

## Notices

As you may be aware the Churchwardens were planning to hold a Parish social event at All Saints on 10th December. However they have decided to postpone the event until a more favourable time as a result of the emergence of the Omicron Covid variant and the ensuing uncertainties

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In view of the recent advice from the government regarding the new Omicron variant, it is with regret that we postpone the Christmas get together at St Philip's on Saturday 4th December 2021. Further information will be shared when available.

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Just a reminder that if you are shopping online do not forget to use Easy Fundraising and Amazon Smile. Every purchase you make helps raise money for the parish! Thank you to everyone who has raised money so far.

[https://smile.amazon.co.uk/gp/f.html?C=2JQ2YAJ6Q58G5&K=2LBJ752K7S0NR&M=urn:rt:n:msg:202105260804473c5867f3b3b54607be0e42cf90d0p0eu&R=129P4BNN977Y4&T=C&U=https%3A%2F%2Fsmile.amazon.co.uk%2Fch%2F1134146-0%3Fref\\_%3Dpe\\_4117511\\_593892291&H=0AH5ZIKCBAJNJ48FYN2GJVR5VD0A&ref\\_=pe\\_4117511\\_593892291](https://smile.amazon.co.uk/gp/f.html?C=2JQ2YAJ6Q58G5&K=2LBJ752K7S0NR&M=urn:rt:n:msg:202105260804473c5867f3b3b54607be0e42cf90d0p0eu&R=129P4BNN977Y4&T=C&U=https%3A%2F%2Fsmile.amazon.co.uk%2Fch%2F1134146-0%3Fref_%3Dpe_4117511_593892291&H=0AH5ZIKCBAJNJ48FYN2GJVR5VD0A&ref_=pe_4117511_593892291)

[http://t.e.easyfundraising.org.uk/r/?id=h3fd083a0,29f37a1a,25a8332c&utm\\_source=adobe\\_campaign&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=referral-2018&utm\\_content=trigger-supp-referee-raised-2018&origin=RTND2&p1=theparishofallsaintswithstphilipmaidstone&p2=5WJHW0](http://t.e.easyfundraising.org.uk/r/?id=h3fd083a0,29f37a1a,25a8332c&utm_source=adobe_campaign&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=referral-2018&utm_content=trigger-supp-referee-raised-2018&origin=RTND2&p1=theparishofallsaintswithstphilipmaidstone&p2=5WJHW0)

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**Zoom Service kindly offered by St Martins Church - Thursday Morning Holy Worship 10.00am**

**St Martin's Church Zoom Link for Services**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86607073>

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

[www.maidstoneallsaints.co.uk](http://www.maidstoneallsaints.co.uk)



**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021**  
**The Second Sunday of Advent**

**10.00am Joint Eucharist Service**  
**At All Saints Church**  
**John the Baptist**



- **COVID RESTRICTIONS**
- Face coverings Optional
- Unmasked singing permitted
- Area to be provided for apprehensive mask wearers wanting to keep distanced from non-wearers.
- Social distancing to remain but reduced from two metres to one.
- Retain alternate vacancy pews to lessen perceived risk of aerosol contamination.
- Non-contact sharing of the peace encouraged.
- Consideration and courtesy for others space when interacting.
- Mingling outside permitted.

**Next week's Service**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021**  
**The Third Sunday of Advent**  
**10.00am Carol Service & Lessons at St Philips Church**

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### **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.

Paul Crease, Vera Alflatt,  
Daphne Holland, Nigel Gunyon, Mary Wheeler,  
Jane Sadler, Ray Stephens, Debbie Proctor,  
Roger Doe, Gemma (Joan Bull's Daughter)

## **Reading**

### **Malachi 3.1-4**

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

## **Gospel**

### **Luke 3. 1-6**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." '

## **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 for those in need**

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

## **Special Prayers of Hope and Compassion**

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*If anyone would like to add anything to the weekly notices, please contact*  
[office.allsaintsmaidstone@gmail.com](mailto:office.allsaintsmaidstone@gmail.com)

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

The Very Revd. John S. Richardson  
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**Please note Revd John will be on Leave on  
Wednesdays of each week**

### **Church Wardens:**

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[www.maidstoneallsaints.co.uk](http://www.maidstoneallsaints.co.uk)

[www.stphilipschurchmaidstone.co.uk](http://www.stphilipschurchmaidstone.co.uk)

**Our Facebook Page:**

[Click Here for our Facebook Page](#)

# Maidstone Deanery Prayers for December

Thank you for your continued prayers for the churches and people of our deanery.

This month, we pray for All Saints Church, Loose:-



*'It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ' (Ephesians 4:11-13).*

Heavenly Father, as part of the body of Christ, we praise you that you equip your people across the world for the work of making disciples of all nations. We give thanks for our individual gifts, across the deanery, and pray for the joy of working together this Christmas, in Jesus precious name, through the Holy Spirit, Amen.

- Give thanks for our different skills and characteristics. Pray for unity in the Spirit as we look forward to Advent and the Christmastide with the inspiration of wanting to make Jesus better known in our small part of the world. Pray for our belief that God is preparing us to plant a new church and is increasing our present church to support this exciting venture. Pray all will be inspired to use their personal skills and play their part.
- Pray for strength, good health, and gospel passion as we reach out to our community this Christmas through 'Carols on the Corner', Family Carols at YMCA, and the 'Walkabout Nativity' in Loose Village. Pray Covid restrictions will not halt these events; God will bless us with good weather, and good attendances.
- Pray for Carols by Candlelight, the two Christingle Services, Midnight Communion, and the Christmas Day Service. Pray the services will speak anew to all who hear them; bringing the faithful to fuller maturity and inspiring those new to church to want to know more. Pray for good attendance of all Christmas events across the deanery.

