



*“As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:  
A voice of one calling in the wilderness,  
‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.  
Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low.  
The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth.  
And all people will see God’s salvation.’” Luke 3:4-6*

## **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

10:00 – 10:15 am Prayer (Mary Hall Suite)

10:30am Worship Service

Sermon: Listening to the Spirit

The church at Sardis Revelation 3:1-6

*If you miss a sermon they are available on our website.*

7:30 pm Word Alive



*Prayer is available after the service from our Prayer Ministry Team*

For those who use a hearing aid, a hearing loop is provided in the main hall. To use: switch to the 'T' position.



If you are visiting we are pleased to have you with us, please take time to write in the visitor's book and stay for tea or coffee after the service.

**Please remember our diary for the next week in your daily prayers**



**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December**

6:30 pm      Rock Solid

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December**

10:00am      KILTS Parent & Toddler Group

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

6:45pm      David leading prayers at the Council Meeting

7:30pm      Leadership Meeting

**Friday 9<sup>nd</sup> December**

9:30 am      Friday Craft

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December**

10:30am      Nativity at Pennywell – talk to Tricia for more information

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November**

10:30am      KCBC Nativity Service

2:30pm      Coombeswood Christmas Service



**HOME MISSION STAMPS**

**Please save all your stamps from Christmas cards and encourage family and friends to do so**

Stamps should have a 6mm or ¼ inch border. For more information please talk to Rita

## Make a note in your diary of our Christmas services and events



12 <sup>th</sup> December	7:00 pm	Mayor's Civic Carol Service
16 <sup>th</sup> December	6:30 pm	Town Carol Service at the Fountain
18 <sup>th</sup> December	10:30 pm	All-age Carol Service
18 <sup>th</sup> December	6:30pm	Carols by Candlelight
20 <sup>th</sup> December	7:00pm	Sing Christmas - carols at Sandygate Inn
25 <sup>th</sup> December	10:00am	Christmas Day Service

***“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing ” 1 Thessalonians 5:11***



Do you have a bible verse, poem, passage or song etc. that has been of encouragement that you would like to share? If so please let me know so that I can include it in the newsletter and we can all encourage each other...

Thanks to all those who have taken the time to provide verses for this part of the newsletter over the last year I really appreciate it and am sure it has been a source of encouragement. Thank you

*Sarah*



### **Prayer Request:**

**Sheila Turvey** is having a cataract op on 6th Dec and as she will need some medication for a while after the op she will be moving to Ridgecourt, Totnes on 1st Dec. She would really value it if her friends at KCBC could remember her in their prayers. She is sad that it is further away from her Christian family and would relish any contact they would like to make with her.

## HOST

Offer your hand for international friendship!

Welcome an adult international student into your home for a day, weekend, or 4 days at Christmas, and do your bit to make the world a little friendlier. Many adult international students from across the world would love to spend a few days with you, learning about British culture, experiencing UK home-life, and telling you about their own country. A Christmas invitation is particularly valuable to students facing a holiday on an empty university campus.

Japanese student, Mamiko Moda, wrote "Thanks to my hosts and their kindness, I could spend a nice Christmas here instead of staying at home alone. I am grateful to you all."

Hosting is a voluntary position suitable for all ages and is also available throughout the year with HOST, a charity set up in 1987. To find out more or be put in touch with your local organiser, please visit [www.hostuk.org](http://www.hostuk.org), or call 020 7739 6292.

### Remembrance of Life Service

You are invited to a special service at St.Michael's Church starting at

7:00 p.m. on Wednesday 14th December. It is to remember those who have died, especially over the last few years, and to bring our thanksgiving and sadness to the Lord. It is organised by our local Funeral Directors and will be hosted by the Kingsteignton clergy. They would be very pleased if you bring along members of your family or a friend to be with you. The service will be about 45 minutes. Hot drinks and mince pies follow the service.

A complete order of service will be produced so you can join in. Also, a list of the names of all the loved ones we are remembering will be read out. If you would like someone remembered, please contact Kerry on [KinFunerals@psw.coop](mailto:KinFunerals@psw.coop) or hand a note to David to pass on.

## Word Alive

We are going to look at the politics in the Christmas story, starting with the aspirations of Mary and Joseph. World domination for Israel is in their sights - for good, of course, because they would rule well, wouldn't they? Right now in the world there seems to be an attitude of every country for themselves, though. Britain wants to Brexit and do our own thing, the US under Trump wants to focus on wealth at home and Russia wants to secure its borders from the West. Is the Bible pointing us towards aspirations to take power in the world and govern well?

Or should we keep our faith well away from any involvement in such things and leave governance to democratically elected leaders? Does the lack of fulfillment of Mary's Magnificat show that God has no more interest in governments and wants us to focus solely on saving souls?

A truly Christmas theme, then! Come along and stretch your understanding of faith this Sunday.

David



We are going to Pennywell Farm on Saturday 10th December for the 10.30 am performance. If you would like to join us it will be £8.00 each (normally £12.95) for adults and all children

The Nativity Play: While the wonderful story of the nativity is narrated, the children are star performers. The costumes and direction are organised by Pennywell. The play is in the barn so make sure everyone wears warm clothes, hats and coats. Wellingtons are not required. The Visit to Santa's Grotto: After the nativity, each child will meet Santa in his grotto and receive a present. There will also be a Christmas biscuit and squash for each child. For the adults there will be mulled wine, coffee or tea and mince pies.

Please let Tricia know the number of children (boys/girls + ages) and adults who would like to go.



Today is the second Sunday in Advent.

When Traditionally Christians all over the world light the second candle of the Advent Wreath. But what does it all mean?

**The Wreath:** The wreath itself means "victory" as Christ's victory over sin so He can save us. The Advent Wreath has 4 or 5 candles that are arranged in a circle symbolizing Christ's eternity, as a circle has no beginning and has no end, it is a symbol for God, Who is eternal and thus without beginning or end. The evergreens mean He is "ever with us," they are usually pine branches or holly that are used as a base that represents anticipation, newness, renewal and His everlastingness. The red berries of the holly represent the shedding of Christ's blood.

The second candle "CANDLE OF PREPARATION" means His light and preparation. Preparation means to 'get ready'. "Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD!"

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