

St John's and St Michael's Churches Notices for Sunday 4th December

St Michael's

9.30am HOLY COMMUNION: Our service today is led by Jane and Robyn continues our mini series, today talking about *Advent of two sorts*. Isaiah 11:1-10.

Sidesperson: John & Diane **Reading:** Gill R **Prayers:** Fran **Coffee:** Janet M

St John's

11am MORNING WORSHIP: Welcome to our service today led by Mathew. Angie talks to us about *Isaiah 35:1-10 and Matthew 11:4-10* continuing our mini series on '*Advent Prophecies of Hope*'

Sidesperson: Dave & Sue **Reading:** David **Prayers:** John & Jane **Coffee:** Dave & Sue

The **ST MICHAEL'S PCC** meeting in November was cancelled because a number of apologies were submitted in advance. The delayed September meeting had been held on 10th October just a few weeks before. At the October meeting, among other things the PCC discussed

- Offering a warm space in the Church every Thursday.
- Setting up a meeting to look at some of the issues arising in the churchyard
- Setting up a budgeting sub-group to look at addressing our annual deficit.

Normal business from the November meeting will be deferred to the January meeting.

At the **ST JOHN'S PCC** meeting the following issues were discussed among others

- Ensuring safeguarding training and DBS checks for all volunteers is up to date.
- Timing of worship on the 2nd Sunday of each month.
- The future of *GMS* (Good Morning Sunday) as attendances were low.
- The Budget for 2023.....

There had been a considerable amount of necessary expenditure on the building in 2022 (new front doors, boilers and hot water supply to the kitchen.) This has used a considerable portion of our financial reserves. WE also have some issues to address from the recent Quinquennial survey of the building. As usual, we are looking at a deficit budget of about £10,000. This means that our income in 2023 will need to grow.

- St John's being open as a warm place when possible.

The full minutes will be published following approval at the January meeting.

THANK YOU: We would like to thank you all for the love, prayers, cards and flowers received following our loss of Tony. Your prayers carried us and continue to do so - thank you. We will celebrate Tony's life on **Thursday 8th December** 11am at St John's followed by a short committal at Telford Crem at 12.30. All are welcome to join us at both or either services. Refreshments will be served afterwards at The Shropshire. God bless you all, Gill, Gemma, Katie & Adam.

St John's Church - A Warm Place: The PCC is considering offering St John's as a warm place for people to come to for 3 afternoons a week - Mon, Tues and Fri from 1 - 4pm. We plan to offer the lounge area with hot drinks for people to come and sit to stay warm. Although Lesley is working at these times, we will need volunteers to be present to welcome and offer tea/coffee to them. Would you be prepared to offer an afternoon during these winter months? All volunteers will need to have a current DBS check and have basic safeguarding training. This will be offered if you do not have it already. Please do speak to Matthew or Lesley if you can offer some time.

YOUNG PEOPLES HELPERS/LEADERS: We are still in need of volunteers, any help would be really appreciated and less onerous for all. For more information please speak to either Katharine and Martie (SAS) or Andrew (Spark).

World Cup 2022: The next showing of England's World cup match will be **THIS** evening (Sunday 4th) at St John's. Doors open at 6.30pm. Bring your own drink.

LUNCHCLUB CHRISTMAS LUNCH will take place on **Friday 9th December**. 12 noon at St John's... the cost is £7.00 each.

A MEN'S BREAKFAST takes place on **Saturday (10th)** 8.30am at The Whitehouse Hotel in Muxton. Please let Charlie or Lesley know you are coming.

CAROLS AND CANDLES: Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without our well-established favourite service of Carols and Candles. Enjoy mulled wine, mince pies, carols and step back 2000 years and meet the author of Christmas. Please invite your family, friends and neighbours to join with us on **Saturday 10th December** at 8pm. Any donations of mince pies would be gratefully received.

A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION: The Gallery Singers will present their Christmas concert at St Peter's Church, Edgmond on **Sunday 11th December** at 3.00pm. A mixture of some old and new pieces with favourite guest flautist, Aimee, with Evy King on piano. Tickets £10/ £5 under 16 available on the door or pre-book on 07968 906446 or message [Facebook.com/thegallerysingers](https://www.facebook.com/thegallerysingers).

Christmas Day Lunch Sunday 25th December 1.00 pm: Come and enjoy Christmas Dinner in the company of St John's Church Family on Christmas Day. The food is free but space limited and, so we know how many to cater for, you'll need to book by **Friday**

16th December by contacting the Church Office and giving your name and contact phone number or email.

CAROL SINGING AROUND MUXTON on Tuesday 20th December 6.15pm at The Whitehouse hotel in Muxton and then 7.30pm at St John's followed by mulled wine. The more the merrier.

Services and Rotas for Sunday 11 th December	
SML - 9.30am Morning Worship and SJM 11am Holy Communion	
St Michael's	St John's
Sidesperson: Cedric	Sidesperson: Vicky
Reading: Pam	Reading: Chris K
Prayers: Sue L	Communion: Simon T
Coffee: Katie & Laurie	Prayers: Jane E
	Coffee: Simon & Lesley

Please note: The 11am service at St John's is livestreamed so you may appear on YouTube especially if passing camera.

<http://www.stjohnsmuxton.org.uk/home> or

<http://www.stmichaelslilleshall.org.uk/home/>

YouTube

Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCB6N81vubkdzSYD7rCPFw5Q>

St Michael's - Isaiah 11:1-10

11 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. ²The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him - the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord - ³and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; ⁴but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

⁵Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash round his waist.

⁶The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them.

⁷The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. ⁸The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. ⁹They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting-place will be glorious.

St John's - First reading - Isaiah 35:1-10

35 The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, ² it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God.

³ Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way;

⁴ say to those with fearful hearts, 'Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.'

⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

⁶ Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.

Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

⁷ The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs.

In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

⁸ And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way. The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it. ⁹ No lion will be there, nor any ravenous beast; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, ¹⁰ and those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

St John's - Second Reading - Matthew 11:4-10

4 Jesus replied, 'Go back and report to John what you hear and see: **5** the blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. **6** Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.'

7 As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? **8** If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. **9** Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. **10** This is the one about whom it is written:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.