

## Newsletter of St Laurence Parish Church, Frodsham

For week commencing Sunday November 28<sup>th</sup> 2021 – Advent Sunday, Year C



“To know God and to make God known”

Vicar: Rev Elaine Attack – [revelaine@nym.hush.com](mailto:revelaine@nym.hush.com)

Website: <https://slfchurch.org/> Facebook: [www.facebook.com/saintells/](http://www.facebook.com/saintells/)

### This Week

Sunday, Nov 28th <b>Advent Sunday</b>	8.00 10.00 16.00	Holy Communion (spoken) Holy Communion with music Advent Carol Service	
Monday - Friday	10.00-16.00	Church open	
Monday	9.30	School rehearse	
Thursday	14.00	Funeral	
Friday	9.30	School rehearse	
Saturday	11.30	Baptism	
Sunday, Dec 5th <b>Advent 2</b>	8.00 10.00 12.30 15.00	Holy Communion (spoken) Holy Communion with music Baptism Baptism	

### Services

The current website link for services is: <https://slfchurch.org/remembrance-sun-on>

**PLEASE NOTE: Services in church.** You no longer need to book to come to a service, but we still encourage you to wear a face mask to come in and walk about church, and if you feel comfortable to do so, take it off when sitting down.



During the Sundays of Advent / Christmas we will have our usual Sunday morning services along with the following:

**Advent Sunday Nov 28th 4.00pm Our Advent Carol Service. All welcome.**

Every day during Advent there will be a "Carol a Day" on our Facebook page and website.

**4th Sunday of Advent, Dec 19th 4.00pm – "Messages from Bethlehem" Carol Service**

**Christmas Eve, Friday Dec 24th**

- **Christingle Services:** There will be TWO services in church - at 3.00pm and 5.30pm.  
**Please note** that seating will be limited – admission to both services will be **by ticket only** - tickets are not required for children under two years of age.  
 For safety reasons we will be unable to admit anyone without a ticket on the day. Tickets will be available in advance, either from: Church on the two preceding Sundays December - 12th & 19th between 11.45am and 12.15pm. Or from "Dandelion" in Church Street from Monday Dec 13th.  
 Further details will follow on our website and Facebook in due course.

- **7.00pm: Online Christingle** accessed via Facebook / website.
- **11.30pm: Midnight Mass** – the first Holy Communion of Christmas

### **Christmas Day, Saturday Dec 25th**

9.30am: Family Christmas service of Holy Communion – please bring along one of your presents.

**Sunday Dec 26th** - The feast day of St Stephen (Boxing Day) 10.00am: A said service of Holy Communion.

## **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 pass their name to Rev Elaine:

[revelaine@nym.hush.com](mailto:revelaine@nym.hush.com)

**Please pray for -**

*Those who are sick*

*Those who have died*

*Those whose anniversary of death falls at this time*

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

Please pass your requests to Rev Elaine at the Vicarage if you haven't got internet access.

## **Letter**

*This month the letter is written by Kath Williamson*

So far, I've seen two houses decorated with Christmas lights and a man wearing a Santa hat and, at the time of writing, it is 22nd November! What a rush some people are in to celebrate Christmas. And here we are just entering Advent. I have to admit that I love all the lights and decorations in the run up to Christmas. When I was small, we put up the decorations and the tree 12 days before Christmas Day and took them down 12 days after and I continued this as an adult. But last year, for the first time, I put up my tree in the first week of December. It did jolly up the dark evenings and I'm tempted to do the same this year!

But in getting bogged down in all the preparations and shopping for Christmas, we can let the meaning of Advent slip away from us. Advent is a time of preparation before celebrating the birth of Jesus, just as Lent is a time of preparation before the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. So, in addition to our preparations of food, cards, gifts and decorations, let's spend some time in personal preparation too - a time to 'Make straight the Lord's path' in our own lives.



Here are a few suggestions for making Advent a special time in itself. Maybe one

(or more) of these may help make this Advent memorable and not just a busy prelude to Christmas Day.

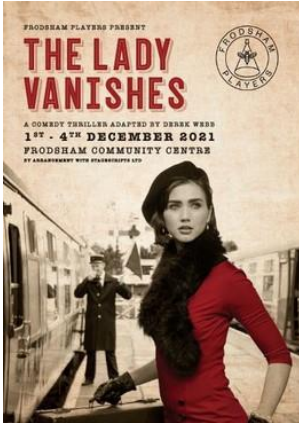
- This Sunday there is an Advent Carol service at 4pm in church. Suitable for anyone. Come along and sing Advent carols to really 'feel' Advent
- From Advent Sunday to Christmas Day there will be a 'Carol a Day' on the website and also on Facebook. This could be a springboard for singing your own praises as you go about your everyday activities (but do consider the neighbours!)
- Take time to do a 'Spiritual MOT'. The answers to the following questions may help you think about what you would like to do this Advent
  - When was the last time I put 15 minutes aside at home to spend quality time speaking and listening to God?
  - Is there anything extra I can do through Advent (as perhaps I do in Lent)? Perhaps a random act of kindness each day.
  - Have I ever just sat down quietly and read the story of the nativity by myself with no other distractions?
- Read a Christian book. In the past, I've suggested reading 'Phoebe' by Paula Gooder. Actually, I may read it myself for a second time this Advent!

Of course, you may have your own ways of making Advent special. I'd love to hear your suggestions.

Grace and peace to all, Kath

## Notices and News

**CAROL SINGING** [Churches Together in Frodsham](#) has been supporting the Salvation Army's Fund for the Victims of Human Trafficking for over eight years now. Singing carols together in Morrisons was not possible last year but this year we plan to sing OUTSIDE, suitably distanced from each other, for just one hour. Come and join us at MORRISONS on Tuesday, 21st December from 11am to 12 o'clock and help us spread some Christmas Hope, Joy and Love. Funds we raise will bring practical support to the unfortunate victims of human trafficking.  
<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/modern-slavery>



**FRODSHAM PLAYERS PRESENT "THE LADY VANISHES"** at Frodsham Community Centre on the **1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th December** starting at 7.30 pm. Tickets are £10.00 and £5.00 for children under 12. They are available from [www.frodshamplayers.com](http://www.frodshamplayers.com). Visit Frodsham Players website to see the trailer for the play - also on Facebook and YouTube. Website: <http://www.v2.frodshamplayers.com/>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FrodshamPlayers/>

**PUDDINGS** Christmas puddings: Single portion puddings £2.50; Four portion £7; Large £12 Sticky Toffee pudding (4 portion) £6. Luscious Lemon pudding (4 portion) £6 Available to order, collection free from church or delivery within Frodsham. Please leave your orders on the table at the back of Church (order forms will be on the table) or phone 07939 924 952. Calls after 4pm preferred. Thank you

**FROM REV PHIL** This picture came up on our "on this day" list yesterday. The photo depicts our multi-talented Vicar driving a diesel shunter on the Bala Lake Railway in 2014.

It was a private charter train organised by the Branch Line Society - for Elaine it was one of those "what the heck am I doing here?" moments - cold grey November day in Bala with a load of nutters intent on covering every inch of sidings and long disused bits of track... with me of course! Note the name of the engine!

*Editor: Rev Phil is still very involved with the Bala Lake Railway. What were you doing 7 years ago?*



**FOODBANK** Collection points: supermarket drop off points, in church, distribution centre on Ship Street (Fridays 1 - 3pm).

Current needs are tinned fish, tinned meat, tinned fruit, long life juice, sponge puddings, coffee, toothpaste, men's deodorant. Visit the website for info on how to give or get help - <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> Thank you.

## News from the Church of England

### **Church carbon footprint tool data update**

One in 14 Church of England churches are now reporting "net zero" carbon emissions, according to the latest data from the Energy Footprint Toolkit (EFT). The number of churches edged upwards from four per cent to seven per cent between 2019 and 2020.

General Synod has committed the Church to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030. The scope of this aim was detailed in 2020, and the EFT enables measuring the emissions of all buildings in scope.

Last year's figures, published on Monday 22nd, are based on the 3,600 churches who submitted data. Of these churches, 250 (or 7 per cent) had net zero carbon (or lower) emissions.



Dr John Thompson, Bishop of Selby and chair of the Net Zero Carbon Sub-committee group, said:

“It is promising to see this increase in net zero carbon churches. The rise in numbers of net zero churches reflects that more and more parishes are utilising pre-approved renewable suppliers and addressing the big and small measures which can be taken to reduce carbon impacts. This is a positive early step in our ambitious journey to a wholly net zero carbon Church by 2030. However, we would like to encourage more churches to use the tool so we can build up a fuller picture of the challenges facing the church as we continue our journey to net zero.”

Among the churches with net zero carbon, just under 80 per cent were using wholly renewable electricity tariffs. The success in churches was also reflected by encouraging results from “other buildings” which include church halls. From the 500 buildings surveyed 20 (or four per cent) were considered as net zero carbon, or less. Like other data from 2020, the EFT’s findings were impacted by the global pandemic.

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### **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



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Contributions for the Newsletter should be emailed to [saintells@gmail.com](mailto:saintells@gmail.com) by 7pm on Wednesday. Thank you.  
'News from Church Members' will occur monthly on the last newsletter of each month.

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