



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

"Where all are welcome – all the time"

www.castlestreet.org.uk

Sunday 4th December

Welcome to worship with us – whether this is the first time you have entered our church, or if you are a long-standing member of our congregation. We seek to offer friendship and opportunities for learning more of God's will in this place and in this generation.

Refreshments are served in the hall following most Sunday services – please do stay for a chat over a cuppa and a biscuit.

Sun 4th Dec 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP

Rebekah Blyth

Bible readings: Isaiah 11: 1-10 (p. 588); Matthew 3: 1-12 (p. 2)

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Alison Walker

Bible readings: Isaiah 11: 1-10; Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19 (p. 497)

Romans 15: 4-13 (p. 154); Matthew 3: 1-12

We pray... for peace in the world

Wed 7th Dec 10.00 "Time to Be" prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 "Forever Active" exercise class

Thu 8th Dec 10.00-12.00 "First Friends" baby and toddler group

Sun 11th Dec 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Peter Graves

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP

Prof. Morna Hooker-Stacey

Please take a copy of Castle View for fuller details of what's on each month.

Christmas Tree Festival at St. Giles' Church

If you've not been yet, you've got just this afternoon... At the end, from 3pm until 4.30pm this afternoon (not 11th as on last week's notice sheet), there will be a children's party: all are welcome to come and share the fun and games, music, yummy food and a visit by Father Christmas.



Christmas presents for our CCHP guests

We'd like to give a shoebox of useful gifts to each of our overnight guests (we're expecting fifteen) on 28th December. As we are new to this, it's difficult to know what gifts will fit, or be most acceptable to our guests. Any unused items will be donated to Jimmy's. The contents of each box need to be identical (as much as possible), and the list of suggested items is as follows (note the list is not in *Castle View*):

- hat, scarf, gloves [*we already have a selection of hats*]
- socks, boxers
- men's toiletries (small sizes so easy to carry) – but not any mouthwash or hand sanitizer containing alcohol) – eg toothbrush, toothpaste, reusable razor and blades, shaving foam, lip balm (eg small Vaseline), washcloth, soap, shampoo, deodorant, comb, brush (not travel towels – we already have those)
- metal water flasks
- chocolate or sweets
- book
- travel games or playing cards
- plasters
- cereal bars, other high calorie and healthy snacks
- dried fruit

Sometimes we have a canine companion staying, so we could also include a box with dog biscuits, collapsible bowls, leads, collars, dog coats (as per the suggestions from Jimmy's)

Can you supply a wrapped shoe box (lid wrapped separately), with gifts? The boxes are to be organised during the coffee morning on Wednesday 21st December, so please bring them to church on Sunday 18th December (our carol services).

Urgent: help needed on Wednesday mornings

The Cambridge Churches Homelessness Project is now underway for the current winter, with Castle Street hosting guests on Wednesday nights. However, we still need some volunteers to be at church on Wednesday mornings between about 7.30am and 8.15am to receive the kit. One person has very kindly said he can do any Wednesday morning – but at present he's doing all except one, which isn't very fair.

Could you help on 7th December (this week), 28th December, or any Wednesday at all in January, February or March? We will endeavour to put you in direct contact with the person bringing the kit to Castle Street. You need to help get the kit from their car and into the hall. As soon as that is done, you can lock up and go. The exact times may vary. If you don't already have a key, we will get one to you! Please let Alison or any steward know if you can help.

And just a polite reminder – the guests start to settle down to sleep from about 9pm (they're asked to leave at 7am to go to Winter Comfort for breakfast), so if you're in the building on a Wednesday evening between now and the end of March, please bear that in mind.



Events this week listed in *Castle View*

The December / January issue of *Castle View* contains details of various events at other local churches in the run-up to Christmas (and beyond). So here's a reminder of this week's events:

- Tue 6th Dec: Fireside with Joanne Crosby: "In the heart of an apple is an orchard" (Wesley Methodist Church, 2.30pm).
[Note: the Circuit Diary and Castle View incorrectly show this as Monday.]
- Tue 6th Dec: Carol Service for Cambridge City Workers (St. Andrew the Great, 6pm (mince pies and drink) for 6.30pm).
- Thu 8th Dec: Christmas Charity Concert in aid of CCHP and Arthur Rank Hospice (Great St. Mary's, 7pm), tickets £10 / £5.
- Fri 9th Dec: Carol Concert with Fitzwilliam College Chapel Choir (St. Giles', 7.30pm), free entry, collection for the Music Fund.
- Sat 10th Dec: Orwell Christmas Tree Festival (12 noon to 6pm).
- Sun 11th Dec: Orwell Christmas Tree Festival (2.30pm to 6pm), with carol singing and mince pies around the fire from 4pm.

Free concert at Castle Street – Monday 12th December at 7.30pm

Enjoy a free musical evening with “Singing Allowed”, a choir which practices here each week. Refreshments will be available after the concert, and donations will go the Royal Voluntary Service “Sing Your Heart Out” appeal. Do come along – there’s a good chance you’ll enjoy the evening!



Additional Christmas events which did not make it into *Castle View*

More details of some of these events can be found on the Church at Castle website (visit www.churchatcastle.org.uk/calendar/month/2016-12, and then click on the event).

- [A Yorkshire Christmas Concert](#) – Saturday 17th December, 1pm at Michaelhouse: Christmas songs and folk songs sung by the St. Augustine’s Singers conducted by Philip Mead with Clare Simmonds (piano).
- [A Victorian Christmas](#) – Saturday 17th December, 3pm at St. Augustine’s: an hour or so of Victorian Christmas music and entertainment led by Anne Taylor.



Christmas services and events at Castle Street

- Sun 18th Dec, 10.45am: All-age Carol Service “Wise Men Still Seek Him”
- Sun 18th Dec, 6.30pm: Carols by Candlelight
- Wed 21st Dec, 10.30am: “I Wonder” Christmas story and craft
- Sun 25th Dec, 11am: All-age Christmas Celebration



Security reminder

Just a polite reminder to key holders to ensure that doors are locked when you leave the building (also check the fire exit from the hall). It may also be appropriate to lock external doors while you are in the building, and please also keep the vestry locked when you’re not in there (and check it when you leave) – this is our “office”, and it’s easy for unwanted “guests” to slip in there unnoticed if the door is unlocked. Thank you.

Please contact **Brian Carter** if you have any items for inclusion on next Sunday’s notice sheet, ideally by Friday evening.

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