

# NEWSLETTER-DECEMBER 2024 and JANUARY 2025

## St John the Evangelist, Hurst Green

Welcome All | Deepen Faith | Inspire Action

### Welcome to St John's!

*The very first day of December marks the beginning of Advent; the season of expectation and preparation as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming of Christ.*

*I find that there are so many contrasts during this season; the winter darkness and the sparkle of Christmas lights, TV adverts portraying images of abundant food and happy families, while for many, personal loss and poverty are keenly felt.*

*As we journey through Advent and the Christmas season, we discover God's desire to be fully known and present with us. God comes among us, born as the Christ child, choosing to dwell among us and be with us in all the joys and sorrows of life.*

*There are many special services at St John's services during this season. Do come and hear the good news of Jesus Christ and invite others you know to hear it too.*

*Every blessing, Sue*

## Services at St John's over Christmas and the New Year

### DECEMBER 2024

#### Sunday 1 December: Advent 1

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: All Age Christingle  
5pm: Advent Carol Service - further details below

#### Sunday 8 December: Advent 2

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

#### Sunday 15 December: Advent 3

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

#### Sunday 22 December: Advent 4

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist  
5.30pm: Nine Lessons and Carols, followed by mince pies and mulled wine. Collection for The Passage

#### Tuesday 24 December: Christmas Eve

3.30 and 5pm: Crib Services. Collection for Welcare  
9pm: First Eucharist of Christmas ('midnight')

#### Wednesday 25 December: Christmas Day

8.30am: Said Eucharist 10am: Family friendly service

#### Sunday 29 December: Christmas 1

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist



**All Age Christingle Service**  
**Sunday 1 December at 9.45am**  
**in aid of The Children's Society**

### JANUARY 2025

#### Sunday 5 January: The Epiphany

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: All Age Epiphany

#### Sunday 12 January: Baptism of Christ/Epiphany 1

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

#### Sunday 19 January: Epiphany 2

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

#### Sunday 26 January: Epiphany 3

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist



**O come, O come, Emmanuel**  
**Sunday 1 December**  
**5pm at St John's Church**

Please join us for a 45-minute service of readings and reflective music as we enter the season of Advent. Led by Levante Chamber Choir, the music will include traditional Advent music: some well-known carols, such as Peter Warlock's Bethlehem Down; This is the record of John by Orlando Gibbons; and a beautiful new arrangement of the familiar Basque carol, Gabriel's Message, by Jim Clements, as well as Advent hymns for the congregation. There will be a collection for St John's Church.

*The February Newsletter will be available on Sunday 26 January.*

*Please send anything to be included by Sunday 19 January to Janet Harman at [office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk](mailto:office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk), or phone 715301 (and leave a message if I'm out!) Thank you.*

# St John's Notices

[facebook.com/stjohnshurstgreen](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnshurstgreen)

**NEVILLE JACOBS RIP:** The Revd Neville Jacobs died peacefully at his home in Rode near Bath on 13 November. It was so good that several of us phoned him, and Chris Johns visited him, recently, and we all found him joyful and vibrant in the Spirit as he neared his end. We give thanks to God for his life, and that he, and his delightful wife, Celia, joined our congregation in their retirement. From National Service in Malaya, to being a missionary in India for many years, as well as a parish priest at home, Neville brought a wealth of pastoral experience and wisdom to us. He also immersed himself into supporting the re-building of the Scout Hut in Mill Lane because of his strong connection with scouting. We remember his zest for life and ever-cheerful presence with us, even as widowhood and the frailty of old age wrought their presence. After his lifetime of distinguished service to the church and community, may this faithful soldier and servant of the Lord rest in peace and rise in glory.

A Memorial Service to celebrate Neville's life will be held on Monday 9 December at 12 noon at the Church of St Lawrence, Rode, BA11 6PW followed by a reception from 1pm at The Mill at Rode, BA11 6AG. The family invites you to join them; please RSVP by text to Neville's son, Graham: 07768 020204. Donations to The British Heart Foundation are requested rather than flowers.

**YO YOs PLAYGROUP:** Wednesdays in term time, 9.15 - 11.15am. The last session of this term is on 18 December with special Christmas fun, crafts with a Christmas theme and Christmas songs. Starting again on 8 January 2025.

**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY** was marked by a service in St John's, as in churches throughout the land, giving thanks for those who made the supreme sacrifice in wars. It was attended by two local councillors, Scouts and Cubs, members of other churches and a large congregation. Two children from our congregation carried the names of those from this village who died in war and a candle for peace up to the altar. The service concluded with observance of the two minutes silence in the churchyard. The last post was played and then wreathes were laid beside a wooden cross entwined with barbed wire.



Guides and Brownies were unable to attend, but sent artwork depicting 'Remembrance' that they had prepared at a recent meeting, and this was used to decorate the church.



**AUTUMN FAIR:** Thank you to everyone who helped with the autumn fair: running a stall, collecting and returning tables, creating a table plan, preparing the church, clearing away, making and serving refreshments, collecting prizes for the raffle, running the craft workshops and a whole host of other unseen jobs. It was a lovely day and everyone who attended said how much they enjoyed it. We haven't got the final figures yet, but we have certainly made over a £1,000. Thank you everyone!

**MIDWEEK EUCHARIST:** Usually every 4th Wednesday, the next one will be on **22 January at 12 noon** in the Lady Chapel at St John's, followed by a simple lunch of delicious homemade soup and bread in St John's Room. All are welcome!

## COFFEE and a CHAT

St John's Room, 10.30am - 12 noon  
Thursdays 12 & 19 (extra!) December  
9 & 23 January, then fortnightly until Easter  
If you need a lift, please ring Barbara 715636



## Other Notices

**OXTED BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** Saturday 7 December 3pm at St John's. Tickets £10 (under 15s: £5) on the door.

**THE ONE STOP SHOP** in Holland Road is holding a Christmas Raffle in aid of two charities, one local and one national, one for needy children, the other, for needy adults. There are some amazing prizes, and the draw will take place in the middle of December. Please support our local community shop by buying as many tickets as possible, they are priced at £2 each.

**CAROL SINGING AND CHRISTMAS JUMPER NIGHT:** Thursday 19 December, 7pm at The Diamond, with a bucket collection for charity. If you would like a meal there beforehand, contact Ché who will book a table: [cheramsden@gmail.com](mailto:cheramsden@gmail.com) or 07590 680075.

**CHORAL EVENSONG FOR EPIPHANY:** Sunday 5 January 6.30pm at St Peter's Church, Tandridge, with Levante choir. Please join us for this traditional service!

[www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk](http://www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk)

Revd Sue Bosley 01883 712674 / 07553 305087

**st John's**  
HURST GREEN