Church Office, and I will collect. Many thanks, Luke.***