

Notices

Volunteering

We are looking for people to come forward to help with the many Christmas services and events that will be taking place during December. If you could spare some of your time please contact either Denise 07788634047 or Robert 07775 813258. Any help would be greatly appreciated

John Richardson with the Churchwardens and those who prepare Rotas are looking for new people to join the regular contributors to the tasks and responsibilities of cleaning at All Saints, and in all the churches serving coffee, leading intercessions, Reading lessons and being welcomes as sides persons and stewards. There will be a training session after Christmas to refresh and update what is required as we return to some normality in these post Covid days with increasing congregations.

More Services in December

No Choral Evensong in December

- **4.30pm Saturday 17th December**
Carol Service at All Saints
- **10am Sunday 18th December**
Carol Service at St Philips

Christmas Eve

- **3.30pm Saturday 24th December**
Christingle Service at All Saints
- **5.00pm Christingle Service at St Philips**
- **Midnight Eucharist 10.00pm**
St Philips
- **Midnight Eucharist 11.30pm**
All Saints

Christmas Day

Sunday 25th December

10am Parish Eucharist at All Saints.

**The Parish of All Saints
With St Philip, Maidstone and
St Stephen, Tovil**



**Sunday 04th December 2022
The Second Sunday in Advent**

10.00am Parish Eucharist at St Philips

Next Week's Service

**Sunday 11th December
The Third Sunday in Advent
10am Parish Eucharist at All Saints
Church**

Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Reading

Isaiah 35:1-6

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,

the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
'Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for
joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

Gospel

Matthew 11:25-30

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth, because you have
hidden these things from the wise and the
intelligent and have revealed them to
infants; yes, Father, for such was your
gracious will. All things have been handed
over to me by my Father; and no one knows
the Son except the Father, and no one knows
the Father except the Son and anyone to
whom the Son chooses to reveal him.
'Come to me, all you that are weary and are
carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you
rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from
me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and
you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke
is easy, and my burden is light.'

Post Communion

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Special prayers

*Matt 5.3 'Blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven'*

Paul Crease, Daphne Holland, Nigel Gunyon,
Mary Wheeler, Jane Sadler, Ray Stephens,
Debbie Proctor, Roger Doe, Sue Marks,
Pamela Hocking, Graham Jarvis, Kelly,
Claire & Family, Allan Seeley, Michael Costen
David Gilles, Laura, Gary Moses,
John Littlestone, Tanya

**Vicar: All saints, Maidstone with St.
Philip's, and St. Stephen's Tovil**

The Very Revd. John S. Richardson
vicarjsr@icloud.com

Landline Number – 01303 980027

**Please note Revd John will be on Leave
on Wednesdays of each week**

Church Wardens:

Denise Joy –

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Robert Philo –

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If not available by telephone please email
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www.maidstoneallsaints.co.uk

www.stphilipschurchmaidstone.co.uk

Our Facebook Page:

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**If anyone would like to add anything to the
weekly notices, please contact**

office.allsaintsmaidstone@gmail.com

Please Click Here

Christmas 2022

**All Saints with St Philip, Maidstone
and St Stephen, Tovil**



All Saints, Mill Street, Maidstone

Saturday 17th December, 4.30 pm ~ Carol Service Followed by Mulled Wine & Mince pies

Saturday 24th December, Christmas Eve, 3.30 pm ~ Christingle Service
& 11.30 pm, Midnight Eucharist

Sunday 25th December, Christmas Day, 10.00 am, Parish Eucharist

St Philip, Waterloo Street, Maidstone

Sunday 18th December, 10am ~ Carol Service ~ Followed by Mulled wine & Mince Pies

Saturday 24th December, Christmas Eve, 5.00pm Christingle Service
& **10.00pm, Midnight Eucharist**

Sunday 8th January, 10.00am – New Years Day, A Reflection for New Year

St Stephen's ABC School

Sunday 11th December, 3pm – Come and make Christingles

Everyone is welcome to any of the events and to all our regular services and other activities.

The Clergy, Wardens and Congregation wish you a very Happy Christmas and send our best wishes for the New Year.

We look forward to celebrating this Christmas with you!