

Today

Traditional Carols by Candlelight. 6.00pm at St Stephen's. Followed by mulled wine and Christmas nibbles. Choir rehearsal from 4.00pm.

Christmas Services

Thu 24 Dec Starlight Service, for all ages 4.00pm at St Stephens

Thu 24 Dec Midnight Communion, 11.30pm St Stephens

Fri 25 Dec All Age Christmas Day Service with Communion. 10.00am at St Stephens

Looking Ahead

Sun 3 Jan The evening service will be at St Stephen's, 6.00pm.

Tues 5 Jan Prayer Gathering, 10.00-11.30am in St Stephen's.

Wed 6 Jan Prayer Gathering, 8.00-9.30pm in St Stephen's – with coffee, tea and cakes 7.30-7.55pm.

Tues 12 Jan CAP Prayer Meeting. 7.45pm at Selly Park Baptist Church. See Sarah Underwood for more details.

Sun 17 Jan Church Family Meal. Straight after the morning service. We are starting a monthly meal, exciting details to follow, but for now put this date in your diary!

Thu 21 Jan Identity course begins. Invitations are on the table at the back of church.

Mon 8 Feb Women's Book Group. "Seeking Allah, finding Jesus" by Nabeel Qureshi. All women welcome! See Chris Stonehouse or Elizabeth Barry to find out more.

News and Requests

Updated **Church Family Address Books** now available. Let Jem Huggins know if you'd like one. You can email or phone her or leave a note in the Parish Office pigeon hole.

Building for the Future Gift Day Response. Praise God, that so far a wonderful £36,000 has been given or pledged (including tax relief) – enough to pay the final bills. Thank you to everyone who has given and prayed. It would still be brilliant to have another £18,000 to get other jobs done – we trust God to give us what we need.

Could gospel ministry be for you? Why not spend a year serving the church and learning Bible teaching and ministry skills as a Ministry Trainee, from Sept 2016? Speak to Chris Hobbs.

The Funeral service for **Hilda Fox** will be 10am on 21st December at Robin Hood crematorium, followed by burial at Widney Manor cemetery.

Vicar: Chris Hobbs **Assistant Minister:** Andy Martin

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ST STEPHENS AND ST WULSTANS SELLY PARK

taking Jesus seriously, taking the Bible seriously



Welcome

20 December 2015

If you are new, you are especially welcome. Please help yourself to a Welcome Booklet and, if you have time, introduce yourself and ask any questions you may have.

10.00am Holy Communion at St Stephen's

'Who really is Jesus?' (John 1:1-5) – Maurice Sinclair

Children and young people aged 3-11 will have holiday cover in the Cranmer room, accessed from the front of church. **Children aged 0-3** will have a crèche that can be found through the foyer doors.

Toilets are adjacent to the foyer and upstairs; baby-changing facilities are in the disabled toilets.

Coffee, tea and biscuits are served after the service in the foyer.

6.00pm Carols by Candlelight at St Stephen's

'Who needs Christmas?' (Luke 1:67-79) – Chris Hobbs

Mulled wine and Christmas nibbles will be served at the end of the service.

The Big Question: Who is this?

The Lord of Power who Spoke the Universe into Being

The Lord of Glory who Lights up our World

The Lord of Wisdom who brings Reason into our Confusion

The Lord of Life who Delivers us from Sin and Death

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

COLLECT *led by Andy Martin*

HYMN Come see the Lord in his breathtaking splendour

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

SONG Let me tell you about a baby

After which the children and young people will leave for their groups

NEWS

SONG Light of the world

BIBLE READINGS Genesis 1:1-5 (pages 3), Proverbs 8:22-36 (page 642), John 1:1-5 (page 1063)
(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON Who really is Jesus?

THE NICENE CREED

PRAYERS ending with THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SONGS Here is love

Holy God in love

COMMUNION *see insert*

HYMN Glorious light

BLESSING