

A very warm welcome to you, whether you are new to St Matthew's and All Saints' or worship with us every week. We hope you will feel at home in our churches. Please introduce yourself to someone, and stay for coffee, which is served after most services. Please see the back page for useful information for visitors.

If you are a newcomer or visitor, do please consider filling in and returning a welcome card, so that we can be in touch with information about groups and activities of interest and how we can serve you.

THIS SUNDAY

18th December - Fourth Sunday in Advent

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's

9:30am Holy Communion at All Saints'

11:00am Holy Communion at St Matthew's

4.00pm Family Carols by Candlelight

at All Saints'

6.30pm Nine Lessons & Carols by Candlelight

at All Saints'

Youth Fellowship at St Matthew's Church Hall 6:00-7:15pm for those in school years 7-9 7:00-8:45pm for those in school years 10-13

Don't forget the Crib Service at St Matthew's Harwell on Christmas Eve, Saturday 24th December, 3.30pm. Children are invited to come dressed as a character from the nativity story. Adults are welcome to, too!

NEXT SUNDAY

25th December – Christmas Day

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) at All Saints' 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's 9:30am All Age Service of Celebration at All Saints' 11:00am All Age Service of Celebration at St Matthew's

12.00pm Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's



Jonathan Mobey

Rector - Tel: 799376 rector@harwellandchilton churches.ora.uk

Pam Rolls

Associate Minister Tel: 834475 pamrolls@tiscali.co.uk

Peter Shields

Children and Families Worker Tel: 07467 038734 peter@machparish.co.uk

Vicky Johnston

Church Administrator & PA to the Rector - Tel: 834256 office@harwellandchilton churches.org.uk Mon/Tue/Thur/Fri 9.30-2.30

> If you would like to talk with the Rector about any matter, please or via the Church Office

St Matthew's Harwell with All Saints' Chilton

CHRISTMAS DAY



A Christmas lunch will be held in Chilton Village Hall for any who might otherwise be on their own, or who would like company, on Christmas Day from 12.30 – 3.30pm, including Carols and the Queen's Speech. If you are aware of anyone who would like an invitation please advise Vicky in the church office by 12th Dec.

A donation of £5 from those attending will be requested and any food or other contribution from church members towards the lunch will be welcome.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

St Matthew's will be going to Cherry Tree Court to sing carols on Monday 19th December at 7pm.

All Saints' will be carol singing around Chilton village on Monday 19th. Meet at the Church Lynch Gate at 6.30pm.

There will be beer and carols at The Rose and Crown, Chilton on Wednesday 21st December at 8.30pm all welcome.



SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

We are running some safeguarding training on 21st January. If you are involved in any of our children's groups, holiday club or pastoral care work please come along to the training. So we have an idea of numbers, please email office@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk if you are planning to attend, unless you've already let us know. It will be from 9.30-11.30am in St Matthew's Church Harwell

FACEBOOK FRIENDS

Would you like to say hello to friends across the world via our St Matthew's Church facebook friends page? The idea is that you take a selfie outside St Matthew's and post it onto the facebook page. Please speak to Liz Roberts for more information.



CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORK

We have been very blessed to be able to employ since August 2014 a very talented full time Children & Families Worker, Peter Shields. Peter would like to explore the scope for reducing his role with us from 40 hours per week to 20 hours per week, with the balance made up from either another part time member of staff, or volunteers, or a combination. The two PCCs (church councils) will be reviewing the options around this at their February Combined PCC meeting. In the meantime, Peter will be trialling his reduced hours alongside work as a delivery driver for Sainsburys. Please pray for Peter and the PCCs, that we may have wisdom in our discussions. Jonathan.

SCIENCE & FAITH AWARD



Carina Lobley recently visited York to meet other groups who had received an award for Scientists in Congregations. You can see a short video on our news section of the website HCChurches.org/news

Our next Family Science Club will be on Friday 27th January.

(No meeting in December)

GENERATION 2 GENERATION

CFW Numbers 8-14 December Pebbles 4; Kids Church 12; Pathfinders 8; YF 13 Fledgelings 38 children + 34 adults; Y Club n/a

YF - THANK YOU to the 8 members of YF who helped pack food hampers to be distributed by The Balsam Project at their Christmas Celebration. Their efforts were very much appreciated and feedback from YF was they enjoyed serving in this way too.

Fledgelings - our 2 groups had lots of fun at their Christmas parties this week. Parachute games, party food, a visit from Santa (who also spread Christmas cheer to motorists on the A34 and children at Chilton school when they saw him walking to the party!) all finished with a retelling of the nativity.

Advent Doors - is being enjoyed by the families taking part and the door hosts too. Over halfway now and numbers taking part remain consistent.

Assemblies - Chilton School welcomed us in to do a Christmas assembly. The theme was curiosity and even some parents had their curiosity piqued seeing the interesting props being carried in!





Volunteers - not even a fraction of these groups and activities could be run without the volunteers who faithfully give up their time. This week we've had people hosting an Advent Door; others making drinks, washing up, preparing party food, holding babies, distributing gifts at Fledgelings; while others are teaching the youngest children or the older teens in the Sunday Groups, not to mention all the work and preparation behind the scenes. Massive thanks to each and every person who serves the children and families in our churches and community.

JOB VACANCIES

Science and Faith Project Assistant

January to August 2017, 25 hours per month (flexible), £8 per hour. Duties to include preparing equipment and materials, publicity, and recordkeeping.

Deadline 18th December. More info from Carina Lobley, Jonathan Mobey or http://HCChurches.org/sfpa

Debt Coach for Didcot (part-time)

Do you have a heart for evangelism in our local community, working with poor or disadvantaged people?

If so, please prayerfully consider whether God is calling you to join the local CAP (Christians Against Poverty) Debt Centre as a part-time Debt Coach.

The post, which will operate predominantly in the Didcot area, is for 8 hours a week for one year initially with the possibility of extension beyond that. Salary: £20k per annum pro rata (£4,267 per annum).

For more information, including a detailed JD: http://www.ridgeway-church.org.uk/associations/cap-christians-against-poverty/ or contact Sue Bright, Centre Manager (suebright@capuk.org).

Closing date 19th January.

VISITORS' INFO

Children and young people are especially welcome at our services, and there are groups for children and young people in Harwell, and for primary aged and pre-school children in Chilton, along with a family area in both churches.

At our services of Holy Communion all who love the Lord are welcome to share with us. If you require a gluten-free wafer please indicate this to the sidespeople before the service.

Both churches have a hearing loop, and large print service and weekly noticesheets are available. Toilets are at the back of the church in Harwell and accessed from outside at Chilton

NOTICESHEET ITEMS

Please submit noticesheet items to Vicky by Wednesday of the preceding week, either via the website, by email, by phone, or by leaving a note in the vestry. The deadline for Broadsheet items is the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

News items also appear on our website. You need to be logged-in to see some of them: http://HCChurches.org

St Matthew's Registered Charity Number 1158861







PRAYER FOCUS

"...in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God' Philippians 4:6

Please pray for...

- A peaceful solution to the troubles in Iraq, Syria, Ukraine and Gaza
- All those seeking refuge from war-torn countries
- Those who live in Pathfinder View, Chilton and Grove Road, Harwell
- The three Sudanese Pastors awaiting trial
- All those who find Christmas a difficult time



Collect for Fourth Sunday in Advent

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.