

St. Luke's & St. John's

Proclaiming Christ in Devon

Dearest friends,

This Sunday we will light the first candle of five on our Advent Wreath, but why do we do this?

Whilst lighting candles to represent the light of God in the world is a very old Christian tradition, the idea of an Advent Candle Wreath is a relatively modern one.

In fact it only goes back to the early 1800s and - no big surprise here - comes from Germany (as indeed most of our modern Christmas traditions).

In 1839 Johann Hinrich Wichern, a pastor in Germany, built a wreath out of an old cartwheel to help the children in his mission school count the days until Christmas.

He added small candles to be lit every weekday and Saturday during Advent, and on Sundays, a large white candle was lit.

There is evidence of this practice going on much earlier in Germany - right the way back to the 16th century, but it wasn't until the 1800s that we saw what we may recognise as the modern wreath.

In many ways this was the precursor to both the Advent Calendar (no chocolate then!) and the Advent Candle Wreath that we light each Sunday.

We light the first candle for the Prophets which represent the Hope of the world. The second

candle is for Faith, the third for Joy and the fourth - Peace. The central white candle is lit at Midnight Mass on Christmas Day.

Each week I'll explain a little more about the candles and what they represent at the start of mass.

I'm looking forward to travelling with you this Advent and preparing to meet Jesus on Christmas Day.

In love,

Fr. Matthew

Notices

First Advent Lecture

This Thursday (27th) - a talk on the history of the anglo-catholic movement in the church of England with a particular emphasis on Devon (7pm, Wickham Hall). This talk will be repeated in St. Luke's on the 26th January. Next week - Assisted Suicide Talk.

Joint Mass THIS week

Advent 1 is a joint mass (as it's the 5th Sunday) at St. Luke's at 11:15am. If you want to get a head start on the new mass



setting come along at 11am when Clive and I will do a quick run through.

Bay Brass Band Concert

Sadly, Bay Brass Band have been in touch this week to let me know they've not been able to secure enough players for their concert at St. Luke's and have very sadly had to cancel it.

Christmas Explorers

It would be wonderful if you could find time to come to Explorers on the afternoon of the 7th. We're expecting a lot of people as there'll be a special visit from a certain St. Nicholas! Any help would be very much appreciated. 3-5pm

Choice Words

Come visit Choice Words, the largest second-hand Christian bookshop in the southwest! We are open 9.30am-4.30pm Monday through to Saturday. You can find us at 71 Queen St. Newton Abbot, or call us on 01626 334 027, or email us at, shop@choicewords.co.uk

New Mass Setting

We will be singing a new mass setting during Advent. We'll rehearse it at 11am on Sunday in St. Luke's for anyone who wants to come early and get a head start!

Today

Sunday 30th November

1st Sunday of Advent ●

- 11am - Rehearsal of new mass setting [SL]
 - 11:15am - Joint Sung Parish Mass [SL]
 - 3pm - Advent Carols with the Dartmouth Phoenix Choristers, mulled wine & a warm welcome assured! [SL]
 - 4pm - Said Evensong with Adoration & Benediction [SJ]
- Psalter Week 1, A(II), Advent 1*

Upcoming Dates

November

- 27th - Advent Course, 1st lecture, 7pm, [WH]
- 30th - Joint Mass, St. Luke's, 11am [SL]
- Advent Carols, 3pm [SL]
- Said Evensong with Adoration & Benediction

December

- 7th - Explorers & Christingle, 3-5pm [SC]
- 20th - 9 Lessons & Carols, 6pm, both churches
- 21st - Christingle & Crib Service, 3-5pm [SL]
- Solemn Evensong with Benediction, 7pm [SJ]
- 24th - Live Nativity, 4pm [SJ]
- Midnight Mass, 8pm [SJ]
- Midnight Mass, 11:30pm [SL]
- 25th - Christmas Day Mass, 10am [SL & SJ]

January

- 24th - Rosary Group, 10am [SL]
- 26th - History of the Anglo Catholics Talk, 6pm [SL]

Table Top Sale at Wickham Hall every 3rd Saturday at 10am.
St. Luke's Women's Group meets first Wednesday of every month.

[SJ] St. John's | [SL] St. Luke's | [WH] Wickham Hall
[SC] St. Catherine's School

The week ahead:

Monday 1st December

Monday of the 1st week of Advent ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: Our Clergy

Tuesday 2nd December

Saint Osmund, Bishop ●

9:45am - Morning Prayer [SJ]

10am - Said Mass [SJ]

Prayer focus: The Parish of St. Luke's

Wednesday 3rd December

Saint Francis Xavier, Priest ●

10am - Said Mass [SL]

Prayer focus: The Parish of St. John's

Thursday 4th December

Thursday of the 1st week of Advent ●

10am - Said Mass [SL]

7pm - Advent Course, Week 2 Lecture [WH]

Prayer focus: The Mission of St. Luke's and St. John's

Friday 5th December

Friday of the 1st week of Advent ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: Children in hospital

Saturday 6th December

Saint Nicholas, Bishop ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: All Families

Sunday 7th December

2nd Sunday of Advent ●

9am - Sung Parish Mass [SJ]

11:15am - Sung Parish Mass [SL]

3pm - Explorers [SC]

Psalter Week 2, A(II), Advent 2

Please pray for:

Sr Sylvia, Phil and Jean, Rosemary, Simon Stevenette, Alan Randall, Peter Thompson, Steve Jefferies, Eileen Skinner, Bryan, Vicky Pearce, Mark, Glad & Stan, Carol & Sophie, Pam, Sue King, Marilyn, Arthur Pengelly, Jennifer Benney, Viv & Lyn, Bob Julian, David, Cliff and all those who have asked for our prayers.

Pray for the souls of:

Richard John Riley, Frank Wilson, Eric Parker, Jill, Betty Cornish, Jim Bruce, M.E. Anne Johnson, Elizabeth, Jeremy, Roy Brinkworth, Elizabeth Murchison, Joe McHugh, Michael Crow and the souls of all those whose anniversary of death falls this week.

Father Matthew Cashmore

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Churchwardens

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Associate Clergy

Fr Christopher Robins, Fr Robin Eastoe SSC
Fr Alan White and Deacon David Rogers
Lay Minister: Mr Graham Whittle (01626) 212339