



Welcome to our services!

In this newsletter you can find all you need to know about what is happening here, what facilities are available and what else is going on at HTC. If you are new or would like further details about the church and what goes on then please pick up a 'Connect' card from the desk in the foyer and speak to one of those involved in leading the services.

Children's and Young People's Activities Today

During the **9.30am** service there is a crèche for under 3's in **Oak/ Olive in the Ministry Centre**. All children aged 3+ come into church for the beginning of the service before departing for their Praise Party in the church hall.

During the **6.30pm service** Pathfinders (11-13) come to the beginning of the service and then go out to the Ministry Centre for teaching and games; and Youth Fellowship (14-18) attend the 6.30pm service, then hold fellowship and small groups after the service.

Today's Services

8am HOLY COMMUNION

Leader: Philip Plyming
 Preacher: Linda Morgan
 Luke 1:26-38 p1026

9.30am MORNING PRAISE WITH DEDICATION

Leader: Philip Plyming
 Preacher: Richard Rugg
 Luke 1:26-38 p1026

11.15am MORNING PRAISE

Leader: Anna Lise Gordon
 Preacher: Richard Rugg
 Luke 1:26-38 p1026

6.30pm TRADITIONAL CAROL SERVICE

Leader: Mike Barton
 Preacher: Philip Plyming

Recording of Sermons

Recordings of 9.30am sermons can be listened to online or downloaded from our website or CD copies can be ordered from the Church Office.

We have a hearing loop in the main church which runs down the columns. If you wear a hearing aid with a T setting and wish to take advantage of the hearing loop please sit inside the columns, avoiding the back 4 rows on the left.

Refreshments

Tea & Coffee will be served between the end of the 9.30am service and the start of the 11.15am service, and before the 6.30pm service. Squash is also available for the children. We would be delighted if you can stay and join us.

Bookstall

The Bookstall is open each Sunday after the 9.30am service and during weekday office hours for books and greetings cards.

Prayer Room

The Prayer Room is open during office hours Monday to Friday for personal prayer.

This week's prayers

Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Advent:

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of Your Son: grant that, as she looked for His coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet Him when He comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Christmas Eve:

Almighty God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as we joyfully receive Him as our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold Him when He shall come to be our judge; who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Services

- Pray for those leading and preaching at our Sunday services: Linda Morgan, Philip Plyming, Richard Rugg, Anna Lise Gordon and Mike Barton.
- Pray for the leaders and families of 4 O'clock Church, who are now on Christmas break. Give thanks for their fellowship and learning during 2016.
- Praise God for the work and gifts of the choir assembled for Sunday evening's traditional carol service, and that this special village event may celebrate and point to 'God with us' this Christmas.
- Pray for the preparations ahead for Saturday's Christingle services and for all the families that will visit us during that time.
- Pray for Audrey Evans who is being dedicated in today's 9.30am service, and for her parents and family.
- Pray for David and Jean Overington who were married here yesterday.

Pastoral/Church Family

- Pray for members of the church family who are currently unwell and especially for: Barbara Adams, Beryl Bailey, Maureen Boddy, Mary Brows, Gillian Caporn, Mary Cripps, Katie Elmore, Yvette Fountaine, Kate Gifford, Mike Guest, Ruth Hopwood (in hospital), Wendy Howe, Laura James, Elena Last, Jen Marshall, Keith Pask, Margaret Standish, Beryl Tunnicliff, Mollie Woodward and those going through any difficulty.
- Pray for all who are bereaved, and especially for the families and friends of Colin Mays and Lynda Fisher, and for Marion Thorley and family following the death of her mother-in-law Joan (funeral Monday 19 Dec).

Mission

- Pray and give thanks for the work of the Princess Alice Hospice – especially for the care they give to the patients and the practical and emotional support they give to the families and friends.

World

- Pray for the people of Aleppo, and those that have died in the recent conflict on all sides, that their ordeals may be over soon, that peace may be restored and aid come to all those who need it.
- Pray too that those who have been evacuated from Aleppo might find new places to live and be resettled where they can rebuild shattered lives.
- Following the slaughter of Coptic Christians at their church in Cairo, Egypt last week, pray for their pastors and fellow congregation members as they face persecution for their faith. Pray for forgiveness and justice, and for the work of Christian Solidarity Worldwide.

This week's notices

Advent Prayer Room - final week

Throughout Advent, the Prayer Room has been transformed into a drop-in Advent prayer space. It is an opportunity to spiritually recharge during Advent and spend 5 or 50 mins engaging with God - all ages welcome! Even if you have already dropped in once, do come back - **the prayer activities are changing on a weekly basis**. The prayer room will be open during office hours, and occasional evenings.

Vision Sunday - 8 January 2017

As last year we will start the New Year reflecting at all the Sunday services on the vision God has for us and outline some of the ways we will be seeking to meet that vision in 2017. There will also be information on the budget to meet that vision.

Please put this important Sunday in your diaries, and hold those services in your prayers. There will also be a Vision Meeting on **Monday 16 January** at 8pm, with the opportunity to hear about the coming year in more detail.

Preparing for Christingles - lots of help needed

If you are free on Fri 23 Dec please join us to help assemble 500+ Christingles! Come to the foyer from 9.30am onwards - YF members especially welcome!

There will be three Christingle services on Christmas Eve at 3pm, 4.15pm and 5.30pm - do to come to whichever service suits you best. Children are welcome to come dressed up as a character from the Christmas story!

Alpha Course - starts Thurs 19 Jan

Next term's Alpha Course begins with an Opening Supper on Thurs 19 January at 7.30pm in the Ministry Centre. Do invite a friend or neighbour to come along – invitations available on the welcome desk today! The main sessions of the course run from Thurs 26 Jan to Thurs 23 Mar (with a break for half term on Thurs 16 Feb).

Opportunities to serve in the New Year

If you don't already serve at HTC, why not prayerfully consider whether you could join one of the following teams, serving once every four weeks on a rota basis? Please contact Katherine in the office!

Attending 9.30am service: serving on the audio / visual desk (3 vacancies), serving in the car park (2 vacancies), serving tea & coffee (3 vacancies), making sandwiches for 4 O'clock Church after 9.30am service (4 vacancies).

Attending 11.15am service: welcoming (4 vacancies), serving tea & coffee (3 vacancies).

Attending 6.30pm service: serving on the audio / visual desk (2 vacancies), serving tea & coffee (4 vacancies).

Christmas Appeal

Our Christmas Appeal this year is in support of The Princess Alice Hospice in Esher, which provides care and support for patients, their families and carers in our local area. If you are a tax payer, please use a gift aid envelope which will be provided at services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Weekend retreat 2017

Linda Morgan will be running another weekend retreat at St Cuthmans from Fri 22-Sun 24 Sept 2017. To register interest in coming, please contact Katherine in the office as soon as possible.

Church office closed

The church office will close at 1pm on Friday 23 December and re-open on Tuesday 3 January at 9.15am.

Date for your diary - Ukraine Mission 2017

Next year's Ukraine Summer Mission will run from 28 July – 8 August. We need people aged 8 – 80+ to help with all types of activities there (ranging from simple home visits, to running a holiday club for the children and youth, to specialised medical work). We will be asking people to come forward when this is formally launched in January 2017 but please reserve the dates!!

This week's diary

Mon - Fri	8.45am	Daily Prayer in the Prayer Room
Thurs 22 Dec	10.30am	Funeral of Lynda Fisher in church
	1.30pm	Funeral of Colin Mays in church
Fri 23 Dec	9.30am	Christingle preparation - lots of help needed!
Christmas Eve	3, 4.15 & 5.30pm	Christingle Service – come to whichever suits you! Children are welcome to come dressed as a character from the Christmas story
	11.15pm	Holy Communion

Christmas Day

9am Holy Communion with Carols Leader: Philip Plyming Preacher: Linda Morgan	10.30am All Age Service Leaders: Philip Plyming and Richard Rugg
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Upcoming Events

Sun 1 Jan		Normal services at 8am, 9.30am and 11.15am No 4 O'clock Church or 6.30pm service today!
Wed 4 Jan	8pm	Small group leaders' meeting (repeated Sat 7 Jan)
Sat 7 Jan	10am	Small group leaders' meeting (repeat of Wed 4 Jan)
Sun 8 Jan		Vision Sunday
Tues 10 Jan	10am	Connections for Seniors starts new term
Wed 11 Jan	10 & 1	Toddlers' Praise starts new term
Sat 14 Jan	10am	Dads' Toddlers' Praise in the Ministry Centre
Mon 16 Jan	8pm	Vision Meeting in church
Tues 17 Jan	3.30pm	Messy Church
Thurs 19 Jan	7.30pm	Alpha Opening Supper - see over for details
Sat 28 Jan		24 hours of prayer for Commitment Sunday
Sun 29 Jan		Commitment Sunday