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A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Newsletter of St Laurence Parish Church, Frodsham

Week commencing November 29th Advent Sunday, Year B

"To know God and to make God known"

Website: https://slfchurch.org/ Email: saintells@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/saintells/ Instagram: instagram.com/stlaurenceparishchurch

This Week

Sunday Nov 29th **Advent Sunday**	08.00 10.00	**Today we welcome Revd. John Hellewell to our services** Holy Communion - said Holy Communion – with music	1 Corinthians 1.3-9 Mark 13.24-37
Mon-Fri opening	*10.00-15.00*	*Church open*	
Monday	13.45	Service to celebrate the life of Jenny McLaren	
Tuesday	19.00	Holy Communion - said service	
Wednesday	10.00	Toddler Praise	
Thursday	10.00-12.00	Bee Friends Coffee Morning in the Parish Hall	
Friday	13.00-15.00	Craft and Chat	
Sunday Dec 6th **Advent 2**	08.00 10.00	Holy Communion - said Holy Communion – with music	Isaiah 40.1-11 Mark 1:1-8

Prayers

Our prayers for those who are sick If you know of anyone whom you feel needs our prayers – please ask permission from them or their family and then send an email to saintells@gmail.com with the details.

Please pray for –
Those who are sick: All in our book of Continuing Prayer.
Those who have died
Those whose anniversary of death falls this week

Prayer Wall - You can write a prayer and light a virtual candle on our website. https://slfchurch.org/prayerwall

Dates for your Diary

Children	Messy Church **Monthly during term time only** Read more here Toddler Praise **Every Wednesday during term time only** Read more

***** NEW *** CHANGE OF DATE FOR DECEMBER MU** Please note that the MU meeting in December has been moved from Wednesday 9th to **Tuesday 8th December** in church. Apologies for any inconvenience caused. We are moving the date to allow the school's nativity to be on the Wednesday afternoon.

CHRISTMAS AT ST LAURENCE

Sunday 20th December 4.00pm
Service of Lessons and Carols

Thursday 24th Dec 3.00pm and 5.00pm
Christingle (ticket only, available at Dandelion from 8th Dec. See notices)

Thursday 24th December 11.30pm
Midnight Service

Friday 25th December 10.00am
Christmas Day Parish Communion

Notices

CHRISTINGLE SERVICES will be held at 3pm and 5pm on Thursday 24th December. Admission by ticket only. Tickets will be available from Dandelion on Church Street from Thursday 8th December. Children are encouraged to come dressed up in Nativity Costumes or anything 'Christmassy' if they so wish. Children under the age of 2 do not require a ticket.

CHRISTMAS HELP – CAN YOU SPARE A LITTLE TIME?

READERS FOR THE SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS: if you would like to read a lesson at our service on December 20th at 4pm, please speak to Elaine or David C.

STEWARDS FOR CHRISTINGLE SERVICES, DECEMBER 24TH 3PM & 5PM: if you are available to be a steward for either or both Christingles, please sign the list at the back of church.

PREPARING FOR THE CHRISTINGLE: All are welcome to join a session to make Christingles at 10.00am on December 23rd, in church.

FROM THE CHILDREN'S TEAM – PLASTIC BOTTLE TOPS Please can you help us. We are asking for donations of plastic bottle tops. There is a collection box at the back of church. Thank you.

FOODBANK Food drop-off – supermarket drop off points; in church; distribution centre on Ship Street (Fridays 1-3pm). The foodbank is currently short of **Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish, Long Life Milk, Tinned Fruit, Packets of Cereal, Shampoo, Deodorant, Treats.** For how to give or get help go to: https://runcorndistrict.foodbank.org.uk

DONATIONS TO CHURCH If you would like to contribute to St Laurence, our Bank Account details are as follows: St Laurence Frodsham Parochial Church Council Sort Code: 09-01-55 Acc. No: 42559803. Alternatively, you can donate here: https://givealittle.co/campaigns/371c0c8f-ea13-4763-9688-e0de77dd8475 or scan the code. Thank you.

Our safeguarding officer can be contacted on the dedicated phone line 07862 321 560
Please use it only for safeguarding issues, not for general enquiries. Thank you

News

AFTERNOON TEA AT SCHOOL

Here is a photo of church members enjoying afternoon tea at school on Monday when they were entertained by the school's Ethos Group.



FROM TONY M.

Christmas memories

It was a few days before Christmas. The day was cold and frosty with a strong East wind. Taid (Grandad) and I were sitting by roaring fire in a comfortable silence.

Outside it was bitterly cold and there had been a sharp frost that morning.

Mam had gone to Bangor to do some shopping. I was not allowed to go so I was hopeful that this meant a surprise Christmas morning. I wasn't that bothered as I loved spending time with Taid. We had lost my Dad when I was six, so Taid had been the "Father figure" in my life.

As the daylight began to fade Mam came in with some shopping bags. Mam put the light on and said, “Why are you two doing sitting in the dark?” Taid replied, “The lad and me are just enjoying the fire and each other’s company.” Mam hurried upstairs with some of her shopping. My attempt at following was immediately thwarted and I was told to stay downstairs and help Taid who was making tea.

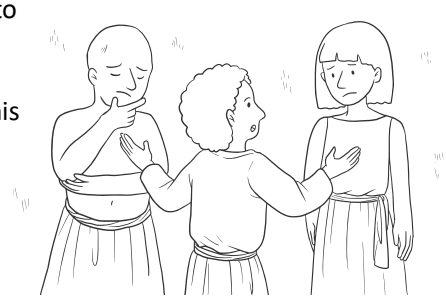
Mam came back downstairs with a frown on her face and said “I bought a lovely little Christmas tree, one and six in Woolworths, but it’s not in any of my bags so it could have dropped out on the bus or on the way from the bus stop.” Taid said he would walk as far as the bus stop, which is a mile away. Mam tried to persuade him not to go as it was dark and bitterly cold. Taid could not be persuaded and off he went,

After what seemed a long time Taid returned carrying the little tree, Taid said he had found it on the old railway bridge. Of course, we were all very pleased and I wanted to decorate it there and then, The little tree was duly decorated with tinsel, baubles and a little star on top, I was as pleased with it as if it was six feet tall.

Near seventy years later I still have my little tree which is rather worse for wear and has a missing branch, but it still comes out every Christmas, When I put my battered tree up, I remember vividly that evening all those years ago and the ‘hiraeth’ is very strong. I can’t accurately describe the meaning of hiraeth but I know how it feels.

On a lighter note

Casting was taking place for the Nativity play and one little boy desperately wanted to be Joseph but was cast as the Innkeeper. He was very disappointed and sulked and grumbled during rehearsals. The teacher was becoming increasingly fed up with his behaviour and told him to behave or he wouldn’t take part at all. Albeit reluctantly his behaviour improved.



The day of the play arrived, and everyone had learned their parts. Mary and Joseph arrived at the inn and Joseph asked if there was a room for them. The Innkeeper replied “Of course, would you like a double or a twin.”

The Alternative Collect for Advent Sunday

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns,

turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness,

that we may be ready to meet you

in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen



Contributions to the newsletter should be emailed to saintells@gmail.com by 7pm on Wednesday. Thank you.
General articles will appear once a month in the last newsletter of each month.
If you wish to be unsubscribed from this newsletter, please email saintells@gmail.com with 'Unsubscribe' in the heading

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CANDLELIGHT PIANO
CHRISTMAS MUSIC
An enchanting evening of beautiful
Christmas music in the peaceful glow of candlelight
performed by
MAGDALENA FRAY
Our local musician
SATURDAY 19 DECEMBER 2026
5:00 PM
St Paul's Church, Helsby
WA6 9AB
What sweeter music
Have yourself a merry little Christmas
A Child's Lullaby
The Christmas Song
Angels' Carol
O Holy Night
The Colours of Christmas
Carol of the Bells
What Child Is This
Silent Night
And many more
DONATIONS WELCOME
YAMAHA