

TEAM

DECEMBER 2024



TALK

ISSUE NO. 36

The Wirksworth Team Ministry monthly notices

Serving the communities of Alderwasley, Bonsall, Bradbourne, Brassington, Carsington, Elton, Idridgehay, Kirk Ireton, Middleton & Wirksworth

Transformed Lives - Growing Church - Building Community

Dear friends

Christmas, they say, is a time for children and I suspect that this might be true, at least in part.

What is true to say though is that many many children across the world get increasingly excited through December and this is merely stoked further with Advent Calendars and the adverts on TV.

And this is how it has been for almost 2,000 years. Advent season is the nearly 4 weeks (it is actually 4 Sundays) the church offers to get ready for celebrating the Christmas season, and this year it starts on Sunday 1st December.

It is a time to prepare our hearts for the birth of the Son of God and to get ready to celebrate the coming of God to earth, being born in human form. This is the message of Christmas, that God loves us so much that Jesus was born to live our life and to show us that love through the way he lived.

The services we hold over the Christmas season are designed to help us all to better understand this fact and approach these stories with the mind and excitement of a child.

I sincerely hope that you are able to join us at one of the many services in the team listed inside.

With every good wish for a wonderful Christmas, however you choose to celebrate.

With every blessing

Revd. Neil



Coffee and Chat - Monday mornings at 10.30am in Waltham House

A warm welcome is extended to anyone who would like to join us, just come along for friendly chatter and easy company. We can offer transport, contact Sue & Ian Todd.

Bonsall Church - Jimmy's Café

open from 12noon - 3pm on Saturday to Monday



A wide selection of homemade soups, filled rolls, home-baked cakes and sweet/savoury snacks plus hot and cold drinks. Come for lunch inside or outside the church.

St James Church, Idridgehay - Monthly Coffee Mornings

On the first Wednesday of each month you are welcome to come to join us for our Coffee Morning in the church from 10.15am to 11.45am.

All are welcome to come for a chat and a catch up.

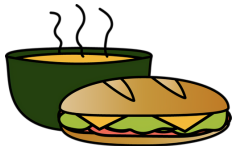
Elton Church Coffee Mornings

every Thursday from 10am - 12noon in the Village Hall

The weekly coffee mornings are enjoyed by many and all are welcome to attend

Team Council at Bradbourne Church Hall on Wednesday 13th November

Refreshments served from 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start



Souper Surprise in The Maltings

THURSDAY's from 12noon to 1pm



For just £4 - a choice of homemade soups with a roll, a hot drink and a slice of cake. Come and join us to meet new people and enjoy good food & company in a warm space.

Idridgehay Christmas Fair

Saturday 30th November

from 11am - 3pm

Lots of stalls - wreaths, foliage, cakes, decorations, crafts, cards, gift ideas. Café serving refreshments. Free entry. Free parking at the Black Swan. Look forward to seeing you



Saturday 7th December

**from 10am - 12.30pm - Wirksworth & District Amnesty Group
annual Write for Rights card signing event at Wellspring Church**

**at 4.45pm - Peace Ceremony starts at St. Mary's Church for a lantern-light
procession to the War Memorial**

at 6pm - Light switch-on and carol singing in the Hope & Anchor car park

**BMW Band Christmas Concert in The Maltings on
Wednesday 11th December at 7.30pm**

"Hark Hark" Raise Your Voices Winter Concert

**Saturday 14th December at 7.30pm in St Mary's church Wirksworth
and as usual, the donations from proceeds will go to local charities**

**Wirksworth Community Choir & Wirksworth Community Orchestra
Christmas Concert in St Mary's on Sunday 15th December at 3pm**

Our Team Service at 10.30am on Sunday 29th December will be our chance to say thank you to our Lay Reader Liz Thomas who is stepping down after some 30 years of service.

We would like to offer a gift to Liz at the service and if you would like to make a donation, please drop it off at the Team Office by Friday 13th December latest.

News from Christian Aid

You are invited to our Annual Gathering on Monday 25th November in the Upstairs Meeting Room of Wellspring Church starting at 7pm

We will be celebrating 50 years of working for Christian Aid in Wirksworth, during which we have raised well over half a million pounds in today's money. As well as the formal business of the meeting, refreshments will be served and a chance to chat and watch a film about an issue relevant to Christian Aid's work.

Please join us for an enjoyable and informative evening.

Look out for the



Christian Aid stall at Wirksworth Christmas Farmers' Market on Saturday 7th December will be serving Mulled Wine / Juice & Mince Pies

We hope for a cold, bright day, but not quite as icy as last year.

Please note, we will be at the top end of the town, not in the Memorial Garden area.

Charities' Fair on Saturday 9th November

Christian Aid in Wirksworth and District hosted at Wellspring a number of charity stalls and provided refreshments and a raffle. It was very well-supported and we thank all helpers and participants who made it a such a success. Over £400 was raised for Christian Aid. Many thanks to all who came.

Bob & Jill Rhodes

Thanks for the toy & gift donations for Jigsaw to distribute at Christmas

Thank you to all who donated Toys, Gifts & Toiletries for the children & young adults. So many of you were so generous with your giving and they have all been taken across to Jigsaw who are based in Matlock who were extremely grateful to receive them.

The 2024 Real Advent Calendar

This is a fun way for parents, grandparents and Godparents to share the Christmas story. The 2024 calendar has a new design with a Fairtrade Chocolate and a line of the Christmas story behind each window. The free book has a page for every day of Advent, expanding on the Christmas story and includes fun challenges.

The Real Advent Calendar uses Fairtrade chocolate - giving the producers a fair price and a cash bonus. Money raised from the sales of the calendar will also help provide care and support for mums and new babies in African villages supported by the Funzi and Bodo Trust.

No other calendar enables parents and children to experience the Christmas story for 24 days, and be challenged to do some good in the season.

The Real Advent Calendar 2024 with story booklet, an Advent challenge and a chocolate for every day and are for sale at only £5 each. To order any calendars look out for the Order Forms in each church or call the Team Office on 01629 824707.



Folk Carol Service at West Derbyshire URC, Coldwell St, Wirksworth on Friday 10th January at 7pm

Once again, there will be a mixture of carols, old and new, and a variety of readings - all celebrating the joy of Christmas and the hopes for the new year. Everyone is welcome.

Advent Calendar Windows in Wirksworth

Following on from 2023, this year there will be 12 windows opening on the days shown below in the count-down to Christmas & organised once more by Revd Neil Griffiths.

Date	Location	Theme / scene
Sunday 1 st	Seymour Interiors	Christmas Celebrations
Tuesday 3 rd	Wirksworth Fish Bar	Gabriel visits Mary
Thursday 5 th	Otto Coffee	Christmas Celebrations
Saturday 7 th	Marsden's Gifts	Journey to Bethlehem
Monday 9 th	Le Mistral	Christmas Celebrations
Wednesday 11 th	Hope & Anchor	The Baby is Born
Friday 13 th	Goodwins Kitchens & Bedrooms	Christmas Celebrations
Sunday 15 th	Fosman Opticians	Angels visit the Shepherds
Tuesday 17 th	McMurtry & Harding	Christmas Celebrations
Thursday 19 th	Lovedays Solicitors	Shepherds visit the Stable
Saturday 21 st	Heritage Centre	Christmas Celebrations
Monday 23 rd	Wellspring	The Visit of the Wise Men

The Real Advent Windows in Kirk Ireton 2024

We have been doing Real Advent Windows in KI for a few years. The idea is that as people walk around the village they come across windows decorated for advent, preferably showing the date number. Just like an older traditional advent calendar. Images can be anything winter or Christmas related and are revealed on the relevant day to stay on display up to Christmas.



Still Relevant?

Too many people reject the Christmas story along with Father Christmas. Mary, Joseph and the babe lying in a manger in Bethlehem - a nice story for children, but we've grown out of it. Of course, we like a bit of a break in mid-winter and a chance to party, but we don't do religion anymore.

Perhaps we Christians have been guilty of going along with a Christmas Card view of the Nativity, a warm stable full of light, warmth, animals and shepherds. Anyone who has spent the night in a stable will tell you how dark and cold it is. St Luke tells the story of an unmarried mother and her guardian, harried by officialdom to a city they've never been to before, forced to take accommodation that is unsuitable. Go to Bethlehem today or any Palestinian city in the occupied West Bank and you will find people driven from their homes by settlers, protected by the Israeli Defence Forces. In Gaza, hundreds of thousands of people, whose homes have been destroyed, trying desperately to find a place of safety. The state of the Holy Land today is not greatly different to that of Israel occupied by a brutal Roman regime at the time of Jesus.

Christian Aid is working to support agencies on the ground, bringing succour and hope to desperate people, motivated by thought that in helping that young girl, that new-born baby and all the others, they are serving the Prince of Peace and all his brothers and sisters. Will you join with them and help in whatever way you can? Bob Rhodes

Safeguarding Report

December is often a point for reflection, it also has shortest day of the year, where slowly days get longer and nights shorter. With it there is a sense of hope for the New Year. For safeguarding within the Wirksworth Team Ministry (WTM), there is a lot to be positive about with a good numbers of volunteers completing safeguarding training so ensuring WTM becomes a more aware, caring community, helping to ensure the safety of all those in the Church community. An inaugural Safeguarding conference in April, a display in St Mary's promoting the work of the Wirksworth Mental Health Initiative and the annual Diocesan Safeguarding Service in November have helped to not only promote the need for safeguarding but how to deal with any issues. If anyone would like to know about how safeguarding is maintained in the WTM or to complete safeguarding training, please contact me, Louise, the Parish Safeguarding Office (PSO) via the Team Office on 01629 824707 or email to: teamoffice@wirksworthteamministry.com

Reporting a safeguarding concern

If a child or adult is in immediate danger or requires immediate medical attention, you must dial 999. The Diocesan Safeguarding Team office hours: Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm. To report or request advice regarding a safeguarding concern, either email the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on safeguarding@derby.anglican.org or call 01332 388678 and ask to speak to the safeguarding co-ordinator or a safeguarding advisor.

Out of hours cover is in place during evenings, weekends and over bank holiday periods for urgent advice from thirtyone:eight, on 0303 003 1111.

Please tell them you are calling from Diocese of Derby.

I wish everyone a safe and healthy festive period.

Louise Oram WTM Parish Safeguarding Officer



December Calendar Notes

Advent begins on **Sunday 1st December** and at **6pm in St Mary's Wirksworth** there will be '**From Darkness to Light**' - the **Advent Carol service by Candlelight with an extended Wirksworth Community Choir**. The season starts a new Church year and is always one of expectation and preparation as we draw into Christmas. The Advent prayer is Maranatha - Come Lord Jesus. All of our churches will mark that with the lighting of the candles in the Advent ring.

Our **Carol Services** take place as we approach Christmas. There is a full schedule set out below. As usual Kirk Ireton Carol Service will be by candlelight and together with Alderwasley will be held on Sunday 15th December. Others take place during the week that follows. It is good to welcome Crich Carr School choir at Alderwasley, plus the Kirk Ireton Singers and the Middleton community choir in their respective villages and the Wirksworth Community Choir at the Bradbourne Carol Service. The BMW Band will be with us for the town carols at Wirksworth.

Our Christmas celebrations start on **Christmas Eve** with the Crib Services at Alderwasley, Elton, Brassington and Wirksworth; and the Blessing of the Crib with Carols and Readings at Middleton and Idridgehay followed by Midnight Mass at Wirksworth at 11.30pm. On **Christmas Day** there will be the Eucharist in seven of our churches see the list below.

On **Sunday 29th December** we shall all come together at our traditional Team Service. Please note this year it is at 10.30am in St Mary's Wirksworth and it is special occasion. Liz Thomas will be preaching her final Sermon as she steps down from her ministry as a Lay Reader. There will be refreshments afterwards as we say thank you to her for all her years of faithful ministry amongst us.

It is also a joy to welcome Canon Cameron Buckland to us at Elton on Christmas morning and at Wirksworth on Epiphany Sunday morning on 5th January. There will also be an evening Service to mark Epiphany at Wirksworth at 6pm.

Services in December

Sunday 1st Advent 1

Brassington:	9.30am	Eucharist with Neil Griffiths
Kirk Ireton:	9.30am	Eucharist with Keith Orford
Wirksworth:	9.30am	Eucharist with Rod Prince & Nicholas Radford-Powell
Alderwasley:	11am	Communion with Nicholas Radford-Powell
Carsington:	11am	Eucharist with Neil Griffiths
Wirksworth:	6pm	Advent Carols with Neil Griffiths & Team Clergy

Sunday 8th Advent 2

Bonsall:	9.30am	Eucharist with Neil Griffiths
Brassington:	9.30am	Morning Prayer with Brassington Lay team
Elton:	9.30am	Eucharist with Nicholas Radford-Powell
Wirksworth:	9.30am	Eucharist with Keith Orford & Rod Prince
Idridgehay:	11am	Eucharist with Rod Prince
Middleton:	11am	Eucharist with Nicholas Radford-Powell

Services in December (continued)

Sunday 15th Advent 3

Brassington:	9.30am	Eucharist with Nicholas Radford-Powell
Wirksworth:	9.30am	Eucharist with Neil Griffiths
Bradbourne:	11am	Eucharist with Nicholas Radford-Powell
Alderwasley:	3pm	Carol Service with Liz Thomas
Wirksworth:	6pm	Evensong with Rod Prince
Kirk Ireton:	6.30pm	Carols by Candlelight with Nicholas Radford-Powell

Wednesday 18th

Wirksworth:	7pm	Town Carols with BMW band at St Mary's
Bradbourne:	7.30pm	Carols with Wirksworth Community Choir

Thursday 19th

Bonsall:	7pm	United Carol Service
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Friday 20th

Elton:	6pm	Carol Service
Brassington:	7pm	Carols by Candlelight with Rod Prince

Sunday 22nd Advent 4

Wirksworth:	9.30am	Eucharist with Nicholas Radford-Powell & Keith Orford
Carsington:	3pm	Carol Service with Rod Prince
Kirk Ireton:	6.30pm	Carols at the Methodist Chapel

Tuesday 24th Christmas Eve

Alderwasley:	3pm	Crib Service with Liz Thomas
Elton:	3.30pm	Crib Service with Lorraine Brown
Idridgehay:	5pm	Carol Service with Keith Orford
Kirk Ireton:	5pm	KICA Community Carols
Wirksworth:	5pm	Crib Service including impromptu Nativity
Brassington:	6pm	Crib Service with Rod Prince
Middleton:	7pm	Carol Service with Middleton Community Choir
Wirksworth:	11.30pm	Midnight Mass with Neil Griffiths & Nicholas Radford-Powell

Monday 25th Christmas Day

Elton:	9am	Christmas Day Eucharist with Cameron Buckland
Bonsall:	9.30am	Christmas Day Eucharist with Keith Orford
Brassington:	9.30am	Christmas Day Eucharist with Rod Prince
Kirk Ireton:	9.30am	Christmas Day Eucharist with Neil Griffiths
Wirksworth:	9.30am	Christmas Day Eucharist with Nicholas Radford-Powell
Alderwasley:	11am	Christmas Day Eucharist with Nicholas Radford-Powell
Carsington:	11am	Christmas Day Eucharist with Neil Griffiths

Sunday 29th Christmas 1

Wirksworth:	10.30am	Team Eucharist with Neil Griffiths, Liz Thomas & Rod Prince with farewell presentation to Liz
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To join an online zoom service:

Morning Prayer at 9am & Evening Prayer at 5pm on Monday to Friday only
(- except for Bank holidays)

This is the link for all of our online services: <https://zoom.us/j/2732241372>
Those without internet access can join the service using a landline by calling:
0208 080 6591, then keying in the host / meeting number: 2732 241 372#
followed by keying # again, then waiting to be connected to the meeting.

The Registers for November 2024

Holy Burials

Fri 1st	MARGARET OAKES	84	Wirksworth
Wed 6th	VINCENT HAROLD TAYLOR (Vin)	95	Wirksworth
Thur 7th	JOHN HILAIRE BENT	83	Elton



Aquabox

**Aquabox plea for clean useable TOWELS
& are always seeking donations of clean useable
towels for packing in the emergency filter boxes
that are sent to disaster zones around the world.
Please drop towels off at the Team Office.**

Derby Refugee Solidarity

ask for donations of clean & wearable warm clothes to give to those in need in Derby and across at Calais. Also holdalls, bags, cases & rucksacks. Donations of adult bikes and guitars are always welcomed. Bring items to Team Office or call 824707 for collection.

**Together with Bishop Libby we pray for the beginning of our
new Church's Year, for the opportunities and possibilities ahead.
For the services to mark this day and new season of Advent,
giving thanks for the message of hope.**

Wirksworth Team Ministry within Carsington Deanery in Derby Diocese

Wirksworth Team Contacts

**Team Rector: Rev Neil Griffiths Tel: 01629 823092 email:
neilgriffiths01@btinternet.com**

Team Curate: Rev Nicholas Radford-Powell email: fr.nicholas.rp@gmail.com

Team Office Address: St Mary's Gate, off St John's Street, Wirksworth, DE4 4DQ

Tel: 01629 824707 Email: teamoffice@wirksworthteamministry.co.uk

Open hours: 9.30am to 2.30pm, Monday to Thursday + 9.30am to 12.30pm on Friday.

Website: www.wirksworthteamministry.co.uk

For details of our clergy team, Church Wardens and other parish contacts please contact the Team Office (824707) or go to the Wirksworth Team Ministry website.

Deadline for the January issue of Team Talk is Wednesday 18 December

Please forward any articles and photos to the Team Office,
