

St Sampson's Church Newsletter December 2019 – please take one



If you would like any item put into the January newsletter, please send to Sharon Smith at 54 Pittsfield, Cricklade SN66AW or Tel: 01793 751375 or email sjspitts@supanet.com. Items for next newsletter by Friday 13 December, please.

December Services at St Sampson's

30 Nov/1 Dec Christmas Tree Festival – offers of help still required for Sunday 1.30–4pm, Carol Singing at 4pm

Sunday 1 December

08:00 BCP Communion at St Sampson's, Cricklade

10:00 UTG Communion Service at St Sampson's, Cricklade – Bishop Lee

16:00 Informal Worship community meeting at Christmas Tree Festival

Sunday 8 December

08:00 BCP Communion at St Sampson's, Cricklade

10:00 Upper Thames Group Communion at St Sampson's, Cricklade – Bishop Viv

16:00 Christingle Celebration at St Sampson's Church, Cricklade

18:30 Evensong at St Sampson's, Cricklade

Sunday 15 December

08:00 BCP Communion at St Sampson's, Cricklade

10:00 Communion Service at St Sampson's, Cricklade

16:00 Informal Worship at St Sampson's Church, Cricklade

18:30 Something Different at St Sampson's Church, Cricklade

Wednesday 18 December

18.30 Carols round the Organ

Saturday 21 December

18.30 Carol Service

Sunday 22 December

08:00 BCP Communion at St Sampson's, Cricklade

10:00 Advent Morning Worship at St Sampson's, Cricklade

16:00 Informal Worship at St Sampson's Church, Cricklade

18:30 Evensong at St Sampson's, Cricklade

Tuesday 24 December – Christmas Eve

15:00 Crib Service at St Sampson's, Cricklade

16:00 Crib Service at St Sampson's, Cricklade

23:00 Midnight Mass at St Sampson's, Cricklade – Archdeacon Christopher Bryan

Wednesday 25 December – Christmas Day

08:00 BCP Communion at St Sampson's, Cricklade

10:00 Family Communion at St Sampson's, Cricklade

Sunday 29 December

08:00 BCP Communion at St Sampson's, Cricklade

10:00 Upper Thames Group Service

Holy Communion on Thursdays

5 December: 11 am at Open Door in the Jenner Hall

12 December: 10 am at Heberden House

19th December: 10 am in St Sampson's Church

Christian Aid and Harvest lunch

A big thank you to all who gave generously for their food at the Harvest lunch and to all who brought puddings and helped out on the day. We were able to send £115.25 to Christian Aid – great news!

Barnabas Fund

Thank you to those who gave a donation to Barnabas Fund for their work for the Persecuted Church after I spoke about it on 27 October. A total of £75 was sent and the official letter of thanks is on display in St Sampson's Church. John Martin

Visits from the Bishops in December 2019

Sunday 1 December: Bishop of Swindon, Lee Rayfield

Sunday 8 December: Bishop of Bristol, Viv Faulk

Both these services will be 10 am communion services for all of the Upper Thames Group at which the Bishops will lead and preach. Do book the dates and come and hear them.

New Pew Bibles and a Note to Readers

The Pew Bibles donated in memory of Helen Martin are much appreciated and are being well used. Do check that there is a copy nearby at the beginning of a service if you would like to use one to follow the readings, or locate a spare from another pew. If you are doing a reading, then please make sure you give the page number first, followed by the Bible reference, when announcing the passage. This is the easiest way for people to find the readings quickly.

Change to Traidcraft cupboard

There is no longer a Traidcraft stall in church because the turnover of stock wasn't fast enough for expiry dates and I don't have the capacity to keep it refreshed! However, I continue to sell Traidcraft and have stock at home. Please contact me on sarahsmith@talktalk.net or 01793 751366 at any time to buy food products or order other items. You can see the full product range by asking me for a catalogue or visiting <https://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/>. It really does make a difference in the lives of producers in developing countries. Thank you. Sarah Smith.

Helpers needed for the Christingle service (8th, 4pm) and Crib services (Christmas Eve 3pm and 4pm)

Both of these services are a great opportunity to engage with families and others who don't usually come to church, but love to be part of these services at Christmas. In order to make them run as smoothly as possible, it's really helpful to have lots of helpers to do refreshments, welcome and chat to people, help make Christingles and help children get into costumes and be in the right place at the right time at the Crib services. If you can help at one or two or even all of these services, please let me know – sarahsmith@talktalk.net – and I can give you more details.

St Sampson's Church Appeal – see information on the noticeboard by the font.