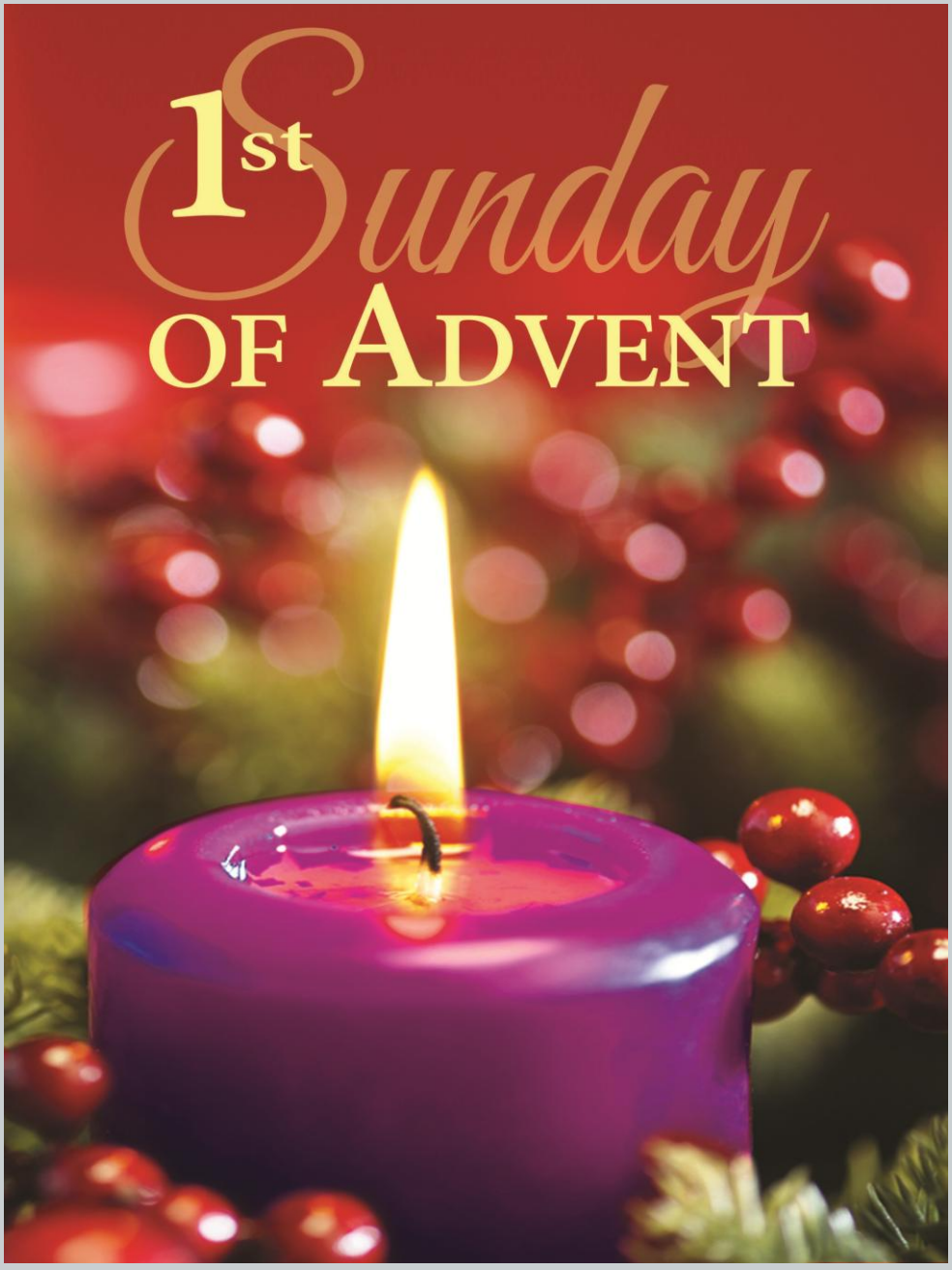
The Three Parishes Benefice



St Mary's Church,
Saltford.
All Saints Church,
Corston.
Holy Trinity Church,
Newton St Loe.



29th November

Advent Sunday

10.30am Benefice Holy Communion

All Saints Church, Corston

~

6pm Darkness into Light

All Saints Church, Corston

Collect

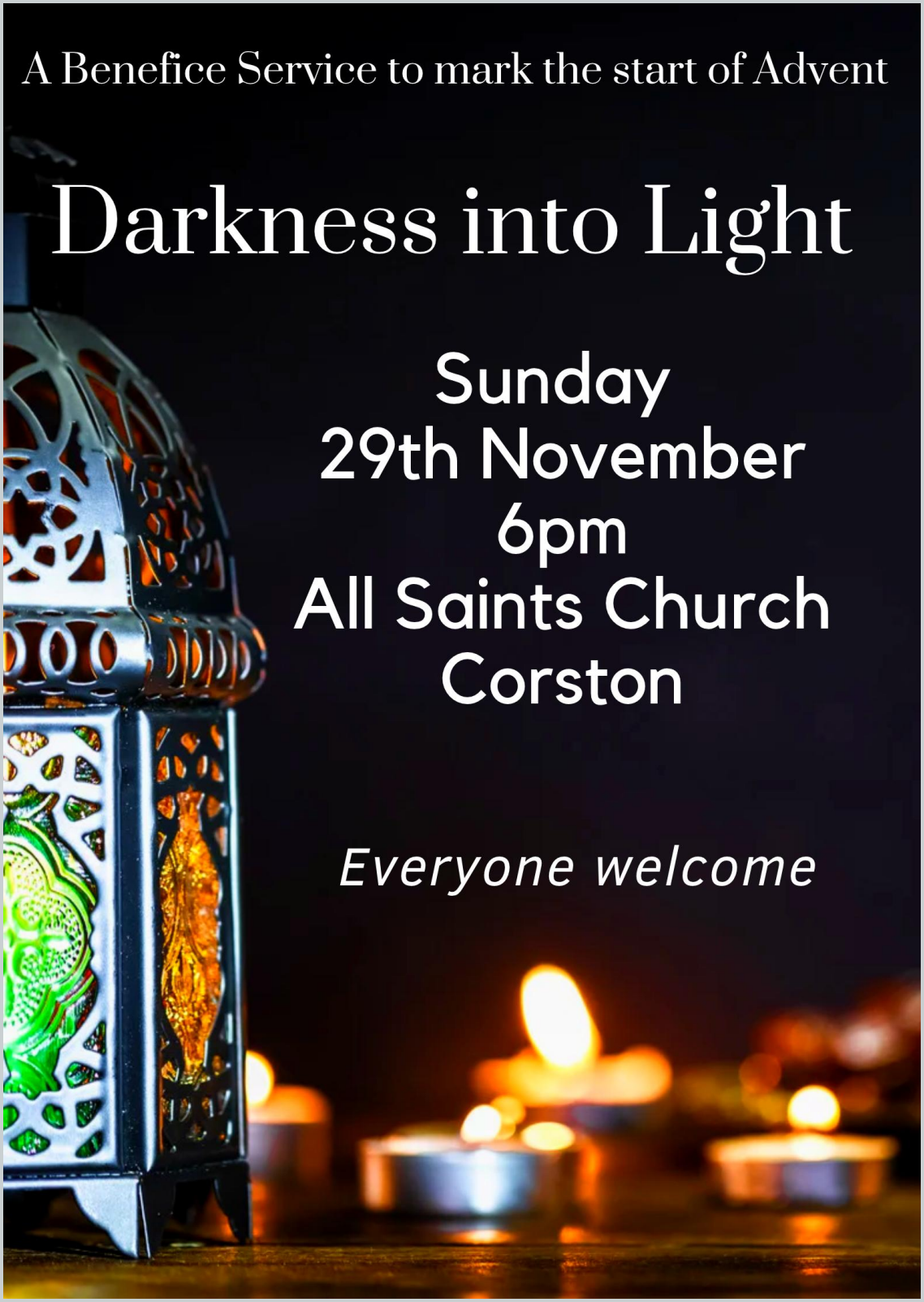
Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

Readings

Isa 64:1-9

Mark 13:24-end




A Benefice Service to mark the start of Advent
Darkness into Light
Sunday
29th November
6pm
All Saints Church
Corston
Everyone welcome

There is no better gift

Anthropologists study human culture. Among their studies is gift exchange – of how within human societies, gifts are given, received and reciprocated. Volumes of academic theory have been about how we give and receive gifts and why. Much more practically, gift exchange is what most of us are engaged in this month. We've the Christmas shopping to be getting on with!

Our tradition of giving and receiving gifts at Christmas lies in the story of the Magi who brought to the infant Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Our practice originated in a desire to reflect in human lives the Magi's story. In the past, this happened on the day after Christmas. That's why it's called Boxing Day.

For many of us, giving and receiving gifts at Christmas is something fraught with feelings of hazard. Have I got the right thing? Have I bought for the right people? Have I spent too much or too little? We know that sinking feeling that happens when someone gives us a gift and we've not got them something to offer in return.

I wonder if our challenge at Christmas is to recalibrate what we think we're about. For look at the Christmas stories and you'll see that carefully calculated reciprocity isn't their concern at all. Rather what happens is that people receive the gift of Jesus and it turns their world upside down. The shepherds experience outright glory, joy and wonder. The Magi offer homage. They give to the infant Jesus their very hearts. For both shepherds and Magi, the result of receiving the gift of Jesus is not that they give back, but that they are sent out. The shepherds make known what has been told to them about the child. All who hear them are amazed. The Magi return to their own country. I doubt they kept their experiences a secret when they got there.

We can't hope to match what Jesus gives us. What we can do is receive the gift of his life, love, joy and wonder and pass it on to our loved ones and the people we meet. There's no better gift we can give than that.

Michael Beasley
Bishop of Bath and Wells

Tuesday 1st December

7.30pm Prayers for Growth

St Mary's Church, Saltford

Wednesday 2nd December

9.30am Telephone Service

~

7.30pm Compline

St Mary's Church, Saltford




JAZZ
IN THE CHURCH
SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER
ARRIVAL 6.30PM HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,
NEWTON ST LOE
FEAT: THE DAVID NEWTON TRIO
WITH KATYA GORRIE ON VOCALS
Tickets available from Eventbrite or
Newton Farm Shop

Sunday 6th December

Advent 2

11.15am Holy Communion

All Saints Church, Corston

~

4pm Christingle

St Mary's Church, Saltford

~

4pm Telephone Service

Collect

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. Amen

Readings

Isa 40:1-11

Mattt 1:1-8



Tuesday 8th December

7.30pm Prayers for Growth
St Mary's Church, Saltford

Wednesday 9th December

9.30am, Telephone Service
~
7.30pm Compline
All Saints Church, Corston

Benefice Phone Church Service

Our first phone service was on Advent Sunday, 6th of December 2020. Very soon afterwards we started the Wednesday morning service as well, in place of the Service of Holy Communion that had been held in St Mary's at that time.

Since then we have had over 600 services via the phone to date.

So, Happy 6th Birthday to the phone church congregation on Sunday!

Wednesday Mornings Telephone Service

Teresa invites you to join her at the weekly Telephone Service on Wednesdays at 9.30am.

Please see below on how to join in or contact the Parish Office for help.

All welcome

Benefice Telephone Service

To join our telephone service

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Dial: 03330164757

Room Number: 30497259#

Room Number: 5856#

Opportunities to Pray

Morning Prayer

Monday, Wednesday & Friday via Zoom at 8.30am

Prayer @ 6

Monday to Thursday via Zoom at 6pm

Zoom Meeting Details for Morning Prayer and Prayer@6

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85017998147pwd=L0FWMnZENHIvZ3VxS3FOeWpaNXJWZz09

Meeting ID: 850 1799 8147

Passcode: Prayer


BATH SPA LIVE
VOXIS
BSU
Chamber Choir
11 December 1pm
Church of the Holy Trinity,
Newton St Loe
FREE no booking required

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT AFTERNOON

Saturday 12th December

2.30 - 4pm

St Mary's Hall

Queen Square, Saltford

BS31 3EL

If you would like to join us for a free, fun afternoon of Christmas crafts, to book your child's place, please email scnbenefice@gmail.com

(The crafts are aimed for children aged 3-7 years old, but all are welcome, places limited)



St Mary's Open the Book team warmly invite you to

St Mary's Nativity Service



10am Sunday 13th December

St Mary's Church, Queen Square, Saltford.

Come early for coffee and pastries from 9am.

If your child would like to take part, please email scnbenefice@gmail.com by 1st December or call (01225) 872275.



Corston Coffee Shop

Held at Corston Church on the first & third Wednesday of each month 10.30am to noon

All welcome



Our Coffee Shop is run & staffed by villagers who make & serve tea, coffee, hot chocolate & delicious homemade cakes. It's a place to meet friends & neighbours on a regular basis.

Why not come along & join us on

2nd December 2026

16th December 2026

LITTLE BLESSINGS
UNDER 1'S
Group



Tuesday 10.30-12pm

ST MARY'S TODDLER
0 – 4 YEARS
Group



Thursday 9.30-11.30am

Join us term-time in St Mary's Hall Saltford



Keynsham & District Talking Newspaper is a thriving service provided for people with limited sight who benefit from weekly spoken word recordings of local newspaper articles, a magazine section and an epilogue. The service has been provided for over 40 years to approximately 100 listeners and is supported by

Churches Together in Keynsham and Saltford. Our Patron is Bill Bailey. Listeners can hear the service on memory stick, from our website or on Alexa. We are looking for technicians and news editors, both of which work on a monthly rota basis. We would also value volunteers joining our committee or as Trustees. Please see our website https://www.ktn.org.uk if you would like more information or contact alanh.ktn@gmail.com or 07776493221.



Supporting the Mission and Ministry of St Mary's Church

If you would like to make an online donation to support the ongoing work of St Mary's please click on the donate button. It will redirect you to our online giving page. You can also give in other ways like standing order, through the contactless device in church, through our website or by cash. For more information about how to give, please speak to Pam F our treasurer and she will be able to help you.

Donate



Keynsham Community Fridge
Keynsham Public Library

It's for everyone and all FREE.
A community fridge with surplus food donated by local suppliers.
The fridge opening hours are
10am - 4pm, Monday - Saturday

Take what you will use, leave what you won't.

Look up Keynsham Community Fridge on Facebook.
Save good food from going to waste.

Safeguarding

If you have cause for concern regarding the safety of a child or vulnerable adult it is vital that you contact our Benefice Safeguarding Officer.

Safeguarding Officer
Jane George
01225 872275
safeguarding@stmsaltford.onmicrosoft.com

Contact Us

Rector
Revd Nigel Williams
(Day off Friday)
07850 887498
Rector@scnbenefice.org.uk

Administrator
Liz Benden
(Day off Friday)

Parish Office Opening Hours

(term time only)

Tues - Thurs 9am-12pm

01225 872275

scnbenefice@gmail.com

Reader

(Lay Minister)

Teresa Austin

07763 208664

Church Wardens

Ian (Saltford)

01225 872275

Julie (Corston)

07983 910796

Margaret (Corston)

07976 008779

Harvey (Newton)

07711 506676

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