



All Saints' Church

Minister: Revd Dr Caroline Wickens
01442 866324 Email: cwickens1985@outlook.com
Church administrator: David Pain
07380 602361 Email: allsaintsberkhamsted@outlook.com

www.allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk

Sunday 7th December

9.45am Holy Communion led by Revd John Kirkby

Readings

Isaiah 11 vv 1-10
Matthew 3 vv -12

Hymns

180 O come, O come Emmanuel
504 May the mind of Christ
594 Lord Jesus Christ
167 Colours of day

Thought for the week: Sunday 7th December

Gift-giving God, may Advent be for us a time of giving and receiving

Holy God, the greatest gift giver of all times,
you are not the 'stocking filler' or little extra,
you are the greatest and best gift that can be given.

Gift-giving God, may Advent be for us a time of giving and receiving

Blessings, Caroline

Source: Methodist Church UK, Gifted: resources for Advent 2025

Morning Prayer at 9am and **Eucharist** at 9.30am continue on Tuesday morning.
All welcome. There will be no Friday Evening Prayer for the moment.

"Coffee, Chat and Play" takes place on **Tuesday mornings** from 10 - 11.15am.
Everyone welcome to enjoy some time together in the Lower Hall.

Friendship Club meets on Tuesday afternoon at 2.30pm in the Lower Hall. This week will be a Christmas craft afternoon.

“Songs on the way to the stable”: reflections for Advent led by Revd Caroline on **Monday evenings** from 7.30 - 9pm. This week will look at StF 181 – Of the Father’s love begotten and John 1:1 - 14. Full details are on the flyers on the table. Everyone welcome - please contact Caroline on cwickens1985@outlook.com for the Zoom link.

Church Christmas Card: as we have done in previous years we would like some assistance in delivering our cards to the homes in our church neighbourhood. A sign up sheet with the roads and details of numbers will be available in the church this Sunday. Thanks in advance for your help.

Food pantry: Following the closure of Open Door, All Saints’ is hosting a food pantry once a week. There is a cupboard in the church porch, which will be **open on Tuesdays**, from 10am - 4pm. Donations will be welcome; there will be a box in church, along with one in the entrance to the halls. We will also receive supplies from the town’s working party.

Friendship Club send their thanks to all who helped them raise an impressive £700 for the Leprosy Mission at their coffee morning last Saturday.

Carol Singing: Christian Aid asks you to come and join others to sing familiar carols outside Tesco’s on **Saturday 13th December** at 10.30am for about an hour, reminding the busy shoppers of the “Reason for the Season” and raising vital funds for their work.

Church Garden: unusually there are quinces to pick from the bush at the top of the slope. Please help yourself if you would like some.

Christmas Cards: Two years ago, the All Saints’ Eco group suggested that we might use the opportunity of exchanging Christmas greetings by bringing just one card addressed to church friends and putting it on display in the church. Christmas 2024 saw a lovely display and much reading. It would be good to do this again and really contribute to the decoration in the church during Christmas and Epiphany. It is also an opportunity to add a donation for the the two charities supported by All Saints at Christmas - Action for Children and The Children’s Society.

Following the sad closure of the Open Door, a new charitable organisation has been set up called **Berkhamsted Together**. This will work with other organisations in Berkhamsted and surrounding villages to support people in need in our community. Berkhamsted Together are holding a public meeting in the Civic Centre on **Monday 8th December** at 7.30pm to present their plans and discuss ways for us all to work together. All are welcome.

You are invited to an **Advent Quiet Morning** at St Mary's Church Northchurch on **Saturday 13th December** 10am-2pm. for a time of reflection, prayer, and contemplation as we approach Christmas. Explore stations in church to deepen your relationship with God and find peace in the midst of this busy season. All are welcome.

Service streaming: the link to watch the service on Sundays is: <https://www.youtube.com/@Allsainshp4/live>

Christmas Services at All Saints'

Sunday 14th December

4-5.30pm Christmas Messy Church

All ages exploring the Christmas story through activities and crafts. A fun and relaxed opportunity to think about what the Christmas story says to us today.

Friday 19th December

4pm Blue Christmas Service

A quieter, reflective service for those who find Christmas difficult.

An opportunity, in the midst of the busyness, to stop, reflect and remember.

Sunday 21st December

3pm Christmas Concert by Hemel Hempstead Band

Followed by mulled wine/fruit punch and mince pies.

4.30pm Carol Service

An opportunity to hear the traditional readings and sing well-known carols accompanied by Hemel Hempstead Band.

Christmas Eve Wednesday 24th December

4pm Crib Service

Children and adults all enjoy this joyful, and often noisy, service as we remind ourselves of the events of that first Christmas and sing carols enjoyed by all ages.

Christmas Day Thursday 25th December

9.30am Worship for all

This is a service suitable for all ages. Children may wish to bring along one of their Christmas presents to show to the congregation. Familiar carols and an opportunity to rejoice together as we celebrate the gift of Jesus

Prayer Requests

For: Jonathan and Ann Hayes; Helen and Sarah; Marion and Julian; Audrey and Paul Cox; Mark, Nicola and family; Terry; Heather Gifford; Ida; Penny;

For all those affected by Hurricane Melissa;

We give thanks for the ceasefire in Gaza and pray that it will lead to a lasting peace;

We pray for our neighbours throughout the world whose lives have been changed by the events in Israel, Palestine and Lebanon, and pray especially for all those who have lost loved ones and homes due to the conflict. We pray too for all aid workers who have died or been injured while trying to bring supplies to those in need and for their families.

We pray too for those who are caught up in war in other parts of the world, including Sudan and Ukraine and for those facing the threat of starvation in the ongoing hostilities;

We pray for the people of Myanmar following the devastating earthquake at the end of March;

We also pray for:

All who are refugees, especially those who are not receiving help to rebuild their lives in safety;

We pray that the issue of climate change may not be forgotten and all the nations may act to secure the safety of our world. We pray too for all whose lives have been badly affected by climate changes in the areas where they live.

We pray that all MPs may serve their constituents and country with integrity and care for all they represent.

We continue to pray for the children and their families of our church and town and all who work in the NHS; Social Services and the charities who are supporting the sick or frail;

We pray for those who are helped by Embrace the Middle East, Karibuni Children; the Leprosy Mission; Phakamisa, DENS; the Way Inn with Open Door; the Swan Youth Project and for all those who work in these organisations.

We continue to pray for those whose need is ongoing:

Julia Wright; Corinne & William; Gary Andersen; Charlie; Graham Rule; Clare Hancock; John Malcolm; Valerie Ruddock; Jenny Wells; Barbara Conway; Marnie Taylor; Leslie; Lesley Whittaker; Chris Billington; Jean Emsall



All Saints' Church, Berkhamsted