

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Please let Phyl Fry have any collecting boxes that require emptying before the New Year. If anyone would like a box at home to help children please contact Phyl – 01249 712069.

HOUSE GROUP

The House group will meet on Thursday 20th December at 17 Light Close at 7:30pm for Bible Study and Discussion from Luke Chapter 21 on the Second Coming of Christ. Please also note the first House Group after the Christmas break will be Thursday 10th January. Further Details from Neil Pidduck (01249) 715848.

TOWN CAROLS

This year's open air Town Carols takes place on Tuesday 18 Dec. Please meet at 6.45pm in the High Street at the Christmas tree outside Haine & Smith opticians with torches and lanterns. The carols conclude in Church Square and there is usually a hot mince pie afterwards. In case of inclement weather the carols will take place in St Bart's Church.



CAROL SINGING AT KATHERINE PARK

At 6.30pm on Friday 21 Dec there will be a further opportunity to sing carols outdoors by joining with the Katherine Park Residents' Association in front of the gateway to the green at Katherine Park.

NATIVITY CHRISTMAS CARDS

Many thanks to all who bought cards this year; with gift aid this has raised over £125 for St Bart's. *Lyn Jackson*

FIRST AID TRAINING:



If anyone would like to become a First Aider for St Bart's, or update their training for this role, the deanery is running a course at St Peter's Chippenham on 9 February. If you would like to attend (or if you would be interested in principle but can't attend on this date) please email our Team, Administrator, Fiona, **by 18th December** at

office@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk

For More information:

Revd Dr Andrew Johnson - rector@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk ☎ 01249 713232

Church Office: Fiona Draper - office@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk ☎ 01249 701720

Team Website: - corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk

PASTORAL VISITING: If you know of someone who is in need of pastoral care please contact L'nora Olney on 01225 859202 so that appropriate arrangements can be made. These might include a visit at home or in hospital and/or the provision of home communion

Weekly Information Sheet

16 December 2018

Advent 3



PLEASE TAKE THIS SHEET HOME WITH YOU as a reference source during the coming week.
Also check the website for any breaking news and for much more information.

DIARY DATES

Mon 17 Dec	2.30pm	Thanksgiving service for the life of Angela Bright
Tues 18 Dec	6.45pm	Town carol Service (see article)
Thurs 20 Dec	8.45am	Corsham School in Church (until 12.45pm)
	7.00pm	Corsham School concert
	7.30pm	House group meets at 17 Light Close
Fri 21 Dec	9.00am	Corsham School concerts (until 1.00pm)
	2.00pm	Corsham Regis Service
	3.30pm	Church cleaning (Team A)

ST BART'S CAROL SERVICE



Please join us tonight at 6.00pm for our service of Readings and Carols, which is always a wonderful opportunity to experience the Christmas story in words and music. This year you are also very welcome to enjoy a mince pie and a mulled drink afterwards and view the Advent Christmas Tree Festival for the last time before the trees are taken away on Monday. Do join us if you can and invite others along too!

CHRISTMAS CARDS – INTERNAL POST

The Christmas Card boxes are available on the Cross Pew for members of the congregation to send cards internally. They will remain in place until 30 Dec so please check them regularly.



DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

Items for inclusion in each Sunday's sheet should be submitted not later than **MIDDAY on the preceding Wednesday.**

Email to: admin@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk or
Post/deliver to: 1 Park Lane, Corsham. ☎ 01249 701783 (answering machine available).

If you would like to receive this Information sheet by email please send a request, putting **Weekly Info Sheet** in the subject line, to admin@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk. Your information will not be shared with 3rd parties or used for other purposes.

Sunday 16 Dec 2018 – Advent 3

Collect

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN

Old Testament Reading – Zephaniah 3:14-20 (NRSVA)

A Song of Joy

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! ¹⁵ The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. ¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. ¹⁷ The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing ¹⁸ as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. ¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰ At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

New Testament Reading – Philippians 4:4-7 (NRSVA)

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading Luke 3:7-18 (NRSVA)

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?' ⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the

axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' ¹¹ In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' ¹² Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' ¹³ He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

SERVICES FOR THE NEXT WEEK AT ST BART'S

Weds 19 Dec 18

10.00am Holy Communion led by Revd Andrew

Sun 23 Dec 18 – Advent 4

8.00am Holy Communion led by Revd Andrew

10.00am Team Holy Communion led by Revds Andrew and Adam

Anthem: BACH– Awake us Lord , and hasten

Large Print Books

Large print Hymn books and Service books for Holy Communion and Morning Worship are available; we also produce large print versions of any additional service sheets. Please ask a sidesperson if you require one of these.