



ST JAMES' CHURCH WEST END

Pew News

Sunday 5th January 2020

SUNDAY SERVICES AT ST JAMES'

Today	Epiphany	
	9.30am	Parish Eucharist, Pathfinders & Mustard Seeds
	11.00am	Church Alive with Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Epiphany Carols and Readings

Next Sunday **Baptism of Christ**

12 January	9.30am	Parish Eucharist, Pathfinders & Mustard Seeds
	11.00am	Church Alive
	6.30pm	Prayers for Healing

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Morning Prayer will be said on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 9am.

Tues 7 Jan	9.30am	Open Door Chaplaincy – Harefield Surgery
	7.45pm	HOPE committee meeting

Wed 8 Jan	10.00am	Holy Communion
	1.00pm	Wedding Meeting
	2.00pm	Church Alive Planning Meeting
	7.30pm	Choir Practice

Thur 9 Jan	1.30pm	Churches Together – Roman Catholic Church, Hedge End.
	7.30pm	Discussion Group – Brenda Holden

Fri 10 Jan	11.00am	Lincoln Court Communion
	7.30pm	IGNITE Youth Group

Sun 12 Jan	2.30pm	Dawson Lodge Communion
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PLEASE could all items for Pew News to be received by
WEDNESDAY at the latest

NEWS

EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE at 6.30pm tonight. All welcome at this joyful service of Carols and Readings celebrating the visit of the Magi to Jesus. The choir will be singing some beautiful anthems and the service includes the opportunity to place candles at the Crib as a sign of adoration and offering our lives to Christ at the beginning of this new year.

(NEW) THANKYOU to all those wonderful people who removed the Graffiti from the Church on Monday.

(NEW) BE A WINNER! Why not join THE 200

CLUB? You could be a winner by just paying £5 a month or more you could not only win one of three cash prizes but also support Project Aurora.

Not less than 55% of the monthly payments will go toward Project Aurora, the rest will be paid out in prize money. Pick up an application form today from the back of Church or speak to Reverend Linda Galvin for more details



(NEW) RECYCLING - thinking ahead for the Christmas Tree Festival and potential opportunities for the craft stall, if you have not already recycled your Christmas cards and gift bags (e.g. bottle bags) please would you leave them at the back of Church for me to collect – many thanks, Helen Wiseman

(NEW) YMCA STORYTIME Can you spare an hour to read at the YMCA Townhill Nursery. 'Help inspire the next generation to love books.' Call Peter on 02382 145459 to find out more.

(NEW) NORTHWOOD STRINGS Northwood String Orchestra will be giving a concert at 3pm on Saturday 25th January There will be music by Purcell, Elgar, Vivaldi, and Handel. Proceeds from refreshments and a raffle will go to the charity Dentaaid, who support improved dental care and oral health in the UK and overseas. Tickets are £7 on the door, £1 for under 18's. See posters at the back of Church.

(NEW) SOUTHAMPTON STREET PASTORS Have you ever wondered what it might be like to be a Street Pastor. Here is your chance to go on an observation with a street pastor patrol. Training dates are throughout various dates in March and can be found on the flyers at the back of church. For more information call 02380 333387.

(NEW) HOPE CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARD The HOPE committee would like to thank everyone who supported their Charity Christmas Card this Christmas. The grand total of the monies raised has not yet been finalised, but it will be split in equal shares to our four charities Salvation Army, The Society of St James, Countess Mountbatten House and The Rainbow Trust. Thank you.

(NEW) A BIG THANKYOU Thank you to all those who helped as Stewards at the Christingle services on Christmas Eve, we had an incredible 814 in the congregation over the two services. We would also like to thank all those who helped over the Christmas period, it is a busy time and your support is much appreciated. Scott and Jan

PROJECT AURORA We have some great news! We have found a more affordable way to move forward with the project and the work will be divided into phases. The PCC have authorised the first phase to be carried out early in the new year. LED lamps will be fitted into the original high-level light fittings to improve the lighting in the church. Further phases will include additional lighting particularly in the chancel, a new AV system and high-level decoration of the church. Further fundraising will still be needed but the works are likely to cost less than half what we originally thought. **(More details in the January Magazine)** Thank you so much to everyone for your continued support and fundraising efforts.

OPEN CHURCH Good news. It will now be possible to light a candle in the chapel when the church is open and unattended during the week. Our insurers have relaxed the regulations about this.

VISION MORNING Everyone is warmly invited to a vision morning on **Saturday 1st February** 10am to 2pm in the church hall to reflect on our church life and think about our priorities moving forward.

CONTACTS

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	<i>Vicky's day off is Monday.</i>	
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Safeguarding issues	stjameswestendsafeguarding@gmail.com	07842 244876
Parish Administration	stjameswe@gmail.com	
Previous Pew News	http://www.stjameswestend.org.uk/archive.html	

What do you think? The Church Council would like your views.

We have a big church, but all the space is taken up with pews. There is so much seating that at Sunday services, weddings, funerals and baptisms even with a good-sized congregation the church can often feel empty which is a shame. The back of church often gets very congested between services and there isn't enough room at the front for our Church Alive Bible study group or TAIZE services.

So, the PCC are considering removing 1 pew each side from the front of church and 3 pews each side from the back of church. This would create a really good size space at the back for circulating after services. It would create a less intimidating entrance for those who might be unsure about entering the church and would give more space for leaflets and information. A bigger welcome area would be useful for fayres and events and could be used for meetings and church groups if the hall isn't free. Tables and chairs could be put out to create a little 'café' too. With less pews available the congregation would sit closer together which improves singing and makes the church feel fuller. For well attended services (Remembrance/Christingle) chairs from the hall could be set out. The pews could be put along the church walls for additional seating although a couple would likely need to be sold.

The PCC would love to know your views. Please tell us whether you support this or not. Please speak to Vicky, Linda, the church wardens or any PCC members.