

NEWSLETTER-DECEMBER 2025

St John the Evangelist, Hurst Green

Welcome All | Deepen Faith | Inspire Action

Welcome to St John's!

Do not be afraid; for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. Luke 2: 10-11

The theme of our special Christmas services this year is JOY.

In churches all over the world, the joy of the birth of Jesus fulfils the hopes and expectations during Advent for the coming of the Kingdom of God, amid the darkness of a hurting world.

On Christmas morning we celebrate that God chose to be with us
in the world in his son Jesus Christ.

Everyone is welcome to join us at St John's at this special time of year.

Every blessing, Sue

Services at St John's this month

*The poster (right) gives more information
on the special Christmas services.*

Sunday 7 December: Advent 2 / Christingle

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: All Age Service

More details below on the Christingle Service

Sunday 14 December: Advent 3

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

Sunday 21 December: Advent 4

8.30am: Said Eucharist (in the York Rooms)

9am: Bubble Church 10am: Parish Eucharist

5.30pm: Carols by Candlelight

Wednesday 24 December: Christmas Eve

3.30pm and 5pm: Crib Services

9pm: First Eucharist of Christmas

Thursday 25 December: Christmas Day

8.30am: Said Eucharist

10am: Family friendly communion service

Sunday 28 December: Christmas 1

9.45am: Morning Prayer, led by Ché Ramsden

(No 8.30am service today)



All Age Service

Everyone is welcome to a special

Christingle service

on 7 December at 9.45am

Make your own Christingle
and take part in songs and prayers
to celebrate Jesus the light of the world.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Please take a flyer from the table in church and
an extra one or two for a friend or neighbour!

JOY

Christmas Services St John's Church, Hurst Green

Sunday 7th December

9.45am All Age Christingle Service
Supporting the Children's Society

Sunday 21st December

5.30pm Carols by Candlelight
Supporting The Passage homeless charity
Followed by mulled wine and mince pies

Christmas Eve

3.30pm and 5pm Crib Service
Supporting Welcare for families
9pm Christmas Holy Communion
Followed by mulled wine and mince pies

Christmas Day

8.30 and 10am Christmas Service



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk

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The January Newsletter will be available on Sunday 28 December.

*Please send anything to be included by Sunday 21 December to Janet Harman at
office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk, or phone 715301 (and leave a message if I'm out!) Thank you.*

St John's Notices

facebook.com/stjohnshurstgreen

COFFEE and a CHAT

St John's Room, 10.30am - 12 noon
Thursdays 11 and 18 December



It has been decided to have an extra coffee morning before Christmas, to avoid a long gap before the next one in the new year (8 January 2026).

If you need a lift, please ring Barbara: 715636.

MID-WEEK COMMUNION: Usually the 4th Wednesday, 12 noon, the next one will be on 28 January 2026, followed by a soup lunch.

MESSAGE FROM CATHY AND GEOFF BOOTH: Miraculously our builders stayed on track and we took possession of our new home on Friday 21 November. We continued to use the rental for a further week so we could unpack and get the new house sorted before starting to live in it. Our new address is:

25 Varsity Drive, Down Ampney, Glos GL7 5FU

We've been using the last few weeks to explore the area which we love. We've found lots of places to visit and everyone we've met has been really friendly and welcoming. We're very much looking forward to celebrating Christmas in our new home.

DURING NOVEMBER: The All Souls and Remembrance services and Autumn Fair have drawn many from the local community, who may not usually come, through the doors of the church. It's been a wonderful opportunity to welcome them to St John's. Dedicated teamwork has enabled these events and services to happen. Thank you so much to everyone involved, in whatever way.

THANK YOU to all who organised (or attended) recent successful, sociable and enjoyable events, raising money for church funds:

September - Bouncy castle at the Village Fair (about £330 raised) and also the popular teas at Aggies

October - Beer & Chilli evening with Emma Kemp, host and beer expert, and Debbie Harris and team on food (£505)

November - Autumn Fair, organised by Sue Fox (£1,260)

REPORT FROM THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL: The recent PCC meeting on 20 November was chaired by Henk van den Berg and covered the following:

Mission Development Day - You are all encouraged to join the PCC on Saturday 17 January 2026 9.30am-3pm (includes lunch) in THE_SPACE, Oxted Community Hall to discuss St John's future.

Work to display former chair plaques in the Lady Chapel will be carried out soon. They will be mounted on a cross using wood from the table currently in St John's Room; the church table will move into St John's Room. This will be replaced by a bespoke cabinet of a similar size, with storage, on wheels, so it can be moved.

Health and Safety - Chris Long, H&S Officer, highlighted some matters to be addressed. All four accidents recorded in 2025 involved people tripping up the step into the church (Chris Johns is to paint a white line to increase visibility of the step). The risk assessment for Yo Yos which is very out of date is being revised. The large numbers attending indicates the success of the popular baby and toddler group, but also presents a risk.

Chris Johns, Fabric Officer is also working on the installation of CCTV in the church, essential following recent thefts and attempted thefts causing damage; seeking an alternative way to display the Bubble Church banner which broke some stained glass

windows during a storm; and investigating how to deal with the damage to the carpet which will result when the font is moved.

Community Fridge: A new leader is sought; please speak to Ché Ramsden or Sue Bosley to find out more about what is involved.

Services to encourage young families: The monthly Bubble Church is growing, with many unchurched families attending and will include its first baptism in January. Numbers have also increased at All Age services with a new non-Eucharistic format, which uses some of the familiar ideas from Bubble Church.

APPEAL FOR LOIS: One of the children in the congregation is having an operation her family hopes will cure her epilepsy. They are raising funds to provide her with the physiotherapy she needs afterwards. Please support in any way that you are able. Pick up a card from the table in church, scan the QR code or go to www.gofundme.com/f/LoisRehabilitationFund.



Other Notices

WRITE A CARD TO A PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE: Saturdays 6 & 13 December, 10am - 2pm at THE_SPACE, Oxted Community Hall. See poster on the noticeboard in the porch for more details, or contact Sue Mallinson 07780 650986, suemalli5876@gmail.com. The first session is preceded by St Mary's monthly prayer breakfast, 9am (1st Sat each month) to which all are also welcome!

HURST GREEN SINGERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT will be held on Saturday 6 December at 6pm in the Bawtree Hall, Hazelwood School, Wolfs Hill, Limpsfield RH8 0QU. The programme will comprise Vivaldi's Gloria, Rutter's Gloria and carols for choir and audience. Tickets are £20 (to include refreshments) and are available from www.hurstgreensingers.co.uk or on the door. Under 18s will be admitted free. Do join us for what promises to be a great evening of choral and orchestral music.

OXTED BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Saturday 6 December, 3pm at St John's Church, with favourite carols and Christmas music. Tickets, £10 (under 15s, £5), available on the door. More details from www.oxtedband.co.uk or secretary@oxtedband.co.uk.

CAROL SINGING AT THE DIAMOND: Thursday 11 December at 7.30pm. All welcome! More information from Ché Ramsden.

CAROLS IN THE COURTYARD: Join in with Creative Community and Oxted Band on Tuesday 16 December at 6.30pm (45 mins) outside Pollards Oak shops. Everyone welcome. Hot drinks available. Parking is very limited, so please walk if you can.

DON'T BE ALONE ON CHRISTMAS DAY: Join us for a free lunch at Hurst Green Community Centre at 12.30pm. To book, call Kelly Kent 07732 952227 or Deb Shiner 07592 610449. Lifts may be possible if you are unable to get to us.

www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk

Revd Sue Bosley 01883 712674 / 07553 305087