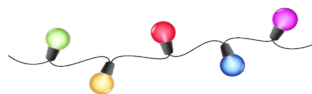


WHAT'S ON AT ST JOHN'S /DATES FOR DIARIES

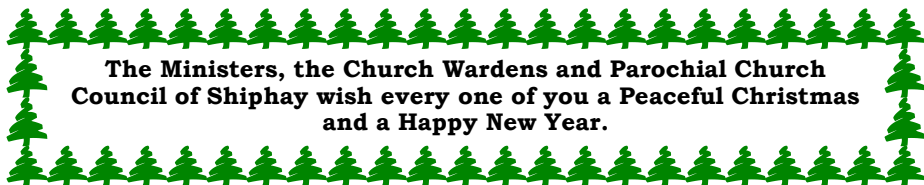
DATE	TIME	EVENT
Mon. 23 Dec.	10.00 a.m	Christingle Oranges preparation in church
Christmas Eve	4.00 p.m	CHRISTINGLE SERVICE
Christmas Eve	11.30 p.m	MIDNIGHT COMMUNION
Christmas Morning	10.00 a.m	A joyful service of celebration for everybody!



Suggestions for your prayers/praise

We remember the great love and humility you displayed in coming down to earth in the form of a baby, to make your dwelling among us: 'They will call him Immanuel, which means "God with us"'.
For all who gather to worship here over the Christmas season and that the Holy Spirit will stir up again with the awe and wonder of God becoming Man. Lord Jesus, Light of light, you have come among us. Help us who live by your light to shine as lights in your world. **Glory to God in the highest. Amen.**

As we approach Christmas we seek God's care and comfort for those for whom, whatever reason, Christmas is a time of loneliness or unhappiness. Finally, please pray for all those, worldwide, that are in need of the touch of God's healing hand and that God's peace will prevail in all areas of conflict around the globe.



The Ministers, the Church Wardens and Parochial Church Council of Shiphay wish every one of you a Peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Contact details:-

Revd Paul Ireton (Rest day Tuesday) Tel: 01803 394808

Email: paulireton@hotmail.com

Facebook: St John the Baptist Church-Shiphay-Anglican

Church Office: Sonia Collings

9.00 a.m—11.30 a.m daily except Wednesday

Tel: 01803 401316

Email: stjohnsofficeshiphay@gmail.com

www.stjohnshiphay.org.uk

Olivia Downes (Churchwarden) oliviahockridge@hotmail.com

Jon Harper (Churchwarden) jonathanharper123@btinternet.com

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, SHIPHAY

'A caring fellowship seeking to share the life and love of God'

Sunday 22 December 2024

We wish everyone all joy in believing and celebrating the birth of Jesus our Saviour. We warmly welcome you to our service this Fourth Sunday of Advent.

We are glad you have chosen to come along to this service especially if this is your first visit to St. John's.

We really hope you will stay and join us for Fairtrade coffee and refreshments after the service this morning.
Christmas blessings to you all.

Music

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Jesus, King of Kings

Jesus you are the radiance

Offertory Once in royal David's city

Communion Thou didst leave thy throne

Jesus, Name above all names

O come, all ye faithful



On the fourth Sunday in Advent

As four candles are lit someone says:

One candle to remind us of the prophets, the second for John the Baptist, the third for Mary, and the fourth for us, as we join with them in looking for the coming of Jesus.

Someone reads: God will give you a sign, a young woman who is pregnant will have a son and will name him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us'. (Isaiah 7:14)

ALL: GRACIOUS GOD, AS YOU CAME TO THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US, YOU COME TO US NOW IN JESUS. HELP US TO RECOGNISE YOU IN THOSE AROUND US AND TO CARE FOR OUR NEIGHBOURS AS WE DO FOR OURSELVES. AMEN.

The First Reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

⁵ Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said:

'Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but a body you prepared for me;

⁶ with burnt offerings and sin offerings
you were not pleased.

⁷ Then I said, "Here I am – it is written about me in the scroll –
I have come to do your will, my God."^[a]

⁸ First he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them' – though they were offered in accordance with the law. ⁹ Then he said, 'Here I am, I have come to do your will.' He sets aside the first to establish the second. ¹⁰ And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.



TONIGHT!

ST JOHN'S CHURCH
CHRISTMAS CAROLS BY
CANDLELIGHT
6.00 P.M

A wonderful evening with a chance
for all to sing a festive feast of
traditional carols.

Refreshments will be available/
mulled wine.

Everyone is welcome.



O Holy
Night

CHRISTMAS EVE
MIDNIGHT COMMUNION
11.30 P.M

We share in the anticipation of the
joy of Christmas and celebrating its
message of good news.

Everyone is warmly invited.

Christmas Greetings from Revd. Gordon

Thank you to all the people who have
kindly sent me Christmas cards and
good wishes but I am very behind this
year— I wish everybody a very
Merry Christmas and Happy New
Year!

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:39-45

Mary visits Elizabeth

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!' ⁴³ But why am I so favoured, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfil his promises to her!

Luke 1:46-55

Mary's song

⁴⁶ And Mary said:

'My soul glorifies the Lord

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

⁴⁸ for he has been mindful

of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me –
holy is his name.

⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost
thoughts.

⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble. ⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful ⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants for ever,
just as he promised our ancestors.'



We gather **tomorrow morning (Monday 23 December) at 10.00 a.m** to prepare
our **Christingle oranges**. Please come along and help!



Start the celebration
of Christmas
by joining us at
4pm on Christmas Eve
for our Christingle Service

All ages are welcome!