

Diary

Sat 20 th Dec 11am	Churches Together Town Carols.
Tue 23 rd Dec-2 nd Jan	Redditch Winter Shelter
Sat 27 th Dec	Barry and Rosie Anniversary celebrations.
Mon 29 th Dec	Cinderella at the Palace Theatre.
Thur 15 th Jan	PFT meet at Eileen and Peter Bishop's.

Please pray for:-

- Gary and April, Garth and Jenny, Richard and Sally, Richard and Wendy - our Parish clergy and wives.
- Reverend Richard Bubbers as he commences his new role.
- Our countries response to Iraq and Syrian conflicts.
- Those without enough to eat.
- For all who are yet to know the Gospel.
- Those without clean water to drink.
- Persecuted Christians around the world.
- The NHS and other public sector workers.
- For our local, County Council decision makers and MP.
- For those who manage people within their places of work.
- For children living in care.
- For refugees.
- For orphans of war.
- For charities reaching out to the lost, lonely and hungry.
- The Redditch Winter Day Shelter.
- Those who are mourning.
- Those for whom this time of year is difficult.
- Kathleen Powell and family.
- Jo, Grace, Sophie and Lydia Adams.
- Lynda and Geoff Adams.
- Eileen and Rob Truman.
- Sylvia Czink and family.
- June Young and family.
- Bishop John and family.
- Peggy Snellgrove.
- Claire and Paul Burnham.
- Allison and Maureen undertaking ministry training.

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Sunday 14th December 2014

Invitation

Barry and Rosie invite you to join them to Celebrate their Silver Wedding Anniversary on Saturday 27th December at St John's church at 4:30pm, followed by fun food and fellowship in the hall. Wear some item/embellishment of silver or grey

We are trying to declutter so we are inviting folks to make a donation towards a proper lectern Bible instead of giving us presents. it is an expensive time of year for families, and the most important present is you celebrating with us! If you want to bring a pudding or some savoury item, please let me know.

We have a good stock of soft drinks and tea/coffee will be available, please feel free to bring alcohol to share. Please can you let us know by 21st December – thank you Barry and Rosie.

Thought for the week

As you know, I have been thinking and praying about/for St John's over the past few months, and I hope that I will have much to share with you as we go into 2015.

Just one small thought for this morning, and I do hope that you will have time to take it away and pray it through during the coming week.

As Jesus did with his own life on the cross, and also with the feeding of the 5000, so he does with us, and we remember this especially during Holy Communion: he takes, blesses, breaks, and gives. He gives us back to the world as renewed people. Part of my job is to discern the gifts of the Spirit within the church- and we aim to share our capacity to love and live in openness..to experience church as a place to experiment with trust, immediacy, spontaneity, courage, generosity and wonder- all with a deep and genuine worship of Jesus Christ. To do anything short of that will lead back to pain and misunderstanding, along with diminished relationships, which is not what God wants.

May God bless each one of us with these things as we approach Christmas.

With our blessing,
Gary and April

Redditch Winter Day Shelter

Churches Together in Redditch will, for a fourth year, be hosting a shelter for those most vulnerable in our community. The day shelter will operate from Tuesday 23 December until Friday 2nd January. If you would like to find out more about volunteering see the poster on the board in the foyer. Please also remember the Winter Day Shelter in your prayers.

Churches Together in Redditch Town Carols

Please come and join in with the 'Town Carols' taking place at Milward Square in the Kingfisher Centre (between Marks and Spencer and BHS) 11am on Saturday 20th December. See the poster on the notice board in the foyer. Note- there is free car parking at the Town Hall Car Park (access 2) on weekends and after 6pm of an evening.

Songs of Praise Big Sing

On Sunday 21st December at 5.25pm Songs of Praise - The Big Sing from the Royal Albert Hall will be showing on BBC1. Look out for our very own Sue Palfreyman who was in the crowd during filming.

Christmas Fun

Find the lost sheep in the Kingfisher Centre. Pick up your free activity sheet from the information desk or from the shepherds on Saturdays and enter the competition. Organised by Emmanuel Church.

Christmas on the Green

For everyone who lives and works in Redditch. Wednesday 17th Dec at the Bandstand, Church Green. 6.00pm mulled wine, mince pies and the Salvation Army Band; 6.30pm carol service with Redditch Choral Society & Bridge Youth Choir.

Morning Prayer during Christmas Season

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share our humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Today -Advent 3

- 10.30am Morning Worship and Holy Communion with Rev Gary Noyes.
Readings John 1: 6-8 and 19-28. 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24
- 6.30pm Carols by candlelight with Rev.Gary Noyes, Rosemary Humphrey will be speaking.

Next Sunday -Advent 4

- 10.30am Children's Nativity.
- 6.30pm Christmas Praise with Maureen Hughes.

This week

- Wednesday 7.45pm JUMP in the hall.
6.00pm Carols on the Green.
- Saturday 10.00am Nativity rehearsal in church.
11.00am Town Centre Carols.
Find the lost sheep-family fun in the Kingfisher.

Christmas at St John's

Morning Worship with Holy Communion 14th December 10.30am
Carols by candlelight 6.30pm

Children's nativity service 21st December 10.30am
Christmas praise 6.30pm

Midnight Communion 11.15pm
Christmas day celebration 10.30am
