



St. Lawrence Church & St. Mary's Church

Newsletter 16th December 2018

Website www.gnosallparish.org.uk. & Facebook www.facebook.com/GnosallParish

Welcome to Church on the Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday 16 th December	7:45am	Holy Communion	
	10:30am	Holy Communion	
	6:30pm	Carol Service	
Monday 17 th December	6:30pm	School Christmas Service	
Tuesday 18 th December	8:45 - 9:30am	Tea & Toast	
	9:30am	Morning Prayer	
	10:00am	Reception Class Nativity	
Wednesday 19 th December	1:00pm	Peter Gillard's Funeral	
	7:30pm	Carol singing around the pubs in Gnosall	
Thursday 20 th December	9:15am	Holy Communion	
	2:15pm	Play & Praise	
	7:30pm	Carol singing around the pubs in Gnosall	
Sunday 23 rd December	7:45am	Communion by Extension	
	10:30am	Holy Communion	Rev Kathryn
	6:30pm	Reflective Christmas	Lay Led
Monday 24 th December	4:00pm	Crib Service	Rev Kathryn
	11:30pm	Midnight Communion	Rev Kathryn
Tuesday 25 th December	7:45am	Communion by Extension	
	10:30am	Holy Communion	Rev Kathryn



Third Sunday of Advent

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.

Zephaniah 3.14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! 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. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. 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 as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. 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. 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.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory to you O Lord**

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? 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. 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.' And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' 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.' As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 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. 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.' So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you O Christ.

Year's Mind

Ronald James Barnes
Laura Mary Winfield
Emily Mary Cork
John Lloyd Powell
Patricia Marion Ellis
Sandra Botfield
Frank Cyril Jones
Nancy Mary Allcock

CHURCH SERVICES AT MORETON

Sunday 23rd December Holy Communion at 9am
Tuesday 25th December Holy Communion at 9am
Sunday 30th December United Benefice Service at Gnosall
(No service at Moreton)

CAROL SINGING

On 19th and 20th December we will be carol singing around the pubs in Gnosall. If you would like to come along please have a word with Eric Henderson or Rev Kathryn

Rector Rev Kathryn Hammond - 822820 rev.kathrynh@gmail.com
Associate Priest Rev Cathy Dakin - 07971 101259 cathydakin@waitrose.com
Churchwardens: Bob Winfield - 822507 bobwinfield@btinternet.com
Eric Henderson - 823881 eric.henderson2@btinternet.com

If you know of anyone in the community who would appreciate a visit, please let Rev Kathryn know. Many thanks

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The Children's Society

On behalf of The Children's Society can I thank everyone for the generous donations from the box holders who raised the amazing sum of £1,245 this year.

The box collections really do change children's lives everyday by providing funding to maintain the Society's vital services, including helping thousands of children who are being exploited on the streets.

Can I also thank the box collectors whose help I greatly appreciated.

Have you found your Children's Society box or do you want me to give you another one?

Yvonne Cannell (Coordinator)

Please take this sheet home with you to remind you of the readings and notices and also please take one for anyone whom you know is missing from today's service and would like to feel included

CHRISTIAN FOOD BANK

Christian Food Bank



Please do remember that we collect tinned food here at the back of church that is collected every two weeks and taken to the Food Bank at Stafford. Your donations are appreciated. **Please bring any tinned food to the box at the back of church – making sure the tins are well within their sell by date.**

ACROSS THE BENEFICE

For enquires concerning baptisms and weddings please contact Rev Kathryn at Tuesday's Office Hour from 6:15pm to 7:15pm.
01785 822820 rev.kathrynh@gmail.com

FRIENDS OF ST LAWRENCE

Copies of Janet Wiseman's Christmas Quiz at £1 each are available at the back of Church in support of The Friends of St Lawrence

PRAYER CHAIN

Please remember that we have a prayer co-ordinator who every fortnight sends around names of people to be included in our prayers. If you would like to receive this list then please contact Hayley – h_a_p@hotmail.com

WINNERS OF DECEMBER DRAW



1. £25 Keith Perry
2. £15 Norman Hailes
3. £10 Andrea Preston
4. £5 Flora MacLeod

CHURCH DECORATING & CLEANING

Will be on Saturday 22nd December from 9am. Everyone welcome to help.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS MARKET

The Friends committee would like to thank everyone who helped in any way to make the day a great success. An amazing £3,282 was raised - so thank you one and all.

MINIATURE NATIVITY EXHIBITION, MORETON



Our villagers are beavering away with their creations for the Miniature Nativity Exhibition which will be on display in the foyer of the Millennium Centre from the beginning of December over the Christmas period. Please find time to visit the exhibition on each Saturday in December and at other times when the Community Centre is open, admission is free. The theme this year is "What Christmas means to me".

WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR CHRISTMAS?

We often get asked that question don't we? For some of us it's not possible to get together with family and friends on Christmas Day.

If you would like to share your Christmas lunch with others who might, for various circumstances, be on their own this year, then why not come and have lunch at St Lawrence's Church.

Lunch will be served at 1.00pm but come along anytime from 12.30pm for a glass of sherry and to relax before lunch is served.

We can provide a lift if you would like one.

To let us know that you would like to come or to seek further information please contact us on:-

Norman and Sheila Hailes 823686
Martin Watkins 824005
Rev. Kathryn Hammond 822820

